



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 21st March 2025

Welcome to the second newsletter of the term and what a busy few weeks it has been! Science week last week was bigger and better than before....see below for what your children got up to – although, I am sure that you have already heard!

Thank you so much

We would like to say a huge thank you to Kirsten Smith, who donated some hi-viz tops to us recently – these will be used when the children go off site.

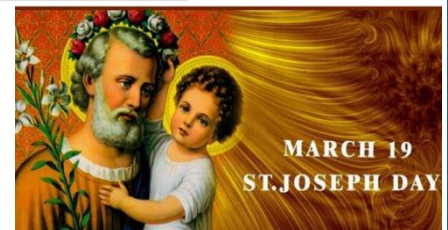


Also thank you to Rebecca Reynolds, who delivered some great logs that will be used for outdoor learning. Thank you so much!

We are so lucky to have such supportive and generous parents. These acts of kindness make a big difference to all of the children in our school – thank you.

St Joseph's Feast Day Mass

We celebrated our School's Feast Day on Wednesday with a lovely whole school Mass. We are really grateful that Fr Philip is willing to move his calendar around to enable us to celebrate important feasts when they actually happen. The Year 5 and 6 children read clearly, Heidi and Finley (Reception) took up the offertory and the children sang beautifully. I would like to thank the staff for their efforts that make these celebrations such special occasions and enabling them to run like clockwork.



House News



The house singing competition is underway, the group songs are being practised and auditions have taken place this week for solos/duets and instrument performances. It's always a tricky one because more parents would like to come to this event than we are able to accommodate. We would love to be able to invite you all, however we simply cannot fit everyone in the hall. Due to the popularity of this school event and the amount of admin time spent on allocating tickets in the past we will again be initially offering 1 ticket per family from Year 6, Year R and children taking part in either the instrument or small group song. When the communication comes out, please respond to this as quickly as you can to support Laura to get the event organised. Once, those seats have been allocated and accepted, there may be availability for a few more seats which will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Look out for more communication about this nearer the time and thank you for your support and understanding with this popular event.

Footloose



Our children are fortunate to have the opportunity to join Sarah and her dazzle after school dance club again this term.

Just in case you haven't already seen it, here's the children having great fun while getting footloose last week <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DHJgaL-sEOOr/?igsh=Z2FucTlhM29wM3Bk>

Year 6 SATs meeting


Thank you to all of the parents who attended the SATs meeting last Friday – we hope that you found it helpful. Thank you also for signing up to the books that Mrs Knight is recommending to support your children to keep ticking over during the Easter Holidays. With such a short summer term 1 this year, this is more important than usual. Please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Knight after school if you have any questions that you'd like to be answered.

Parent's evenings



It was lovely to see you all for parent's evenings this week. Whilst brief, I hope that you found the meeting useful and were able to celebrate your child's progress with them. Following on from the meeting, if you have any questions or thoughts that occurred to you after the meeting that you would like to further discuss, please do let your child's class teacher know, they will be happy to help.

Attendance Matters, Moments Count



Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

You should not take holidays during term time.
Please be punctual to maintain attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

Fun Facts about Punctuality

There is a clear link between attendance and punctuality and academic achievement. The more time your child spends in school the more likely they are to improve their opportunity to fulfil their full potential.

How you can help:

- Ensure your child is at school and ready to learn before 8.45am each day
- Children should be sat in their place in the classroom by 8.50am – having registered themselves beforehand.
- Make sure school bags are packed the night before and that your child gets up with plenty of time to eat and get ready.

Being late doesn't only affect your child, it disrupts other children in the class as well as the teachers trying to teach a lesson. However, if you do think you are going to be late, please do not keep your child off school for the rest of the day. Being late and in school is better than being absent and missing out. If your child is late for a genuine, unavoidable reason please phone the Admin Team.

Punctuality at the start of the day is extremely important. The start of the day is when important recall activities take place to ensure learning gaps are filled.

