



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Scratton Road, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, SS17 0PA

Telephone: 01375 672217

Email: admin@stjosephsprimary.thurrock.sch.uk

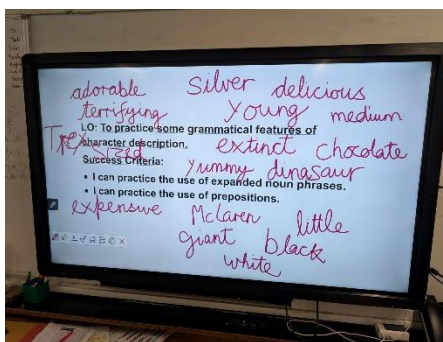
Web: www.stjosephscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs H Westrop BA(Hons); NPQH

Newsletter 2 - Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

What a brilliant first full week we have had at St Joseph's this week. There has been an exciting buzz around the school as children are diving into their learning, finding the things that they love and having fun. It was wonderful to see so many parents join us for 'meet the teacher' sessions on Monday and Wednesday where teachers were able to share the expectations for the year, ways you can support and important key dates. If you were unable to attend, all the information will be emailed home to you.



We had a beautiful collective worship session on Wednesday, with our Year 6 and Reception welcome assembly. As part of our Catholic Social Teaching and Personal Development Programme, our Year 6 pupils all have a reception buddy who they will look after and support through their first year at school. The year 6 children wrote cards welcoming the children to St Joseph's – a place where everyone belongs. I also had the privilege of introducing our pupil leadership team and appointing our Head Boy and Girl, house captains, sport captains, school council presidents, GIFT team leaders and prefects.



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When children enter reception, they join us in St Francis class. St Francis is famous for saying 'start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible and suddenly you are doing the impossible.' This is how that education journey starts, by doing what is necessary. As children progress through the school, they have to follow the necessary curriculum and we also encourage them to do the impossible. By the time they leave us in Year 6, in St Catherine class, they remember the words of St Catherine – 'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire'.



Meet the New Headteacher - Future Vision Parent Meeting Monday 14th September - 9:00am or 6:00pm

You are invited to hear my plans for the school, Ofsted, the Catholic Schools Inspection and my vision for high expectations, consistency and fun.

This will also be a chance for you to ask any general questions about the school.

At the 6pm session we will also hold the PTFA AGM and are looking for new members.

Sunday 13th September 2026 – 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Forgiveness without Limits



The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time reminds us that forgiveness is at the centre of our faith. The readings show how anger and resentment can harm us, but mercy brings healing. God's love is full of patience, and he asks us to treat others with the same care. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a servant who was forgiven but would not forgive. This parable shows that mercy must flow both ways. The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time is a call to forgive as we have been forgiven. It is about living in God's mercy every day.

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.

Harvey – Year 4

For always stopping to say 'hello' and being so welcoming to his peers, staff and visitors. Harvey stopped me in the corridor the other day to say that he had remembered what I had said in my first assembly about making new people feel welcome and to introduce yourself. Congratulations Harvey, you are a credit to the school!



Catholic Social Teaching Awards

Class	Recipient
Reception	Mason
Year 1	Shifra
Year 2	Lorenzo
Year 3	Ezra
Year 4	Arielle
Year 5	Liza
Year 6	Testify

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	Azariah
Year 1	Ethan

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



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Year 2	Jax
Year 3	Joshua
Year 4	Sophia
Year 5	David
Year 6	Alexander

something is difficult. Imagine you are trying something and it doesn't work. You might think: "I can't do this." A motivated 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.

Attendance and Punctuality Awards

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Reception	94.3%	0
Year 1	86.22%	0
Year 2	88.28%	6
Year 3	97.57%	3
Year 4	96.09%	4
Year 5	95.51%	4
Year 6	97.70%	1

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 6** children for having the highest attendance with 97.70%, with Year 3 and Year 4 following close behind with attendance over 96%.

This week's **Punctuality Cup winners** are **Year 1 and Reception** 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.

Mrs H Westrop
Headteacher



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



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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		
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	2:30pm	Headteacher Coffee Afternoon
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



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