



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

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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Taylor

9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

*This term, we are developing our Welsh language displays, re-introducing a Welsh phrase of the week and expanding our range of Welsh songs. Da iawn, pawb!*



### Message from Mrs Taylor

Wishing you all a Happy New Year – Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!

It's been wonderful to welcome back all our learners after the Christmas break. The pupils have settled beautifully into the spring term.

This week, pupils from Nursery – Year 2 celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, creating crowns, retelling the story of the three kings and having a celebration; Year 3 pupils developed their oracy skills through hot-seating for an interview in English; Year 4 pupils explored measuring in km and m; Year 5 pupils developed their Welsh language skills through music; and Year 6 pupils explored a 360 degree VR tour of the rainforest.

On Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the moment when Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan and is revealed as God's beloved Son. It marks the beginning of His public ministry and reminds each of us of our own baptism—when we were called by name, claimed in love, and sent out to live as witnesses of Christ in the world. Earlier this week, on the Feast of the Epiphany, we also marked the close of the Jubilee Year of Hope. While the Holy Door has now been closed, we pray that the doors of our hearts will always remain open—open to God's grace, open to one another, and open to the call to live with faith, courage, and hope.

Thank you to the pupils who have volunteered to support our cluster Youth Mass at St Joseph's RC Church on Sunday at 9.30am. All are welcome.

Please check the dates for the diary. I have added the main celebrations and events such as the School Eisteddfod – Parents of pupils in Nursery – Year 2 are invited to attend at 10am; and Years 3 – 6 at 2pm. Pupils can wear Welsh costume/ Welsh sports shirts/ red to school and World Book Day when pupils will be invited to wear character costumes or home-clothes. I will continue to send you the 'Dates for the Week' on a Monday.

Finally, on Monday, please could all pupils who attend breakfast club enter through the main office door. Staff will be there to greet you.

Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

### Prayer of the Week



The Epiphany of the Lord was celebrated on 6th January, when the wise men followed a star and came to visit Jesus. The star showed the wise men where to go. It was a sign from God for them to follow. We do not always have a star to follow, to show us that we are following what God wants us to do. But God has given us Jesus, to show us how we should try to live our lives. And when we pray, God guides us to do what is right, if we listen.

Say this prayer together:

God of light,  
your star led the wise men  
to your Son Jesus.  
Guide us as we try  
to follow Jesus in our lives  
and help us to be kind and share our gifts.  
Amen

### St Joseph's Pupil Profile Virtues



The St Joseph's School Pupil Profile is made up of pairs of virtues or qualities we aspire to grow in, to be the person God wants us to be. Each half term we will explore a different pair of virtues. This half term's focus is: **curious** and **active** as part of our on-going work to develop the St Joseph's Pupil Profile.

Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School are growing to be . . . **Curious** about everything; and **active** in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better. God wants us to be **curious** about his universe and everything he has made. He wants us:

- To ask questions
- To listen and pay attention
- To research and find out more
- To read
- To try new things
- To explore

God also wants us to **actively** change what we can do for the better. He wants us to help make this a better world.

### Attendance

Well done to Year 2 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.

This week's attendance figures for each class are:

Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	92.26%	0.00%
Year 1	90.66%	3.3%
Year 2	99.26%	1.47%
Year 3	85%	0.42%
Year 4	92.24%	0.43%
Year 5	97.08%	0.0%
Year 6	91.13%	0.0%



### Current Religious Education Topics

Our RE topics help pupils to explore the importance of significant experiences within their lives and the mystery of human life as revealed in the person, life and gospel of Jesus Christ. Pupils learn about Scripture, the teaching of the Church, prayers and the lives of outstanding Christians. They take part in celebrations and think about how they can apply their learning to their lives.