The Law

If a pupil arrives late to school but whilst the register is still open, they are marked as late (L on the attendance register). We believe that teaching students, the vital skill of reliability is important for them to achieve their full potential in school but also to support them for the wider world where punctuality is very important for employers and further education settings.

If a pupil arrives at school after the register has closed, this will be classed as an unauthorised absence (U code on the attendance register) and may lead to prosecution for not ensuring your child has regular school attendance.

Congratulations to Year 4 – no-one in their class was late last week!

Wildlife Quiz

In the middle of Science Week, we held the first round of the annual wildlife quiz at school last Wednesday. Our team of 4: Felix, Samuel, Alice and Lyra competed against Stone and North Nibley schools. It's a tough event and a lot of general knowledge is required for this one. Well done to the team, they worked together to be the best that they can be and represented the school so well. They did not qualify for the next round but all enjoyed the experience.





British Science Week 2025

What a week our children had! Last week our children had the most amazing week with such a wide range of exciting experiences planned for them that took place throughout the week.

All of the children took part in a planned workshop that were provided by NRS (Magnox): Year 3 made, then battled with brush monsters; Year 1 made zip wires for a teddy; Year 4 made and raced balloon buggies out on the playground; Year 2 made CD racers and held their competition in the hall; Year 5 made fan boats - water was required for their races; Year 6 took part in a fascinating session looking at the value of scientific data and then worked with their Reception buddies to make wind turbines. We would like to say a huge thank you to: Mandy Shipton, Shaun Petitt, Marianne Morris, Rebecca Banham, Andy Padget and Mrs Bartrum, who came into school and lead these brilliant workshops for our children. I am sure you saw what they made because they brought them home.

There were also many other learning experiences across the week:

Colm Connolly from Airbus spoke to the children about how airplanes work and how they have adapted to change - including how to make the perfect paper airplane which the children enjoyed trying out on the playground; KS2 joined the BBC live lessons; Year 2 joined the NFU live lesson to find out about science and farming and Renishaw delivered an assembly about what they do, then followed it up with coding microbits with Years 5 and 6 – teaching them how to play rock, paper scissors! Thank you to Mrs Barrowman for arranging Renishaw to join in the week.

We are so lucky to have such talented parents, who are willing to share their passions with our children – we are especially grateful to Mandy Shipton who spent so much time working with Mrs Carr (our Science Lead) to plan and deliver once again a great Science Week for our children. When we celebrated the children's achievements at the end of the week, we asked which was their greatest day - it was tricky to choose, there were so many!

Do have a look on your child's class blog to get a better idea of the activities that the children got up to last week!

PTA News

Thank you for all of the great donations that you sent in on Monday in exchange for your child to wear their home clothes to school. They are currently in piles waiting for Mrs Wand to work her magic on them – thank you so much once again Mrs Wand!

Tickets are on sale now – please email the PTA at pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk with number of tickets, name(s) and mobile number(s) to go on the tickets.

Volunteers required please 😊 If you are able to help at the Easter event on 6th April – even if it just for a short while, please do sign up and help to make this event a great success for our children. Click on the picture below to sign up.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ice cream Sales



We all know how much the children love an ice cream after school on a Friday afternoon. The PTA are starting today and they need your help to do this. If you are able to spend 15 minutes after school on a Friday selling ice creams, then please let Alexa know and she will add you to the rota.

Quiz Night at the Fox

The popular quiz at The Fox is taking place on 19th May. If you'd like to get a team together and book a table, please let Jo Smee know asap – they sell out very quickly!

Helping our children to learn

We have recently been advised about some ai software that could help some of our children with their learning. The software is called Otter.ai. The company has developed speech to text transcription applications using artificial intelligence and machine learning. Whilst this has been recommended for a child in Year 6, we can see the potential for some of our other children across the school. Mrs Knight will be trailing the use in Year 6 and we are excited to see how this goes.



