



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

## Newsletter – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Half term feels like a long way away now, especially after this week, which has been exceptionally busy as we move into Lent. Whilst the weather during the day had been beautiful – it's still very chilly in the mornings though, please make sure that you send your child in dressed suitably for the changing but variable weather. Wellies are still a necessity for them to make use of the field during their play times.

### Staffing Update



We are delighted that Mrs Guoite, has had her twins, Charlie and Arlo. They are at home and all doing well, settling into their family life.

And, congratulations to Mrs Knight, who has been through the rigorous process and will once again be a county moderator in the summer term. This is not an easy position to achieve and requires great subject knowledge and understanding of writing in order to be successful – well done you!

We all know that Mrs Carr loves her science and that she does a great job - ensuring that the science curriculum is as good as it can be for our children., This has been identified as exemplary by the local authority and she has been asked to be a Key Note Speaker at the County Science Network Meetings in the summer term. Well done Mrs Carr and thank you for all that you do for our young scientists at St Joseph's

### House News



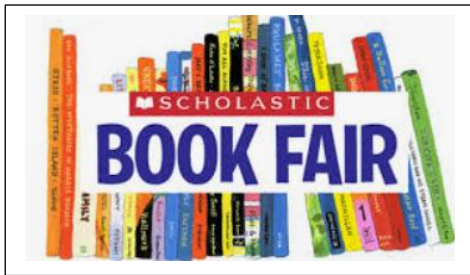
Congratulating to Eagles who won last term. I look forward to the house captains deciding what treat they will arrange for their house. We will begin to prepare for the House singing competition at the end of this term very soon. I can't wait to see what song choices the house captains come up with this year!

### Look Who's Talking

Mrs Hamlin and Mrs T-B took our competition winners to the Stroud area round at Bussage school last Tuesday. Millie, Cooper and Luna delivered their talk to the judges along with all of the other school winners. They did really well and Mrs Hamlin reported that they really did a great job of representing our school. No one made it onto the next round but to make it that far is a huge achievement. Well done to all.

**LOOK  
WHO'S  
TALKING!  
2024/2025**

## Scholastic Book Fair

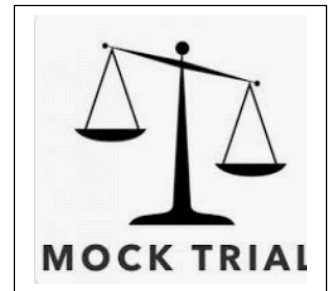


Thank you so much, to the parents who treated their child/children to a book at the recent Scholastic book fair and for your patience with us as we recorded the books that you bought, and with the internet when trying to pay online!

The fair made an incredible £850. Through the book sales we have been given £425 to spend on new books for the school. Without your support, this would not have been possible.

## Y6 Mock Trials Club

I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to sit at the back of the Mock Trials club that Mrs Connolly has kindly offered to run for our Year 6 children. Mock trials is one of the many opportunities that the children have in Year 6. It was really interesting to hear the roles and explanations for the children, really giving them the basis to understand what they need to do during the trial. We just got to a bit of cross-examining the witness by the end of the session – with much more to come in future weeks. The children that attended were so attentive, asking purposeful questions to clarify their understanding and making notes, on pads that Mrs Connolly provided, to further help them with their role. How lucky we are as a school to have parents willing to share their strengths and interests to the benefit of our children. This short-term club is on offer to all of the Year 6 children, even if they are not part of the trial team – there is so much that they would all gain from joining. If your child hasn't signed up, do encourage them to come along.



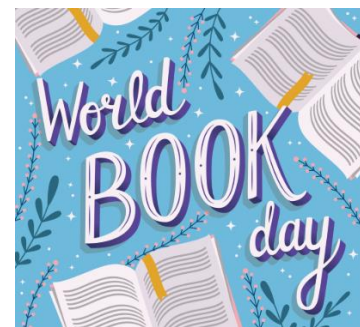
## Y4 In The Net

Last Friday Year 4 spent the afternoon with children from other schools at Nailsworth Primary School, watching the production – In the Net. This visit is arranged for all local primary schools by Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership. The focus of the production is on-line safety and how to stay safe - something that is a growing concern for both parents and teachers alike. The production addresses the dangers of being online in a fun and engaging way. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and hopefully came away with important messages.

