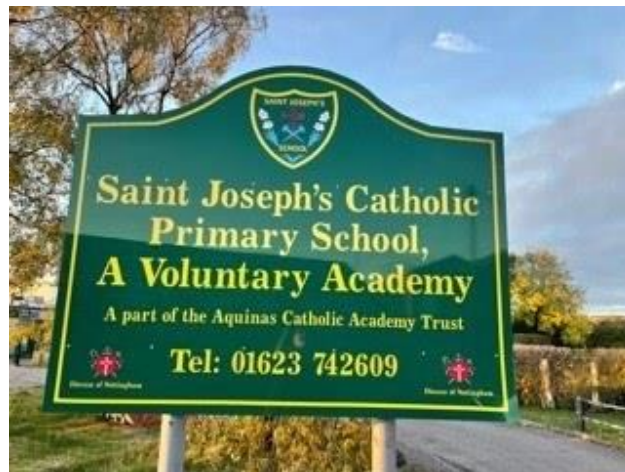


Friday 5th January

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



In This Issue

- Happy New Year
- Head Pupils
- Catholic Life and Mission
- What's Happening this Term at St Joseph's?
- Breakfast Club
- Baby and Toddler Group
- OPAL
- Attendance
- Children's Achievements
- SMILERS
- School Facebook Page

- Word of the Week

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a happy and Holy Christmas. We were delighted to welcome all of our families back this week and the children have settled back into school life quickly and calmly.

We are excited for a busy term ahead with lots of wonderful opportunities for our children. Please find attached a list of key dates for this term. If you have any questions regarding these or anything else, please feel free to contact the school office.

Head Pupils



On behalf of the children at St Joseph's, the Head Pupils would like to wish all of our families a very Happy New Year. Our Head Pupils have been very busy this week ensuring that they are wonderful role models as we relaunch our behaviour curriculum across school. Next week, they 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.



Catholic Life and Mission

This term, each class will be thinking of ways that they can support their class charities and how we can care for our common home.

What is happening this term at St Joseph's?

Across school this week, the classes have been busy thinking about having high expectations for themselves and setting new years resolutions to be the best version of themselves that they can be.

All classes will be starting their new topics next week. There are some fantastic topics and we can't wait to launch these in a variety of engaging and memorable ways!

Nursery and Reception- **Winter Wonderland!** The children will be learning all about the wonderful winter and which animals we can find in cold places across the world.

Year One- **Moon Zoom.** The children will be learning about where they live and will be recognising the four countries in the United Kingdom. They will also extend this to learn that they live in Europe.

Year Two- **Land Ahoy.** The children will be learning about explorers in the past. They will be thinking about why they travelled around the world and the impact that they have on their lives today. In

geography, they will be learning about the wider world and will be able to locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans!

Year Three- **Gods and Mortals**. The children will study Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world. They will also be looking at how the Greeks lived as well as what they wore and believed in.

Year Four- **I am Warrior**. The children will be learning all about the Anglo Saxon invasion to Britain in their Geography lessons. They will be thinking about where they settled and why considering the physical geography of Britain at that time.

Year Five- **Off with her head!** The children will be travelling back in time to the 1500s to explore the terrifying and terrific Tudors, a domineering dynasty that changed our history. Children will have the opportunity to use a range of historical sources to learn about Henry VIII.

Year Six- **A Child's War**. The children are going to study the lives of children living through WWII including what it was like to be an evacuee, life with rationing and the Holocaust.

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

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

We are hoping to see an improvement in attendance this term and will continue to run our weekly competition for classes to win 'Milkshake Monday' for the best attendance.

Before Christmas, we ran a competition for the '12 Days of Christmas'. We were delighted that 145 children entered the raffle as they had 100% attendance for the last 12 days of term. Yesterday, our Head Pupils drew the raffle. Well done to Weston (year 4), Lilly (year 5) and Brianna (year 6) who each won a prize.

Attendance for last term in each class was as follows:

Reception- 89.8%

Year One - 93.6%

Year Two - 93.6%

Year Three- 93.3%

Year Four- 97.2%

Year Five- 95.8%

Year Six- 91.8%

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



Well done to Olivia in year 2 who reached stage two in swimming this week!

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**

Next week, our Wellbeing Champions will be introducing this to the whole school.

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, 'Baptism', Year 6 have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect on the Baptism of the Lord.