



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs H Westrop BA(Hons); NPQH

Newsletter 3 - Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Another exciting week has flown by at St Joseph's. Our Reception children have been sharing their new phonics knowledge, Year 1 have been exploring creation and Year 2 have been practicing their watercolours. In KS2, the year 3 children have been exploring how to make solar ovens, year 4 are preparing to make wattle and daub settlements, year 5 are busy preparing for their class assembly and year 6 are focussing on reading comprehension.

This week we had the pleasure of taking a group of children to the Christus Catholic Trust, trust Mass at Brentwood Cathedral. The trust Mass is also a beautiful and reflective occasion, bringing all the schools together for a time of prayer and blessing to mark the start of a new academic year.



- Thank you to all the parents who joined me for the Meet the Head Teacher Vision sessions on Monday and for your questions.
- Thank you to the PTA committee for sharing their ideas. Watch this space for upcoming events.
- You should have all received the consultation letter for the proposed changes to the start of the school day, so that we are in line with DfE guidance. Please email your responses to admin@stjosephsprimary.thurrock.sch.uk by Wednesday 23rd September.
- All parents are invited to join me for Headteacher coffee afternoon at 2:30pm on Monday.
- Year 5 parents are invited to attend the Year 5 class assembly at 2:30pm – for a 2:40pm start on Wednesday.

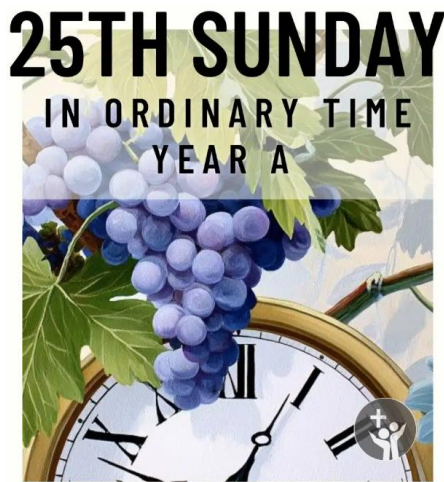
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Sunday 20th September 2026 – 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time – The Gift of God's Generosity



The readings for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A remind us that God's mercy and generosity go far beyond what we expect. He invites everyone to turn to Him, no matter how late they come. His ways are not like ours. Where people see limits, God offers grace without measure.

Isaiah calls us to seek the Lord while He is near. God is patient and ready to forgive. The psalm praises Him as kind and slow to anger. Paul teaches us to live in a way that honours Christ, whether in life or death. Each passage shows faith as a response to God's goodness.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the story of the workers in the vineyard. The landowner pays them all the same, no matter when they began. It may seem unfair, but Jesus shows that God's love does not follow human rules. On 25th Sunday we are reminded that God's mercy is for all who say yes to His call.

Headteacher Weekly Angel Award

This special award celebrates children who show exceptional effort, resilience and kindness, while using their Learning Powers to overcome challenges, support others and be the very best version of themselves. They are role models who make a positive difference to our school community and inspire those around them.

Hughie – Year 6

For stepping out of his comfort zone and representing the school by co-reading a prayer at the Christus Catholic Trust Mass on Wednesday, in front of hundreds of people from all 7 trust schools. You showed all of our SMART values.



