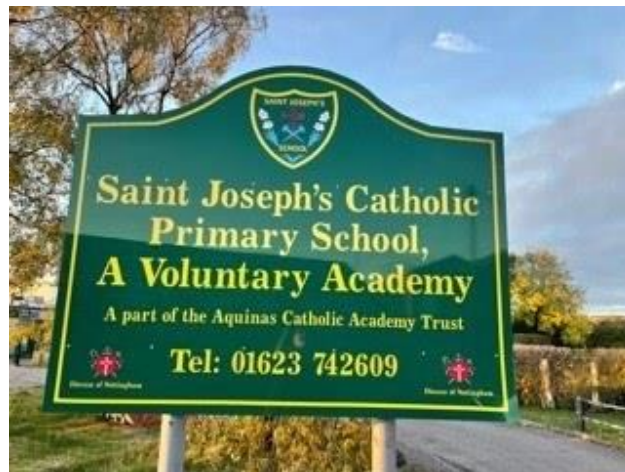


Friday 12th January

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



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This week at St Joseph's...

It has been another busy and successful week at St Joseph's! Year 4 went on a trip to Perlethorpe, year 6 led the whole school in a beautiful celebration of the Word, EYFS went on a local walk and nursery welcomed parents into school for their reading cafe. We have been very proud of how the children have returned to school this week and have been demonstrating our school virtues and behaviour curriculum. Well done children!

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils will be meeting with the pupil voice groups so that they can feedback to the staff team and Governors what exciting plans each group has for this term. They will be sharing some of this amazing work in the newsletter next week!



Catholic Life and Mission

Year 6 led the whole school in a beautiful celebration of the Word this week, well done children.

What have we been up to this week at St Joseph's?

Nursery and Reception- The children have been busy learning about what happens in winter and went on a winter walk to see what our local area looks like during this season.

Year One- The children have been reading their new text, Whatever Next! They have also been thinking about how they can use adjectives in their writing and how they can record rainfall in geography.

Year Two- The children have been looking at their new story, The Tiger who came to tea and have been looking at UK maps in their geography lessons.

Year Three- In history, the children had a debate on which age was best and have been busy in their RE lessons.

Year Four have been learning about where the Anglo Saxons came from in their geography work and in English they have been looking at a new text, The Land of Roar!

Year Five have started their new book, Treason, which is all about the Tudors.

Year Six have been learning about the start of WWII and who the leaders of these groups were.

Reminders

Now that we are back into the swing of the new term, we would like to remind parents of a few things:

All children need to have a refillable water bottle in school.

All children need to have a pair of outdoor shoes or wellingtons if they would like to access the field during OPAL.

All children need to have a full PE kit in school at all times. This needs to be in line with the uniform policy and include both indoor and outdoor shoes.

Children can bring in a healthy snack to enjoy at breaktimes. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable. Please make sure that grapes are cut in half lengthwise, from the stem side to the bottom.

Parking



We have noticed an increasing amount of parents parking in the school carpark, bus bay or on the grass between school and church. Although we do understand that people are in a rush at pick up and drop off times, we urge all of our parents to please park safely and considerately.

Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children for £2. If you would like your child to attend, please pre book their place on Arbor. The breakfast club will run from 7:30am.

Baby and Toddler Groups

We are delighted to announce that we will be restarting our under 2s group in the school hall from Thursday 22nd February. Mrs Dexter, our Early Years Leader, will be hosting a place to chat with other parents , play and sing with your baby and have a hot drink. These classes will run each Thursday from 9:30- 10:30am in the school hall. Everyone is welcome!

In addition, we will be hosting Parent and Toddler forest school sessions for over 2s. These will run on:

Thursday 8th February 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 14th March 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 25th April 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 6th June 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 27th June 2:15-3:15pm

Thursday 18th July 2:15-3:15pm

If anyone has any donations of baby toys or equipment, we would really appreciate your support.

OPAL- Outdoor play and learning



Our OPAL launch has been amazing and it has been wonderful to see the children so engaged at lunchtime. The children all speak highly of the provision and it has been great to get such positive feedback from our parents. A reminder that we are still looking for any toy, book or loose part donations.

We are open to any donations of clothing, loose parts, role play, small world and kitchen utensils.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 94.7%

Reception- 94.4%

Year One - 96.7%

Year Two - 95.8%

Year Three- 92.5%

Year Four- 97.2%

Year Five- 96.7%

Year Six- 95.2%

Well done to year 4 who have won our attendance award this week and have won Milkshake Monday next week.

