

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



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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Taylor

8th November 2024



Reception pupils really enjoyed their educational Visit to Pizza Express. They each made their own pizza to bring home!

It's been a great start to the half term – the pupils have settled fantastically after the half term break and already are engaging in wonderful opportunities, experiences and learning activities. This week, Year 4 pupils have completed a week's intensive swimming course, Reception pupils enjoyed their educational visit to Pizza Express, Year 1 and 6 attended Mass at St Joseph's Church, the Government Groups completed their action plans for the year, our School Cabinet met for the first time and some of our pupils took part in the Cook Stars Happy and Healthy Parent and Child Funded Cookery sessions.

Many thanks to all our families who supported our end of half term Autumn disco before half term. A massive 'Thank you!' to the Friends and Family Team for organising and running the event. It was such a celebration and wonderful to see the children dancing, singing and playing games together. **Please scroll down to the bottom of the newsletter to see an exciting update from our F&F team, including information about this year's Christmas Fair!**

In my Act of Worship this week, Jesus tells us that the most important rule is to love God with everything we have—our whole heart, our mind, our soul, and our strength. That means we should always try to think, feel, and act in ways that make God happy. But Jesus doesn't stop there. He adds something just as important: we must love other people as we love ourselves. It's not enough to just love God; we also have to be kind, caring, and loving to everyone around us.

Our preparations for the Advent Service which is being led by Years 3 and 4 and supported by the Years 5 and 6, are well under way as well as the Year 1 and 2 performance of 'It's a Baby!'. We hope to see many of our families at the **Advent Service on Sunday 15th December at 3pm** in St Joseph's RC Church. The Years 1 and 2 concert will take place on **Tuesday 10th December and Wednesday 11th December** and the Nursery and Reception Celebration will be on **Thursday 12th December and Friday 13th December**. All will begin at 10am. Information about ordering tickets will be sent out shortly.

Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week

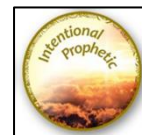


November is a time for remembering those who have died and praying for our loved ones who have gone before us and whose loss we feel. As we mark Armistice Day this weekend, we particularly remember those who lost their lives fighting for our country.

Say this prayer together:

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen**

Pupil Profile Virtues



This half term we will be focusing on the virtues of 'intentional and prophetic' 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 **intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

When we are **INTENTIONAL** we deliberately choose to live in a certain way. We don't just follow the crowd. We listen to God's voice deep inside us and choose to live by the values of Jesus.

When we are **PROPHETIC** we show by our words and actions that we choose to live the Good News of Jesus.

Attendance

This week's attendance figures for each class are:

Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	89.1%	1.46%
Year 1	88.7%	0.75%
Year 2	97.3%	0.00%
Year 3	96.9%	0.00%
Year 4	96.9%	0.78%
Year 5	89.1%	0.40%
Year 6	93.1%	0.43%



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

Parent and Carer Questionnaire – Autumn 2024



As part of our Parent Teacher Consultations, we would like to gather the views of parents and carers about St Joseph's school, so that we can consider strengths and how we can continue to develop. We have used the Estyn Pre-Inspection Parent and Carer Questionnaire to help us to do this. Please select the

most appropriate response for each question. If you have more than one child in the school, you can complete the same form for all of your children, or separate forms, if you feel that is more appropriate.

Open Evening for Next Year's Nursery and Reception Class 2025

On Monday 25th November, we are holding an open evening from 4.00 – 5.30pm for all families whose child is starting Reception Class in September 2025 or for families of children who turn 3 between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026. Please put the date in your diary if this applies to you and help us to spread the word about our Open Evening. Thank you!

Nursery September 2025 – July 2026 Advert



Does your child turn 3 between September 2025 and July 2026?

Are you looking for a Catholic education in an excellent school with fantastic outdoor grounds?

If so, your child will be eligible for a part-time place, 5 mornings a week, from their 3rd birthday.

Parents/ Carers can apply directly to the School, at their earliest convenience.

If you would like to visit St Joseph's, we are holding an Open Evening for interested families on **Monday 25th November 4pm – 5.30pm.**

Application forms for our wonderful purpose-built nursery are available on our school website: stjosephsrc.com, or from our school office.

