

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



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On Monday, we celebrated our Welcome Mass. The theme of our Mass was,  
**“God calls each of us by name to be a beacon of light for the whole world”.**

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Message from Mrs Taylor

As we enter the month of October, it's been a pleasure to reflect on the positive start to the year we've had at St. Joseph's. Our pupils have truly shone, showing exemplary behaviour in their learning, play, and prayer. They've taken part in a variety of experiences, exploring a curriculum that encourages them to build their skills and expand their knowledge. It's been encouraging to see their progress in literacy, numeracy, and digital skills as they continue to grow as ambitious and capable learners. Thank you to all our staff for their energy, enthusiasm and hard work and to all our family members for your support.

On Monday, Mgr. Boardman came to St Joseph's to celebrate our 'Welcome Mass'. The theme of our Mass was 'God calls each of us by name to be a beacon of light for the whole world'. During the Mass we welcomed our new pupils in Reception class, the new pupils across the school and our new staff members. Mgr. Boardman also blessed our class candles, which have now been placed on the prayer tables in the classrooms. They are a reminder to us every day to work together to be a beacon of light for the whole world.

Thank you for your support of our home-clothes day today and your donations for the Vale Foodbank. Supporting the Foodbank ensures that people's basic needs for food and sustenance are met, upholding their **human dignity**, one of the principles the pupils learn about through Catholic Social Teaching. Catholic Social Teaching teaches that we are all one human family, responsible for one another. Thank you for helping your child to put 'faith into action' by responding directly to the needs of others around them.

On **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**, we are marking Show Racism the Red Card, which is taking place nationally on this day. Pupils are invited to wear **home-clothes and something red**. Throughout the day, pupils will take part in activities focusing on anti-racism. There is also a competition for the children to complete at home which will be judged by the Diversity Government Group.

Finally, a reminder that children can bring a piece of fruit / vegetables to eat during mid- morning break e.g. cut up grapes, an apple, carrot or cucumber sticks etc. Crisps, cereal bars, cookies, chocolate etc. are not permitted. In addition, 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 and Nutella.

Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

### Prayer of the Week



Our Year 2 Act of worship this week was an opportunity for us all to give thanks to God for his wonderful creation and particularly for the fruit, grains and vegetables harvested at this time.

**Say this prayer together:**

For the sun, moon and stars:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For mammals, birds, fish and insects:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For trees, bushes, flowers and grasses:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For mountains and hills:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For valleys and rivers:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For sunshine, wind and rain:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

For the harvest of vegetables, fruit and grains:

**Diolch i ti O Dduw!**

### 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

This week's attendance figures for each class are:  
Well done to Year 3 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.

Class	Attendance
Reception	81.7%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	96.2%
Year 3	99.3%
Year 4	95.6%
Year 5	92.5%
Year 6	92.8%



### School Attendance

**We need you to.....**

- Send your child to school on time.
- Ring/text school early and daily if your child can not attend.
- Avoid holidays in term time.
- Keep school informed of your updated contact number.

**We will.....**

- Keep you regularly informed of your child's attendance.
- Treat any information you give us in a supportive and sensitive way.
- Welcome your child every day.
- Be happy that you have chosen to give your child the opportunity of the best future.

We understand that sometimes getting your children up and out on time every morning can be difficult, particularly if your child doesn't want to go for some reason.

We know that children who miss even small amounts of education can fall behind quickly and can miss out on so much. Being in school and on time increases learning and social opportunities.

Here are some ways you can help.

If you suspect that your child may be missing school or is unhappy at school, contact the school or the Inclusion Team who can help resolve any difficulties and offer friendly advice.

Take an interest in your child's education, ask them what they did in school and celebrate their successes and listen to their worries.

If your child is absent get in touch with school. Staff will improve the situation. It's better to contact us first so that we can make sure steps are taken to help you.

Make sure your child knows that you do not approve of them missing school for any reason, but be on the alert for any particular reasons for not attending school, like bullying, difficulties with school-work.

If you can't help them, speak to the school and let them know of any difficulties.

Make sure your child arrives on time to start school.

Make sure you know the school's attendance policy; every school has one.

If your child is away for other reasons like a doctor's appointment or the dentist, let the school know in advance. Please try and book appointments towards the end of the day.

## Domain Learning



Following our 'This is Me!' topic, the pupils are now beginning their first Domain. The current Domains are:

<b>Nursery</b> In the Garden	<b>Reception</b> In the Garden	<b>Year 1</b> Kings and Queens	<b>Year 2</b> Celts and Romans in Wales
<b>Year 3</b> Ancient Greece	<b>Year 4</b> The Vikings	<b>Year 5</b> The Industrial Revolution	<b>Year 6</b> Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century

This week, you will receive the Knowledge Organiser and Home Learning Guidance for your child's Domain Unit.

This will give you an overview of what your child will be learning about in Domain and give some suggestions for Independent Learning Projects that they can complete at home.