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = **4 weeks missed per year**

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = **more than half a term missed per year.**

Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = **more than a quarter of the school year missed.**

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to **missing a whole 2 years from school.**

Children's Achievements



We love celebrating your child's out of school achievements! Please make sure you share these with school so that we can publish them in our newsletter.

SMILERS



SMILERS is a whole school approach to wellbeing.

It is a way of helping children understand that they can make choices to help them feel better mentally and help them stay emotionally strong and well.

We will use the SMILERS formula to help us develop healthy habits for life and to look after our own wellbeing.

This month's focus is **L LOOK**

Reading Cafe



Today we welcomed our nursery parents to the reading cafe and it was wonderful to see so many parents able to attend and read with the children.

This term we will be continuing our weekly reading cafes on the following dates:

Reception class- Friday 19th January

Year One - Friday 26th January

Year Two- Friday 2nd February

Year Four - Friday 1st March

Year Three- Friday 8th March

Year Six- Friday 15th March

We will then continue these after the Easter holidays.

i-vengers

This week, The Ivengers gave an assembly introducing a new school challenge- Turn off and Tune in!

The aim of the challenge is for the children to switch off electronic devices at least **half an hour** before they go to bed. Sleep is crucial for brain development, especially for children. During sleep, the brain processes information, forms memories, and helps us to learn new things. Studies have shown that using phones, tablets, or computers right before bedtime can make it harder to fall asleep because they're exciting and they keep your brain busy when it should be getting ready to rest. Not enough sleep is detrimental to children's health and development. For example, they may find it hard to concentrate in class or struggle to retain information.

The Ivengers explained that best way to prepare for sleep is a good sleep routine. Please speak to your child about what they can do instead of screen time. For example, reading, listening to music or drawing.

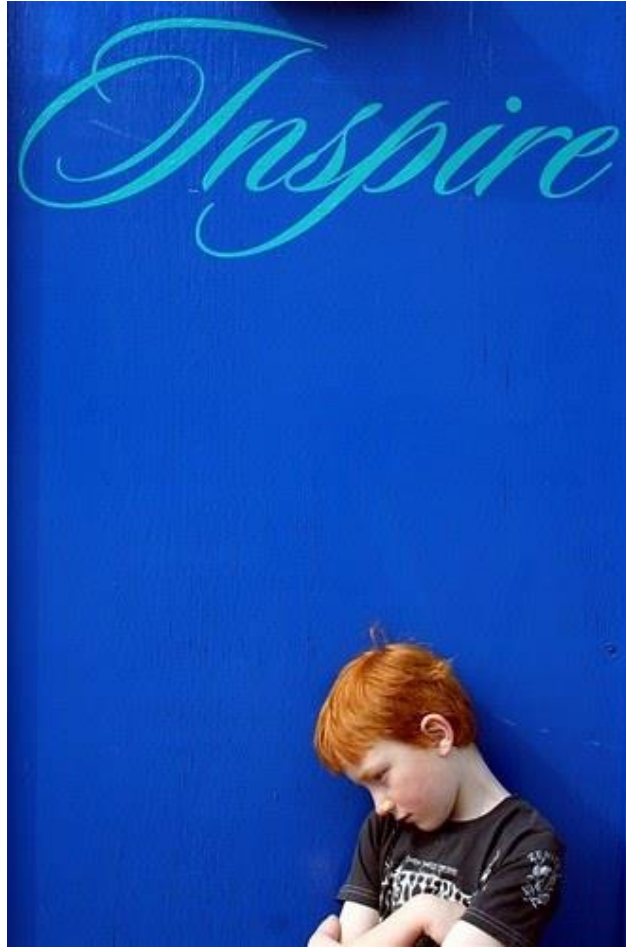
All children have been given a form and will need a parent or carer signature to show that they have switched off screens 30 minutes before bed time each night. Each signature will earn a point. The class with the most points will be the ultimate sleep and screen-time champions! The Avengers have decided that they will win extra playtime and extra dojos so please remember to sign your child's form over the next six weeks.

School Facebook Page



A reminder that we have launched our school Facebook page. We have been adding updates of children's work and news for parents onto the page regularly. Please follow us at 'St Joseph's Shirebrook' to keep up to date with our latest class news and school events.

Word of the Week



Next week, our word of the week is, 'Inspire', Year 5 have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect on the people who inspire us and how we can inspire others.