Thank you to all of the Year 4 parents for arranging transport to get the children to and from this valuable learning experience for all for the children and to Miss Keightley and Mrs Pickerington for accompanying them.

## World Book Day

We celebrated another World Book Day yesterday, with lots of different fun opportunities for the children to get involved in. Thank you to all of the parents, carers, grandparents who came into school to read with the children in their classes, joined in the book swap and had a cup of tea/coffee while they were with us. And to you all for supporting the event in other ways,



providing costumes, money for hot chocolate, etc. The children had a great day and hopefully brought their book token home. If you haven't already see it please find a snapshot of the day [here](#)

Thank you to Mrs Knight, as always for organising the day and to Mrs Jenkins who supported the School Council to serve refreshments throughout the day. The money raised, £171.50, will be shared between new books for the classes and the prayer garden.

### Year 6 SATs Meeting

Whilst Year 1 and Year 4 parents received information about the statutory assessments that their children will do this year, Year 6 did not. That is because we will be holding a Year 6 SATs meeting on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 3.25pm** – straight after school. This will be a short meeting to share with you the assessments that your children will be doing in May. This meeting is for parents only, so we will provide care for your children to enable you to attend without them. If you are able to come to this meeting please email the Admin Team to let us know – this is more to ensure that we can cater for your children!

### Parents evenings – 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025



Our second parents evenings of the year are taking place on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March. The link to make your appointments went live on Tuesday. Please help us to ensure the evening runs on time by when booking your appointments, leave a 10 minute gap between each one.

### Cross Country

Thank you to all of the parents who kindly donated towards a gift for Mr Amigoni, who as you know has taken over the running club to train our cross-country runners, and has done a brilliant job. I would like to apologise for an oversight and to thank Mrs Montgomery and Mrs Batten, who also supported the club before Christmas. Without this additional parents support, the club would not be able to train off site - so thank you so much for your support.

This Sunday is the Gloucestershire County Cross Country Finals: wishing Grace, Hannah and Edward the very best of luck we look forward to finding out how you all get on.

### Chaplaincy News



Lent began last Monday when we joined together for our annual Lent retreat. It was lovely that some parents were able to join us for an afternoon of quiet thoughts and reflection. As always, the children's respect and behaviour was outstanding and the retreat was beautifully delivered by our Chaplaincy team. Thank you so much Mrs Barron for supporting the children and getting them ready for the event, enabling them to deliver this

so confidently to the rest of the school. How lucky our children are to be offered such enriching learning experiences.

### Ash Wednesday Mass

We had a lovely Ashing Service on Wednesday in our lovely little church. This service marked the beginning of Lent – a time for reflection and preparation. The children read well and sang beautifully. I would like to thank Fr Philip for being so flexible and changing his diary around to work with our timetable.



### Attendance Matters, Moments Count

A graphic with the text "MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS." in blue, bold, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in three lines: "MOMENTS MATTER," on the first line, "ATTENDANCE" on the second line, and "COUNTS." on the third line. The text is set against a white background with a blue border.

MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.

We are pleased to see that there was a reduction in late marks last week – great first week back, well done, thank you and please keep this up!

As a general reminder – your child **should be sat in their place ready to work for 8.50am**. Any child arriving after that time is late to their first and arguably most important lesson of the day, reading. In order to give your child enough time to get themselves organised for the day, they need to be walking through the school gates by 8.45am.

- ✓ 8.40am – gates open – registers open in classrooms
- ✓ 8.50am – gates close – external doors to the school close – registers close in classrooms
- ✓ Arrivals after 8.50am need to go through the school office

All of this is detailed in our school attendance policy.