<b>N R</b>	The visit of the wise men, Jesus blesses the little children, Jesus came to show God's love to everyone, the Glory Be.	<b>Y3</b>	The Parable of the Sower; the Kingdom of God; the Our Father; the lives of the Saints
		<b>Y4</b>	Jesus, the Messiah; the Creed; the Sacrament of Reconciliation
<b>Y1</b>	The Early Life of Jesus; The Call of the Disciples; Zacchaeus	<b>Y5</b>	The Beatitudes, The Great Commandment, the Transfiguration, faith, hope and charity
<b>Y2</b>	Baptism of Jesus; Parables - The Calming of the Storm; The Lost Sheep	<b>Y6</b>	The miraculous signs in St John's Gospel, the purpose of each of the 7 Sacraments and how they are celebrated.

### Catholic Social Teaching – Subsidiarity



This half term we are learning about the Catholic Social Teaching principle, '**Subsidiarity**', which reminds us that everyone deserves to have a say—especially in decisions that affect them.

During our Act of Worship, we listened to scripture, prayed together, and thought about how important it is to truly listen to others before speaking or acting.

We were inspired by the words of Pope Francis and the wisdom from Proverbs, learning that listening is an act of love and respect. Through stillness, prayer, and song, we thought deeply about how we listen to those around us—our friends, families, teachers, and even those we may not always agree with. Pupils were encouraged to be listening friends—to include others, ask for their thoughts, and make space for every voice to be heard.

Together, we committed to building a more caring and just community, where everyone feels valued and listened to.



## Dates for the Diary



### January

**11<sup>th</sup> – Joint Youth Mass with St Richard Gwyn High School, St Joseph’s RC Church, 9.30am to celebrate the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope.**

15<sup>th</sup> – Years 3 – 6 E-sgol French Lessons (4 weeks)

21<sup>st</sup> – Louby Lou Storytelling – Creature Chronicles

23<sup>rd</sup> – Reception Class September 2026 Applications close

### February

9<sup>th</sup> – Children’s Mental Health Week

9<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 PC Alex Internet Safety

10<sup>th</sup> – Safer Internet Day

12<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Author Event: Paget Rooms, Penarth

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> – Half Term**

### February

**23<sup>rd</sup> – INSET Day**

**27<sup>th</sup> – School Eisteddfod (N- Y2 10am; Y3-6 2pm – Pupils can wear traditional Welsh costume, Welsh sports kits or something red)**

### March

3<sup>rd</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm

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

**5<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day (Pupils can wear character costumes or home-clothes)**

11<sup>th</sup> – (Years 2 and 4) Joint Cluster Lent Service 2pm, St Helen’s, Barry

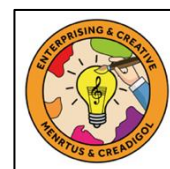
12<sup>th</sup> – (Years 2 and 4) Joint Cluster Lent Service 6pm, St Joseph’s, Penarth

19<sup>th</sup> – Feast of St Joseph

**Final INSET Day - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

### Four Purposes of the Curriculum –Enterprising and Creative Contributors!

<b>Nursery</b>	Fergus McDermid	<b>Year 3</b>	Nate Mercer
<b>Reception</b>	Jorgie Jarvis	<b>Year 4</b>	Ella Richards
<b>Year 1</b>	Harri Dibble	<b>Year 5</b>	Alys Holt
<b>Year 2</b>	Hallie Ayres	<b>Year 6</b>	Holly Terry



### Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor’s Good News stickers are for pupils who shine brightly like the star of Bethlehem, spreading Jesus’ light and love through their words and actions.



### Congratulations to this week’s winners!

<b>Nursery</b>	Harry Wareham Ella McNamara Freya Watson Zach Eley - Gambling	<b>Year 3</b>	Lette Quick Jacob Wareham Edward Best Mila-Blu Lewis
<b>Reception</b>	Demi Daly Grace McDermid Thea-Rose Baker Irene Nithin	<b>Year 4</b>	Isaac Morgans Ffion Parker Dylan Carroll Noah Davies
<b>Year 1</b>	Roman Daly Sophia Burnett Erin Spear Osian Whittaker	<b>Year 5</b>	Dylan Wareham Olivia Buinimasi Stanley Best Esmai O’Grady
<b>Year 2</b>	William Hoover Mia Watts Stream Rose Kingsley Cooling Stanley Hawkins	<b>Year 6</b>	Archie Jones Joey Burnett Izzy Cheetham Martha Graham