



Jesus: in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, in our learning.

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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Taylor

26<sup>th</sup> September 2025



*Well done Health and Wellbeing Government Group for completing Playground Pal training!*

### Message from Mrs Taylor

As September draws to a close, it has been wonderful to reflect on what an exciting month we have shared at St Joseph's. Our pupils have been fantastic – their behaviour, learning, playing, and praying have been exemplary. They have enjoyed a wide range of experiences and learning, exploring a rich and varied curriculum that broadens their horizons and helps them grow in confidence, skills, and knowledge. What ambitious and capable learners they have been!

In *Maths* this week:

- **Nursery** joined in with number rhymes.
- **Reception** sorted objects by one criterion.
- **Year 1** used *more*, *fewer* and *equal to* in their counting.
- **Year 2** partitioned numbers to 100.
- **Year 3** compared numbers to 1,000.
- **Year 4** compared numbers to 10,000.
- **Year 5** compared numbers to 1,000,000.
- **Year 6** rounded integers.

During my act of worship, we learned about **Saint Carlo Acutis**, canonised on 7th September. Carlo showed that holiness is not only for priests or adults, but for all of us – even young people – when we love God and help others. Together, we reflected on how we can use the gifts God has given us to live more like Carlo, by choosing to love and serve.

Congratulations to our **Health and Wellbeing Government Group**, who successfully completed their Playground Pal Training today. A special thank you to our **Years 4–6 pupils** who have volunteered to support the readings and music at the **Penarth Mayor's Civic Service** on Sunday – what a wonderful honour for our school community.

Looking ahead, we warmly invite families to join us for the following events:

- **Welcome Mass** with Mgr. Boardman – *Monday 29th September at 2.45pm*
- **Year 2 Class Celebration of the Word** – *Thursday 2nd October at 3.20pm*
- **'Save the Planet' Exhibition and Celebration of Learning** – *Friday 3rd October from 2.30pm*

Take care and God bless,  
Mrs Taylor

### Prayer of the Week



Prayer is how we learn to love God and to love like God. Each morning at school, we offer all that we have to God – everything we do, think, and say – so that all we do is done in love. Every kind word, every loving action is a gift to God.

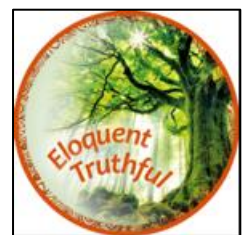
May everything, we do today be offered to Him.  
Say this morning offering together:

**Father, Abba,  
I offer myself to you  
this day,  
with all my  
mind and heart,  
with all my body and soul  
and with my whole strength,  
In all that I say and all that I do.  
Amen**

### Pupil Profile Virtues

Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School are growing to be . . .

. . . **eloquent** and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

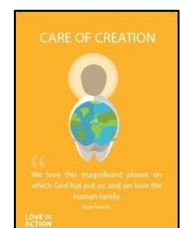


### Catholic Social Teaching

This half term we are learning about the Catholic Social Teaching principle, **'Stewardship'**.

As Christians, we are called to be **good stewards of creation**.

That means we are meant to look after the world that God created for us. We must all work to leave our world in a better condition for the people who come after us.



## Celebration and Exhibition of Learning – ‘Save the Planet!’- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

We are looking forward to welcoming family members to the ‘Save the Planet!’ Celebration and Exhibition of Learning in the school hall on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 2.30pm**. As part of the celebration, each class will display their learning completed during their ‘Save the Planet!’ topic in an exhibition in the hall, and we will be joined by the Dinas Powys Fairtrade committee who will serve Fairtrade refreshments along with families who have volunteered to contribute to our celebration by bringing along traditional food to share. All family members are welcome to attend at 2.30pm. Please collect your child from their classroom at 2.30pm to share the celebration in the hall with them.



As part of this celebration, and following Year 2’s class liturgy on the theme of Harvest, we will also be holding a **home-clothes day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**. Pupils are invited to wear home -clothes and bring in an item to donate to the foodbank. This year we are collecting jars of pasta/ curry sauce, corned beef and instant mash as ‘Champions’ for these for the Foodbank! Further details can be found below.

### Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October



Next Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the day of our ‘Save the Planet Celebration and Exhibition of Learning’ pupils are invited to wear home-clothes and donate an item of dried or tinned food to the Vale Foodbank.

***This year St Joseph’s are collecting jars of pasta/curry sauce, corned beef and instant mash as Champions of these foods for the foodbank!***

If you could bring in one of these items the Vale Foodbank would be really grateful!