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in our living and in our learning.**

# Our School Rules:

## Be Ready

## Be Respectful

## Be Safe

## Be Loving

## Dates for the Diary



### October

- 7<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 CookStars Workshop
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Reception Class Audiology Screening
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 PC Alex – Anti Social Behaviour
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Health and Wellbeing Government Group - Playground Pal training
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Shwmae Welsh Language Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Year 4 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Show Racism the Red Card Day – Pupils are invited to wear home clothes with something red.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Bullies Out Wellbeing workshops
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
- 24<sup>th</sup> – F&F Autumn Disco
- 25<sup>th</sup> – INSET Day

### Half term

28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November

### November

- 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Swimming
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultations 4 – 6pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultations 4 – 6pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 and 6 to Mass
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Reception Educational Visit to Pizza Express

### November

- 11<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> – Switch Off Fortnight
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Reception and Year 5 to Mass
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Samba Drumming Workshops (F&F funded)
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Universal Children’s Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 PC Alex ‘It’s Your Choice’
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Year 5 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Open Evening for Nursery and Reception September 2025 4pm – 5.30pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Year 1 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

### December

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Come and Pray for all parents with their children 3.20pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – F&F Christmas Fair
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Production 10am
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production 10am
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Years 3 – 6 Advent Service 3pm, St Joseph’s Church
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Creative and Enterprising Christmas Market 2pm

## Come and Pray – Family and Community

Thank you to the family members who joined us for ‘Come and Pray’ on Wednesday this week. The focus of the prayer was ‘Family’. We all know how important it is to belong to a family. The family is where we should feel loved and where we first learn to love. It is where we learn to serve one another, where we share life’s joys and sorrows, where we feel loved unconditionally. Because of this, the family is a fundamental building block of a strong society, a society which strives for compassion, empathy and care for all. We also know no family is perfect. All families can struggle from time to time with relationships, communication, financial difficulties, balancing work life and family life, unemployment, and mental health.



During our prayer, we reflected on the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We can sometimes think that here was a perfect family, living in happiness, without experiencing any sort of difficulties. However, the Gospel tells us otherwise. The Holy Family certainly knew hard times. Things did not always go well. They suffered public scorn, homelessness, a harsh environment, a power-hungry and bloodthirsty king, losing their child and eventually seeing him die. So, they understand our joys and our difficulties.

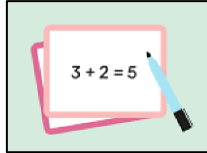
In our prayer, we are also remembered that we are part of one big global family. We are all brothers and sisters and we are all loved by God, no matter where in the world we are, what we look like, whether we are rich or poor. Because we are all part of one family, we should all try to love one another, to care for one another, to respect and share with one another.

Say this prayer together:

Loving God,  
Thank You for the gifts You have given each of us.  
Help us to use our talents to help others and to make our community a better place.  
Teach us to appreciate and support one another, just as You love and support us.  
May we always follow the example of the Holy Family in our lives.  
Amen.



## Maths No Problem!



We follow the Maths No Problem scheme. Singapore Maths is an amalgamation of global ideas delivered as a highly effective programme of teaching methods and resources. For pupils in all year groups, a concept is initially enacted with “concrete” materials, later it is represented by models (pictures), and then by abstract notation (such a plus or equals sign). Each mathematics subject or skill area is revisited in intervals at a more sophisticated level each time as the spiral curriculum is followed throughout the school. This is what each year group are working on this half term:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nursery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Counting to 5 through songs and rhymes.</li> <li>Recognising colours.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reception</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Counting to 10.</li> <li>Representing numbers 1 – 10 in different ways, for example, using objects, pictures and Numicon.</li> <li>Recognising and creating repeating patterns.</li> <li>Comparing size, weight and capacity</li> <li>Exploring 2D shapes</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count to ten, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number.</li> <li>Read and write numbers to 10 in numerals and words.</li> <li>Use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least.</li> <li>Count in multiples of twos.</li> <li>Using number bonds to solve problems.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count in steps of 2, 3 and 5 from 0 and in tens from any number, forward and backward.</li> <li>Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones)</li> <li>Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use <math>&lt;</math>, <math>&gt;</math> and <math>=</math> signs.</li> <li>Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and words.</li> <li>Simple addition and subtraction.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number; recognise the place value of each digit in a three digit number (hundreds, tens, ones).</li> <li>Read, write, compare and order numbers up to 1000</li> <li>Count from 0 in multiples of 50 and 100</li> <li>Counting on in 4s and 8s.</li> <li>Adding and subtracting with renaming.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000.</li> <li>Find 1000 more or less than a given number.</li> <li>Count backwards through zero to include negative numbers.</li> <li>Recognise the place value of each digit in a four digit number</li> <li>Order and compare numbers beyond 1000.</li> <li>Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1000000 and determine the value of each digit.</li> <li>Count forwards or backwards in steps of powers of 10 for any given number up to 1000000.</li> <li>Adding and subtracting mentally and using the column method.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 000 000 and determine the value of each digit.</li> <li>Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy.</li> <li>Using BODMAS (B – Brackets O – Order of powers or roots D – Division M – Multiplication A – Addition S – Subtraction) and the four operations.</li> <li>Solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above.</li> </ul>