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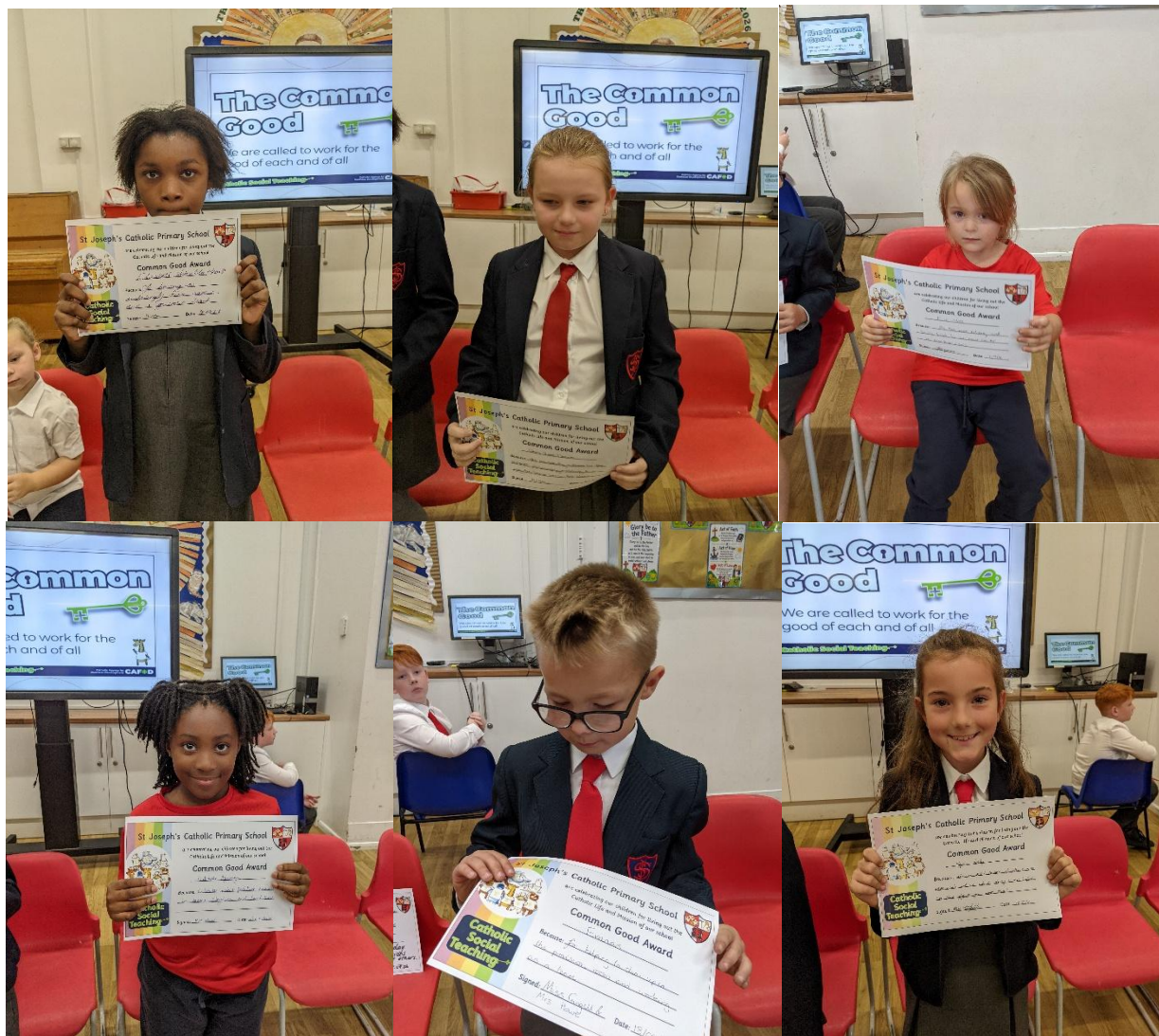
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Catholic Social Teaching Awards

Class	Recipient
Reception	Evie-Mae
Year 1	Evanas
Year 2	Kion
Year 3	Gabrielle
Year 4	Pippa
Year 5	Demi-Rose
Year 6	Elizabeth

This week's Catholic Social Teaching focus is: **THE COMMON GOOD**. The Common Good means thinking about what is good for everyone, not just what is good for ourselves. Jesus teaches us to love our neighbour. That means we don't only ask: "What do I want?" We also ask: "What does somebody else need?" and: "How can I help?" The Common Good can be seen in lots of things we do at St Joseph's. It might be: inviting somebody to join our game; helping someone who is struggling; sharing equipment; looking after our environment; keeping our school tidy; making sure nobody is left out; supporting somebody who is upset; or using our talents to help others. Every little act of kindness contributes to the Common Good.



