

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



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

6th September 2023

Message from Mrs Taylor

It's been a great joy to welcome our pupils back to St Joseph's this week. We missed them so much over the summer break! In particular, a big 'WELCOME' and 'CROESO' to all our new pupils in Nursery, Reception and across the school. All the pupils have settled beautifully and I've been so impressed with how well they have returned to the excellent learning behaviours they developed last year. I've particularly enjoyed watching our Nursery and Reception pupils create collages of their faces; Year 1 answering the Welsh question, 'Pwy wyt ti?' (Who are you?); Year 2 creating self-portraits; Year 3 pupils learning about children's rights and deciding on their class charter; Year 4 pupils using lots of detail in their self-portraits; Year 5 pupils creating their 'This is me' hoodies; and Year 6 pupils launched their diversity text, 'A Story Like the Wind' by Gill Lewis.

We have started the school year with a whole-school topic 'This is Me!' The topic explores the themes of identity, belonging and citizenship focused around three key questions: Who am I? Where do I come from? Why am I here? Similarly to the celebration we held last November following last year's Global Dimension Fortnight, we are going to hold a Culture and Heritage Celebration in the school hall on **Monday 23rd September from 3pm**. All family members are welcome to attend. A letter was sent home yesterday asking if there are any families who could support the event, for example, by bringing along traditional food to share with our school community. If you feel able to support the event, please email the school office.

In addition to the event on 23rd September, parents and family members are invited to attend our 'Welcome back' Fairtrade coffee morning, as part of our celebrations for the 30th anniversary of Fairtrade. This will take place on **Tuesday 17th September from 9.30 – 10.30**.

This year our Forest Schools sessions with Mrs Gardiner will take a different format. All classes will take part in a six-week block of sessions on a Thursday afternoon. This will begin with the Year 5 class next Thursday. In addition, all pupils across the school will continue to take part in a range of outdoor learning opportunities with their class teacher throughout the week.

Please take the time to look at the 'Dates for the Diary.' I have added the dates of the class liturgies which take place at 3.20pm on the specified date.

I wish you a lovely weekend.
Take care and God Bless – Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week



Prayer for a New School Year

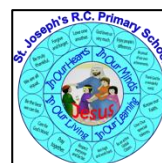
God of wisdom and might,
We praise you for the wonder of our being,
For mind, body and spirit.

Bless our school as we enter a new year –
may ours be a community of welcome and hope.

Be with our children as they begin a new school year.
Watch over them so that they grow in understanding and love.
Bless them and their teachers, Learning Support Assistants and staff.

Give us strength and wisdom to know your love
and guide us to be beacons of light to the world.
Amen.

Our Mission Statement



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

In Our Hearts: We want to have love and kindness in our hearts, just like Jesus. Can you think of ways to be merciful and loving today?

In Our Minds: Jesus teaches us to always seek the truth and to be wise. How can you make good choices in your learning and in how you treat others?

In Our Living: Living like Jesus means helping others and being peacemakers. What can you do to bring peace to those around you?

In Our Learning: We learn not just with our minds, but with our hearts. How can we be pure in heart as you learn each day?

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

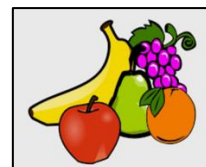
God also wants us to **actively** change what we can do for the better. He wants us to help make this a better world.

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	Late
Reception	98.5	0
Year 1	86.7	0
Year 2	96.2	0
Year 3	98.8	0
Year 4	95.8	0
Year 5	97.8	0
Year 6	95.4	0

Breaktime Snack



Children can bring a piece of fruit / vegetable to eat during mid- morning break.

Crisps, sweets, cookies, chocolate 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.

Snacks should be labelled clearly with the child's name.

Please do not send more than one item for playtime.

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 stjosephsps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

First Holy Communion Classes (Year 3 and above)



First Holy Communion preparation for children in Year 3 and above will begin in St Joseph's RC Church, Penarth and St Mary's RC Church, Dinas Powys, in October.

If you wish to register your child, forms are available in the sacristies of both churches.

Completed forms should be returned as soon as possible so that numbers can be calculated. A meeting with parents will be arranged and more information will be given in due course.

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 Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday 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 or high heels
- 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.