OOSC News

The Easter Holiday Club is available to book now.

When: Tuesday 15th- Thursday 17th April

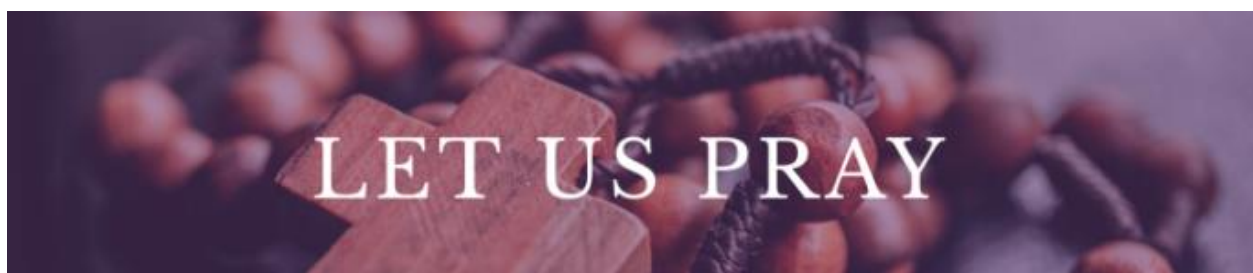
From: 08:30 to 17:00

Cost: £29 per child per day (5% discount for children booking all days -3-day price £82.65)



Easter holiday club 2025

Time	Magic day! Tuesday 15th April	Be the scientist day! Wednesday 16th April	Easter day! Thursday 17th April
8.30am – 9.00am	Free play	Free play	Free play
9.00am – 10.00am	Wand	Explosive cupcakes	Easter bonnets
10.00am – 11.00am	Magic Marie show (outside organisation)	Free play	Free play
11.00am – 12.00pm	Free play	You be the scientist (science experiments)	Easter nests
12.00pm – 1.00pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Rabbit cupcake	Messy play	Wooden ornament craft
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Rabbit cup	Windmills	Egg hunt
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Magic rainbow bookmarks	Kites	Rabbit pencil topper
4.00pm – 5.00pm	free play	free play	free play
5.00pm	Home time	Home time	Home time



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Thursday 27th March –
Year 6 and Reception
Thursday 3rd April – Year 5

Thursday 10th April – Year 4
Friday 11th April – Stations of the
Cross at 9.30am – All welcome



[March 2025](#)

Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

This week's Lenten garden prayer is written by Thomas, Heidi, Nellie, Jasmine and Isabelle:

Dear God,
Thank you for Lent and giving us time to get ready for Easter.
Jesus helps us get light and share our faith, hope and love.
Please bring us love and joy and peace this Lent.
Amen



St Joseph's Primary School, Nympsfield



**BRAND
NEW**

EASTER HUNT

★ APRIL 6TH 1-4pm

**CAKES,
HOT CROSS BUNS,
HOT AND COLD
DRINKS**

**TOMBOLA
REFRESHMENTS
CRAFTS & GAMES**



- GAMES AND TOMBOLA RUN BY PRESCHOOL
- COLOURING COMPETITION • FIND THE GOLDREN CARROT GAME
- EASTER RAFFLE WITH SEVEN FANTASTIC EASTER HAMPERS
WHICH WILL BE DRAWN AT 2.30PM ON THE DAY



Dates for your



Spring Term 2

March

Monday 24th - Y5 Dursley class trip

Friday 28th - Y4 violin concert 2.30pm - parents welcome

April

Wednesday 2nd - Y2 trip to Berkeley Castle

Friday 4th - Y6 PCSO online relationships talk

Friday 4th - Y3 class trip to Chedworth Villa

Sunday 6th - PTA Easter event 1-4pm

Wednesday 9th - Parent Forum 9am

Thursday 10th - House singing Competition - PM

Friday 11th - Stations of the Cross 9.30am

Friday 11th - End of Term 1.30pm

Monday 28th - Term 5 begins for all