St Joseph's RC Primary School is a welcoming and loving community where children are happy and successful in their learning.

www.stjosephsrc.com

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029 20702864

stjosephsps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Prospectus: <https://www.stjosephsrc.com/prospectus>



Reception Class September 2025 Advert



Is your child starting Reception Class in September 2025?

Are you looking for a Catholic education in an excellent school with fantastic outdoor grounds?

If so, we would like to welcome you to our Open Evening for interested families on **Monday 25th November 4pm – 5.30pm**

Applications for our wonderful school can be made through the Vale of Glamorgan Admission website:

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/schools/admissions/primary/Primary-School-Admissions.aspx>

Opening date: 29th November 2024

Closing date: 24th January 2025

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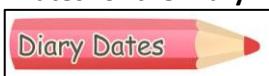
**St Joseph's School Parliament
Government Group Action Plans**

Our School Parliament is an important focus and priority in St Joseph's and the work of Government Groups is essential for pupil voice, developing the four purposes and improving the school. For the academic year 2024 - 2025, all pupils from Years 3- 6 are a member of a Government Group. The groups have all written an action plan to work towards targets to improve the school (Cynefin), improve the local community (Community) and work towards the Global Goals (Citizenship). Here are 3 actions from each plan:

Government Group	Proposed Actions
IT and Digital Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the safe use of IT in the school including leading an assembly about digital safety, planning and international ICT day, and weekly 'plug in' days. Create a monthly newsletter to share the work of the Digital Leaders and online safety messages. Ensure the whole school can access quality IT resources.
Curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to raise awareness and enjoyment of writing by organising this year's Literature Festival. To learn more about Fairtrade in the curriculum and invite visitors in to talk to the pupils about the importance of Fairtrade. Fundraise for Water Aid to install a well, pump and tap to provide fresh clean running water in a village that needs one.
Criw Cymraeg - Welsh language and culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To use character animation on Adobe Creative to record phrase of the week and put in the newsletter. To create a termly Welsh magazine – quizzes, word searches, Welsh colouring, interesting facts about Wales. To work towards the Starter Iaith Silver award.
Diversity and Mission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote inclusivity through all areas of school life by planning Show Racism the Red Card Day, leading assemblies and designing a new Anti-racist logo. To support the Welsh Refugee Council and refugee centres in Cardiff (Oasis). To work towards re-accreditation of Rights Respecting Schools Award Gold.
Chaplaincy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the use of Gweddiwn in the Early Years, the use of the Prayer Garden and Christian Meditation. To develop links with the home – parish and schools in our cluster to celebrate the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work with the Diversity Government Group in becoming a School of Sanctuary.
Health and Wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve health promotion across our school by supporting happy and healthy breaktimes, advising on healthy lunchboxes and providing class worry boxes. Promote and participate in Children’s Mental Health Week 3rd-9th February 2025 Participate in the Big Walk and Wheel Campaign (Spring 2025) and Hands Up Travel to School Survey. (Summer 2025)
Eco and the outdoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take part in a project with Vale Nature Partnership to help improve the meadow and the pond area. Raise awareness to help reduce amount of food being wasted. Take part in an Energy Sparks programme and help reduce electricity in the school.

Dates for the Diary



November

- 11TH – 24th – Switch Off Fortnight
- 12th – Additional Year 4 Parent Teacher Consultation
- 13th – Reception and Year 5 to Mass
- 13th – F&F AGM School Hall, 4pm**
- 14th - Year 6 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 15th – Samba Drumming Workshops (F&F funded)
- 20th – Universal Children’s Day
- 20th – Year 2 Educational Visit to St Fagan’s**
- 20th – Years 3 and 4 to Mass
- 20th – Year 6 PC Alex ‘It’s Your Choice’
- 21st - Year 5 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 25TH – Open Evening for Nursery and Reception
- September 2025 4pm – 5.30pm
- 28th - Year 1 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

December

- 4th – Come and Pray for all parents with their children 3.20pm**
- 4th – Year 1 Educational Visit to Cardiff Castle
- 6th – Christmas Choir to sing at Ty Dewi Sant
- 6th – F&F Christmas Fair
- 7th – Christmas Choir to sing at St Augustine’s Christmas Tree Festival 11.15am
- 10th – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Production 10am
- 11th – Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production 10am
- 12th – Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am
- 13th - Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am
- 13th – Mr Marvel Magic Show (F&F Funded)**
- 15th – Years 3 – 6 Advent Service 3pm, St Joseph’s Church
- 16th – Creative and Enterprising Christmas Market 2pm
- 16th – Termly St Joseph’s 100 Club Draw – See Parent Pay for more information
- 17th – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day**

Please check the Dates for the Diary every week.