Learning Power Awards

Class	Recipient
Reception	Ayla
Year 1	Theodore
Year 2	Anaya
Year 3	Rayan

This week's learning power has been: **MOTIVATION**. It means having the drive to get started, keep going and do our best. Sometimes we feel motivated because we really enjoy something. But real motivation is especially important when something is difficult. Imagine you are trying something and it doesn't work. You might think: "I can't do this." A motivated

Year 4	Sofia M	learner changes that thought to: "I can't do this... YET." That's a very important word: YET. Being motivated means: having a go; keeping going when something is tricky; trying a different way; learning from mistakes; encouraging ourselves and being proud of the effort we put in.
Year 5	Testimony	
Year 6	Emily	



Attendance and Punctuality Awards

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Reception	96.93%	5
Year 1	97.58%	3
Year 2	95.71%	3
Year 3	92.71%	0
Year 4	98.44%	4
Year 5	93.94%	4
Year 6	95.17%	0

Attendance and punctuality are key factors in helping our children to achieve the best they can. Attending school and arriving on time can make all the difference.

The national expectation for school attendance is 96%
This week's **Attendance Cup winners** are our **Year 4** children for having the highest attendance with **98.44%**, with Year 1 and Year 6 following close behind with attendance over 96%.

This week's **Punctuality Cup winners** are **Year 3 and Year 6** with 0 children lates.

Uniform

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - School Uniform](#)

Parish Links - Our Lady and St Joseph, Stanford-Le-Hope

Whether you are a parishioner, a visitor or perhaps someone looking for specific information, we hope that you enjoy finding out about the life of our parish [Welcome to our Church - Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Church](#)
If you have just moved into the parish or have decided to join us at Mass on a regular basis, a very warm welcome awaits you.

Parish Mass – Sunday's 11am or 5:30pm

Weekdays – 9:15am

Wishing you a blessed and relaxing weekend with your families.



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Key dates and events for parents and families. Please note that events marked “TBA” will be confirmed by the school. We aim to give parents as much notice as possible but cannot always guarantee that events will happen, or that times won’t change. The dates list for the whole year has been emailed to you. The newsletter dates will have the most up-to-date information for the term.

Day	Time	Event
SEPTEMBER		
Mon 14 Sept	9:00am & 6:00pm	New Headteacher Parent Meeting
Mon 21 Sept	2:30pm	Headteacher Coffee Afternoon
Wed 23 Sept	2:30pm	Year 5 Class Assembly – CST: Participation
Wed 30 Sept	2:30pm	Year 4 Class Assembly – CST: Solidarity
Wed 30 Sept	9:00–10:00am	Connected Classrooms – Parent/Child English Lesson
OCTOBER		
Sat 3 Oct	8:30am	KS2 girls trip to Festival of the Girl
Tue 6 Oct	2:15pm	EYFS Phonics Workshop for Parents & Children
Fri 9 Oct	All day	Year 4 Charity Event & Whole School Wear Yellow Day – BCCS
Tue 13 Oct	2:30pm	Year 3 Class Assembly – CST: Dignity
Fri 16 Oct	Time TBA	Harvest Festival – Paraliturg
Wed 21 Oct	2:30pm	Year 2 Class Assembly – CST: Common Good
Wed 21 Oct	3:30–6:00pm	Parents' Evening
Thu 22 Oct	3:30–6:00pm	Parents' Evening
NOVEMBER		
Wed 4 Nov	2:15pm	EYFS & Year 1 Maths Workshop for Parents & Children
Thu 5 Nov	All day	Cultural Diversity Day
Wed 11 Nov	2:30pm	Year 6 Class Assembly – CST: Stewardship
Wed 11 Nov	9:00–10:00am	Connected Classrooms – Parent/Child Maths Lesson
Fri 13 Nov	8:45am	Year 5 and 6 Into Film Festival Cinema Trip
Fri 13 Nov	2:30pm	Headteacher Coffee Afternoon
Wed 18 Nov	8:45am	Year 3 and 4 Into Film Festival Cinema Trip
Wed 18 Nov	2:30pm	Year 1 Class Assembly – CST: Peace
Wed 25 Nov	2:30pm	Reception Class Assembly – CST: Options for the Poor
DECEMBER		
Thu 3 Dec	9:00–11:00am	New Reception Tours
Th 10 Dec	All day	Yr2 Charity Event - Whole School Christmas Jumper Day - Save the Children
Tue 15 Dec	AM / PM	Christmas Carol Concert – Years 5 & 6 (PM for Parents at Church)
Wed 16 Dec	AM / PM	EYFS & KS1 Nativity (PM for Parents)
Fri 18 Dec	Time TBA	End of Term Mass