Prayer Bags



This week, every class will be given a Prayer Bag, which will be passed around each family throughout the year. The pupils will take the Prayer Bag home to their families for two nights to pray with. The next day the bag will then get passed on to another family. The focus of the Prayer Bag will change according to the Times and Seasons of the Church's year, e.g., Advent and Ordinary Time.

There will be several items in each Prayer Bag with a list of contents provided on the front of a Journey with Jesus Class Prayer Book. The Journey with Jesus Class Prayer Book will provide an opportunity for your family to add your own prayers, pictures or photographs, which will be a lovely record of prayer in your child's class.

We would ask that you please take care of these bags as they are special and will be something that will unify the families in each class and across the whole school.

This week, we began with our Ordinary Time Prayer Bags. If you receive the prayer bag during this time, you can explore the prayers in the children's prayer book and thank Jesus, Mary and Joseph for their guidance and support.

We hope that you will enjoy the opportunity to spend time praying together as a family.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024/2025

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2024	Monday 2 nd September 2024	Monday 28 th October 2024	Friday 1 st November 2024	Friday 20 th December 2024	75
Spring 2025	Monday 6 th January 2025	Monday 24 th February 2025	Friday 28 th February 2025	Friday 11 th April 2025	65
Summer 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025	Monday 26 th May 2025	Friday 30 th May 2025	Monday 21 st July 2025	55

Welcome Back!

Nursery



Year 1

Reception



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Dates for the Diary



September

16th – Year 1 School Hearing Screening
 17th – Fairtrade Coffee Morning (for parents and their children) 9.30 – 10.30
 18th – Colorfoto – Individual/ Sibling photographs
 20th – Fairtrade Day
23rd – Culture and Heritage Celebration and Exhibition of Learning – Parent and family members invited from 3pm.
 26th – Reception – Year 6 Flu vaccination

October

2nd – Reception and Year 6 to Mass
2nd – Come and Pray for all parents with their children 3.20pm
3rd – Year 2 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 4th – CAFOD Family Fast Day – Pupils will be invited to wear home clothes and bring in an item for the Vale Foodbank
 9th – Years 1 and 5 to Mass
10th – Year 3 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 15th – Health and Wellbeing Government Group - Playground Pal training
17th - Year 4 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 18th – Show Racism the Red Card Day
 22nd – Bullies Out Wellbeing workshops
 23rd – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass

October

24th – F&F Autumn Disco
25th – INSET Day

Half term

28th October – 1st November

November

4th – 8th November – Year 4 Swimming
 5th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4 – 6pm
 6th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4 – 6pm
 6th – Year 1 and 6 to Mass
 11th – 24th – Switch Off Fortnight
 13th – Reception and Year 5 to Mass
14th - Year 6 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
 20th – Universal Children’s Day
 20th – Years 2, 3 and 4 to Mass
21st - Year 5 Class Liturgy 3.20pm
28th - Year 1 Class Liturgy 3.20pm

Confirmed INSET days

Monday 2nd September
 Tuesday 3rd September
 Monday 6th January
 Friday 21st February
 Tuesday 6th May
 Monday 21st July

Please check the Dates for the Diary every week.

Four Purposes of the Curriculum –Ambitious and Capable Learners!

Nursery	Delilah Pugsley	Year 3	Andrea Nithin
Reception	Erin Spear	Year 4	Olivia Buinimasi
Year 1	Lenny Starling	Year 5	Isabelle Cheetham
Year 2	George Crisp	Year 6	Thomas Mortimer



Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor’s Good News Awards are for pupils who have had a fabulous start to the school year giving 100% effort in all tasks set by the teacher.

Congratulations to this week’s winners!

Nursery	Lily Davey Otis Williams Thea-Rose Baker Ada Best	Year 3	Erika (Lia Ferrer) Luke Page Ella Roblin Richardson Caleb Cummings
Reception	Ellen Jones Camilla Haincock Osian Whittaker Jonah Quick	Year 4	Charlotte Cummings Wilson Barker Samuel Mba Esmal O’Grady
Year 1	William Hoover Jasper Challis Elise Knapper Stanley Hawkins	Year 5	Jac Newton-Walker Kayleigh-Jay Solomon Martha Graham Reuben Griffiths
Year 2	Lette Quick Dave Robin Abraham Molly Dix Jacob Wareham	Year 6	Poppy Meyer Bobby Perkins Kadie Quick Finley Mulchinock