### School App



We’ve had a few queries this week regarding receiving messages from the school.

If you haven’t done so, please **download** The School App for free, from your mobile device’s app store and contact the school office to resend you the registration link.

We use *TheSchoolApp* to send reminders about events, future diary dates, extra-curricular activities and you can use it to view the weekly newsletter. You also need the *TheSchoolApp* to book your Parent Teacher consultations later in the term. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



### Attendance

This week’s attendance figures for each class are:  
Well done to Year 4 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.

Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	91.58%	0.0%
Year 1	81.3%	0.87%
Year 2	92.94%	1.18%
Year 3	94.14%	1.38%
Year 4	97.24%	0.69%
Year 5	96.55%	0.69%
Year 6	90.97%	0.65%



## Dates for the Diary



### September

**29<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Mass 2.45pm – All are welcome.**

### October

**1<sup>st</sup> – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass**

1<sup>st</sup> – Year 5 and 6 Health and Wellbeing Government Group – Playmakers training

2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 2 Road Safety

2<sup>nd</sup> - Year 2 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 5 and 6 Open Evening St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School

3<sup>rd</sup> – Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Celebration and Exhibition of Learning ‘Save the Planet’ from 2.30pm – All are welcome.**

6<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 Intensive Swimming Course (Two Weeks)

7<sup>th</sup> – Years 5 and 6 Open Evening Stanwell

8<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 5 to Mass

9<sup>th</sup> - Years 5 and 6 Open Evening St Cyres

9<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

15<sup>TH</sup> – Shwmae Welsh Language Day

16<sup>th</sup> - Year 4 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

17<sup>TH</sup> – Show Racism the Red Card Day

**22<sup>nd</sup> – Reception and Year 6 to Mass**

23<sup>rd</sup> – F&F Autumn Disco

24<sup>th</sup> – INSET Day

### Half Term

**27th October – 31<sup>st</sup> October**

### November

4<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultations (except Nursery and Year 3) 4pm – 6pm

5<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultations (except Nursery and Year 3) 4pm – 6pm

5<sup>th</sup> – Reception and 6 to Mass

10<sup>TH</sup> – Switch Off Fortnight

10<sup>TH</sup> – Anti bullying Week

11<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> – Nursery Parent Teacher Consultations 1.30pm – 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 and Year 5 to Mass

13<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

19<sup>th</sup> – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass

20<sup>TH</sup> - Year 5 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

21<sup>ST</sup> – Jubilee Year of Hope Celebration

24<sup>th</sup> – Open Evening for September 2026

Nursery and Reception pupils

### December

**6<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Choir to sing at St Augustine’s Christmas Tree Festival**

9<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 2pm

10<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 10am

11<sup>th</sup> – Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am

**12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Choir to sing at Ty Dewi Sant Residential Home**

14<sup>th</sup> – Advent Service (Led by Years 3 and 4) – 2pm

15<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Market 2.30pm

### Four Purposes of the Curriculum – Ethical and Informed Citizens!

<b>Nursery</b>	Ella McNamara	<b>Year 3</b>	Dylan Walsh
<b>Reception</b>	Roman Pugsley	<b>Year 4</b>	Amelia Williams
<b>Year 1</b>	Archie Barber	<b>Year 5</b>	Mirabelle Challis
<b>Year 2</b>	Mia Watts	<b>Year 6</b>	Dylan Dos Santos



### Weekly Good News Awards



Mrs Taylor’s Good News stickers are for pupils who have shown excellent understanding in our first RE topic ‘Creation and Covenant’. They understand that God made us in his image and likeness because he loves us so much and asks us to be stewards of creation.



### Congratulations to this week’s winners!

<b>Nursery</b>	Hanson Wu Jaxon Gully Freya Watson Jacob Murray	<b>Year 3</b>	Molly Dix Freyja Leonard-Smith Mila-Blu Lewis Cora Spear
<b>Reception</b>	Thea-Rose Baker Margot Drake Irene Nithin Otis Williams	<b>Year 4</b>	Marcus Riju Ayana Varma Noah Ford Aika Ferrer
<b>Year 1</b>	Alana Valvo Cara Pegg Ellen Jones Maxi McAuley	<b>Year 5</b>	Olivia Buinimasi Charlotte Cummings Layla James Steve Abraham
<b>Year 2</b>	Jasper Challis Elise Knapper Stream-Rose Kingsley Cooling Carter Bartlett	<b>Year 6</b>	Ethan Daly Aoife Burge Elizabeth Yerokun Joey Burnett

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

## SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak has been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

## SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

## SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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