Four Purposes of the Curriculum –Ethical and Informed Citizens!

Nursery	Oscar Murphy Newport	Year 3	Erin Griffiths
Reception	Jonah Quick	Year 4	Dylan Wareham
Year 1	Afan McAuley	Year 5	Esme Jones
Year 2	George Crisp	Year 6	Zia Hussain



Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor’s Good News Awards are for pupils who use simple Welsh words and phrases, asking and answering questions in Welsh, and use the Welsh language throughout the school day with increasing confidence.

Congratulations to this week’s winners!



Nursery	Everly Gould	Year 3	Noah Davies
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	Frankie Griffiths Ada Best Thea-Rose Baker		Noah Ford Oliver Jarvis Ella Roblin-Richards
Reception	Archie Barber Erin Spear John Harlow Athreya Akarsh	Year 4	Emily Deacon Antonio Aviles – Richardson Nia Holt Ava Morgan
Year 1	Ben Hooper Jasper Challis Xavier Buinimasi Isla Mai Hilliard	Year 5	Amelia Davies Cory Howard Holly Terry Ashton Ruckley
Year 2	Oliver Dziedzic Mia Taylor Dylan Walsh Albie Todd	Year 6	Raine Ferrer Georgia Dudley Ali Zaman Izabella Edwards



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

NEWS

🎉 Thanks to your generous support, we've been able to buy some essential resources for our school and treat all children to some fantastic experiences. We are especially excited about:

🎪 A **big top circus experience** which will take place in the summer term, with a show and circus skills workshops for all children (in a real big top tent on the field!)

🥁 **Samba drumming workshops** for all children taking place next week with the brilliant Patrick King from Children's Musical Adventures.

★ Please see attached posters for all the things we've been able to fund and upcoming events. **Thank you so much for your support.**

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Please save the date for December 6 at 4pm. Volunteers very much needed to help us run this event - please email stjosephsfandf@gmail.com if you can spare an hour or two! 🙏

Raffle tickets and tokens will be available to buy online soon. We've got some brilliant prizes this year!

Please see the posters attached for more info



SANTA'S GROTTTO IS BACK!



Just £4 per child, including a wrapped gift. Tickets will be on sale soon via our online shop – keep an eye out as this event usually sells out!

LOOK WHAT WE DID!

THANKS TO **YOUR** SUPPORT, WE'RE FUNDING...

- ✓ **'Big Top' Circus Day** – show + workshops for all (summer 2025)
- ✓ **Samba Drumming Workshops** for all classes (Nov 2024)
- ✓ **School Nature Trail** (Coming 2025 – more details tbc)
- ✓ **New stationery and equipment** for every class (Sept 2024)
- ✓ **School Trips** – £100 contribution per class for 2024/25
- ✓ **New reading books** for bringing home and in class
- ✓ **XL Science Workshops** for all classes (January 2025)
- ✓ **School Disco** – Free to enter + free crisps/drink (Oct 2024)
- ✓ **Free book + sweet treat from Santa** for every child

WE'VE ALSO FUNDED...



Amphitheatre. 2021



2 x mark-making huts. 2023



Playground boat. 2022



Books, experiences, equipment, trips + treats – every year



Wellbeing area. 2022



Playground markings. 2022

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2024



**SANTA'S GROTTO - FESTIVE GAMES + STALLS - PIZZA
SCHOOL CHOIR - DRINKS + SNACKS - XMAS PUDS**

**FRIDAY
DEC 6
4 - 6PM**

FREE ENTRY!

ALL WELCOME! TOKENS NEEDED - AVAILABLE ON
THE DAY AND IN ADVANCE, CASH OR CARD.



Choose sidebar display

WE



NEED

😊 YOU



**FREE
CAKE!**

**COME TO OUR
AGM ON 13.11.24
[AT] 4PM IN THE
SCHOOL HALL**

**CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR OR TWO A TERM?
WE'D LOVE SOME NEW MEMBERS!**

**PLEASE MESSAGE NICOLA ON 07393 819619
OR EMAIL STJOSEPHSFANDF[AT]GMAIL.COM
FOR MORE INFO. SEE YOU SOON!**