



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

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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Taylor
5th September 2025

*Our new Reception pupils
have settled beautifully.
Welcome to St Joseph's!*



Message from Mrs Taylor

It has been a real joy to welcome our pupils back to St Joseph's this week – we have missed them so much over the summer break! A very warm **WELCOME** and **CROESO** to all our new pupils in Nursery, Reception and across the school. The children have settled beautifully, and I have been so impressed with how quickly they have returned to the excellent learning behaviours they developed last year.

It has been wonderful to see:

- Nursery and Reception children discovering that God loves each of us and that we are all made in His image.
- Year 1 pupils creating self-portraits to answer the question "Pwy wyt ti?" – "Who are you?"
- Year 2 practising their handwriting with great determination.
- Year 3 producing beautiful artwork inspired by their class saint, Mother Teresa.
- Year 4 learning about Saint Bernadette.
- Year 5 researching Blessed Carlo Acutis, who will be canonised by Pope Leo XIV this weekend.
- Year 6 beginning their RE work with the Creation Story.

This term, our whole-school topic is "**Save the Planet!**" – exploring the theme of Stewardship and caring for God's creation. To celebrate our learning, we will hold a **Celebration and Exhibition of Learning** in the school hall on **Friday 3rd October at 2.30pm**. All families are warmly invited to attend. As with last year's Culture and Heritage Celebration, we would love families to contribute – for example, by sharing traditional food from your culture or heritage. If you are able to support, please email the school office.

We are also working hard to ensure that all new families are set up with the **School App, Seesaw, and Parent Pay**. If you are still having difficulties by the end of next week, please let us know. House colours for our new pupils will also be sent out on Monday. Please do take a moment to check the **Dates for the Diary** section. I have now included the dates for our class liturgies, which will take place at 3.20pm on the specified dates. Reception and Year 1's liturgies will take place in the Spring Term.

Finally, don't forget you can follow our school journey on Instagram: **@stjpenarth**.

Take care and God bless,

Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week

We are all pilgrims on a journey — journeying in faith, walking with hope, and guided always by love. This is our mission as a school - to have Jesus in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, and in our learning

Say this prayer together:

Lord Jesus,
You walk beside us on our journey.
Be in our hearts – help us to keep our faith strong.
Be in our minds – fill us with hope each day.
Be in our living – guide us with Your love.
Be in our learning – open our eyes to see You.
Help us to journey together,
always in faith, with hope, and guided by love.
Amen.



Pupil Profile Virtues

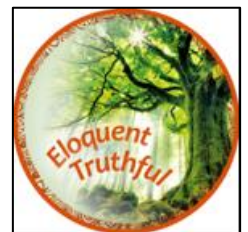
Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School are growing to be . . .

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

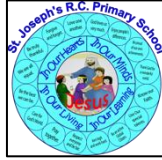
To be **eloquent** in the way in which we speak to each other and **truthful** in our words, actions, to the Gospel and to ourselves.

At home:

Think about how will you be honest and truthful, following in Jesus's footsteps to live your life the way God wants you to.



Our Mission Statement



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

In Our Hearts as we journey in faith: Like the disciples who felt their hearts burning when they listened to Jesus, we want to keep faith alive in our hearts. How can we keep our hearts open to Jesus this year?

In Our Minds as we walk with hope: The disciples were confused and sad until Jesus opened the Scriptures to them. Hope filled their minds again. How can we keep hope in our thinking and learning, even when things are hard?

In Our Living guided by love: The disciples welcomed the stranger (Jesus) and shared a meal. We are guided by love when we welcome others, include everyone, and share. How can we show love in our friendships and our school family?

In Our Learning as pilgrims together: When Jesus broke the bread, the disciples finally recognised Him. Every day in our learning, we can discover Jesus in new ways. How will we learn with open eyes and open hearts this year?

Catholic Social Teaching – Stewardship

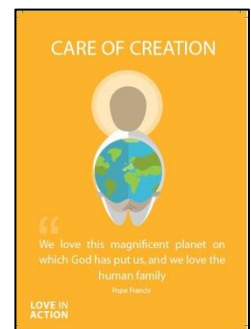


This half term we are learning about the Catholic Social Teaching principle, '**Stewardship**'.

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.

Pope Francis said, 'Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all.' **Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'***



Pope Francis wrote a letter called *Laudato Si'*, addressed to everyone in the whole world, asking us all to take care of our common home. You can see an animation of his letter here: <https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/laudato-si-for-children>

Remember, that even small actions can make a big difference in caring for God's creation. Always take a moment to appreciate the beauty and wonder of the world around you – it's a gift from God, and it's up to us to protect it.

Pray together:

Loving God,

Thank you for our world. You created the Earth for us to live and prosper in. You taught us how to care for the world you created. Let us give thanks for the joy our world brings us and pray that we become good stewards of creation.

Amen

Breaktime Snack



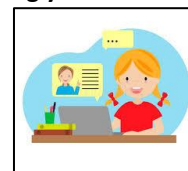
Children can bring fruit or vegetables to eat during mid-morning break.

Crisps, sweets, cookies, chocolate, cereal bars etc. are not permitted.

Children should not be sent to school with snacks or foods that may contain nuts as we have pupils in each class who may suffer an allergic reaction. This includes items such as peanut butter.

Healthy snacks in a box should be labelled clearly with the child's name.

Contacting your child's class teacher



We know how important it is that you can inform your child's teacher of anything that might impact on your child's happiness and learning during the day or of any questions and concerns that you may have. As it can be difficult to have face-to-face conversations at the start of the day, your child's teacher checks the class email account daily. Please use the year group email address to contact your child's class teacher e.g., Year 5's email address is year5@stjosephsrc.com.