### Parent Forum

We have been delighted that several parents have expressed an interest in coming to a parent forum. There has been enough interest to hold a first meeting which will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 9am. The first 2 areas I would like your feedback on are trips and transport and communication. Please do catch me if there is anything that you would like to raise - it may not make it into the first meeting but can potentially be in a future agenda. Terms of reference and an agenda will be sent out beforehand.



## PTA

Thank you so much to the PTA for organising the disco last Friday – the children loved it. It is a real team effort, with many parents needed to help to ensure that the event runs smoothly. I would especially like to thank Jo Smee, who came up after work to Hoover through the school and to all of the staff who stayed to support the event. The event raised £662.39.

The next PTA event will be a non-uniform day on 17<sup>th</sup> March in exchange for a gift for the Easter Hampers.

Here's a Please for the PTA.....

The Easter event is coming around quickly, and to make it happen, we need some volunteers!

You can sign up for a 1-hour slot or cover more if you're able—whatever works for you. Just click on the picture below to sign up. We're also looking for donations of cakes, hot cross buns, and sausage rolls, so if you'd like to contribute in that way, you can sign up for that too.

The sooner we know who can help, the sooner we can get everything organized. If you're able to lend a hand or donate, please let us know as soon as possible.

Thanks in advance for your support - we couldn't do it without you!



### PTA Dates for your diary

17 <sup>th</sup> March	Non-uniform day in exchange for a gift for the Easter Raffle/hampers
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Event
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Quiz at the Fox

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



## Governor News

After 8 years of dedicated service, sadly we say goodbye to Syd Gwyer from the LGC. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Syd for her exceptional leadership and service. Throughout your tenure, you have shown unwavering commitment to the well-being of our staff and pupils, navigating challenges with grace and determination.

Your dedication to improving our life and mission and enhancing education has left a lasting impact on our future. Under your guidance, we have seen significant progress, and your legacy will continue to inspire those who follow in your footsteps.

We are delighted that even though she is no longer on the governing board, she still wants to be involved in many of the aspects of school life; Eco Committee, gardening, First Holy Communion to name a few. Thank you so much Syd, for your tireless efforts, your vision, and your passion for making our school a better place for all. Wishing you all the very best in your retirement.

## Well Done Year 4!

I am sure that you will remember that Ella, Joni, Amberlee, Julia, Ava and Bella held their bake sale at the end of last term to raise money for UNICEF, supporting those in war torn countries who are less fortunate than themselves.

The sale continued after school and their efforts raised an incredible £234.40!

I would like to thank Mrs Wand and all of the other parents who supported the girls so well, enabling them to succeed in their efforts and to all of the other parents who supported with supplying cakes to sell and sending your children into school with money to buy some cakes. Well done girls, this is truly living out our catholic social teachings, thinking about the needs of others.



## Mass Schedule

**Mass begins at 10am**

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March - St Joseph's  
Feast Day – whole school Mass at  
9.30am  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 and  
Reception

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 5  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Stations of the Cross  
– 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 prayer is the new School Council prayer, written by Alice:

Our Father in heaven  
Guide us in this school year,  
To support our fellow students with  
little acts,  
Give us the strength to be fair and kind  
with great love,  
So we may follow in your footsteps,  
To make a big difference,  
Inspiring us to REACH in faith, hope  
and love,  
Bless us O Lord  
Amen

## Dates for your



DIARY

### Spring Term 2

#### March

W/B 10<sup>th</sup> - Science Week  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Skillzone trip  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Y6 SATs meeting for parents  
3.25pm  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Parents  
Evening  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - St Joseph's Day - whole  
school Mass 9.30am  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Y5 Dursley class trip  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> - Y4 violin concert 2.30pm

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> - Parent Forum 9am  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> - House singing Competition  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> - Stations of the Cross

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> - End of Term 1.30pm

#### April

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Y2 trip to Berkeley Castle  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> - Y6 PCSO online relationships  
talk  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> - Y3 class trip to Chedworth Villa  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> - PTA Easter event