You can also contact Mrs Jones our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator at ALNCO@stjosephsrc.com. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs Taylor and the school admin staff at office@stjosephsrcadmin.com

Attendance

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

Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	100%	0.0%
Year 1	83.58%	0.0%
Year 2	99.02%	0.0%
Year 3	95.4%	0.57%
Year 4	95.98%	0.0%
Year 5	96.67%	0.0%
Year 6	96.77%	0.0%



PE Days



Reception	Tuesday and Thursday (<i>Pupils will not wear PE kit until the Spring Term</i>)
Year 1	Monday and Wednesday
Year 2	Monday and Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 4	Monday and Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday and Friday
Year 6	Monday and Friday

PE uniform

All pupils in Years 1- 6 must wear the PE kit outlined in the school's School Uniform Policy to school.

The PE kit consists of:

- House colour t-shirt (plain or with school logo) or white polo shirt.
- Navy shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers.

St Joseph's School Uniform

- A navy-blue jumper, cardigan or fleece
- Royal blue polo t-shirt
- Grey trousers, grey skirt or grey pinafore
- Black, flat and sensible shoes – no boots, high heels or crocs.
- Grey tights, dark socks or white socks
- Grey shorts of a reasonable length

All items, including shoes and bags, should be clearly marked with your child's name on them.

Term Dates 2025 – 2026

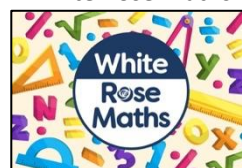
Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2025	Mon 1 Sept 2025	Monday 27 Oct 2025	Friday 31 Oct 2025	Friday 19 Dec 2025	75
Spring 2026	Monday 5 Jan 2026	Monday 16 Feb 2026	Friday 20 Feb 2026	Friday 27 Mar 2026	55
Summer 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Monday 25 May 2026	Friday 29 May 2026	*Monday 20 July 2026	65
TOTAL					195

Confirmed INSET days

Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 23rd February 2026
Monday 20th July 2026

White Rose Maths



We are now using a new scheme of work in mathematics called **White Rose Maths**. This scheme is designed to support children in developing secure mathematical understanding through small, carefully sequenced steps.

To support learning at home, White Rose Maths provides free resources for parents and pupils. You can access:

- **Free workbooks** for each year group (Years 1–6), available term by term:
<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/free-downloads>
- **The full scheme of work and home learning resources** for each year group:
<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=year-1-new>

We encourage you to take a look at these resources, as they can help you to understand how we are teaching maths in school and provide useful activities to support your child's learning at home.



Dates for the Diary



September

17th – Colorfoto – Individual/ Sibling photographs
28th – Years 4 – 6 pupils to support the readings and music for the Penarth Mayor’s Civic Service

October

1st - Reception and Year 6 to Mass
2nd - Year 2 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 2nd – Year 5 and 6 Open Evening St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School
3rd – Harvest Vale Foodbank Appeal
3rd – Celebration and Exhibition of Learning ‘Save the Planet’ from 2.30pm
 6th – Year 4 Intensive Swimming Course (Two Weeks)
 7th – Years 5 and 6 Open Evening Stanwell
 8th – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
 9th - Years 5 and 6 Open Evening St Cyres
9th – Year 3 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

October

15TH – Shwmae Welsh Language Day
16th - Year 4 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 17TH – Show Racism the Red Card Day
 22nd – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
 23rd – F&F Autumn Disco
24th – INSET Day

Half term

27th October – 31st October

November

5th – Reception and 6 to Mass
 10TH – Switch Off Fortnight
 10TH – Anti bullying Week
 12th – Year 1 and Year 5 to Mass
13th - Year 6 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 19th – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
20TH - Year 5 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 21ST – Jubilee Year of Hope Celebration

Four Purposes of the Curriculum – Ambitious and Capable Learners!

Nursery	Frankie Griffiths	Year 3	Dylan Walsh
Reception	Margot Drake	Year 4	Florence Abbott
Year 1	Erin Spear	Year 5	Nia Holt
Year 2	Alfie Langley	Year 6	Alys Cirino



Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor’s Good News stickers are for pupils who have had a fabulous start to the school year following the school rules of always being ready, respectful, safe and loving.



Congratulations to this week’s winners!

Nursery	Aleri Davies Theo Watson Hanson Wu Jaxon Gully	Year 3	Tomos Samuel Lette Quick Molly Dix Reuben Bousie
Reception	Lily Davy Thea – Rose Baker Zain El Hammond Grace McDermid	Year 4	Noah Davies Amelia Barber William Mackie Lana Stolzenberg
Year 1	Jonah Quick Ellen Jones Osian Whittaker Roman Daly	Year 5	Antonio Aviles Richardson Stanley Best Ava Morgan Leo Ledsam
Year 2	Isla-Mae Hilliard Stream-Rose Kingsley Cooling Xavier Buinimasi Theo Davies	Year 6	Reuben Griffiths Cory Howard Layla Knapper Kayleigh Solomon

OPEN DAY



ST RICHARD GWYN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD GATHOLIG
RICHARD GWYN SANT

DATE & TIME:

 Thursday 2nd October 2025

 3:30pm to 6:30pm

 Argae Lane, Barry, CF63 1BL

We would like to invite families of students in YR5 & 6 for a tour of our school.

If you can't make it in person, you can enjoy a virtual tour of the school and this will be available on our website and socials soon!

Click on the QR code below to view our prospectus!

TO BOOK, CALL OR EMAIL:



01446 729250



info@strichardgwyn.co.uk



www.strichardgwyn.co.uk

