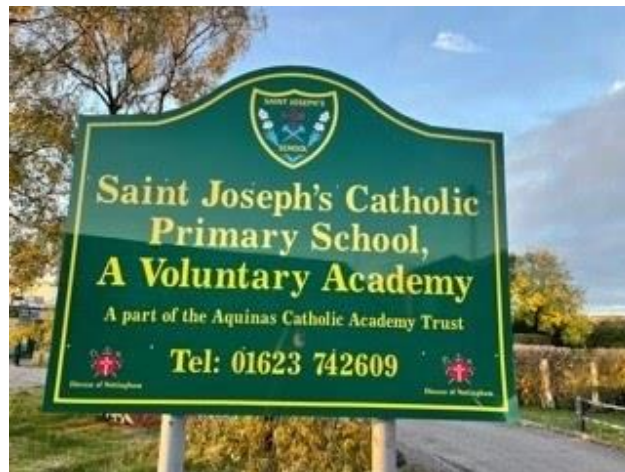


Thursday 8th February

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



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Half Term

This term seems to have flown by! It is hard to believe that we are at the end of yet another half term. The children have all achieved so much this term and should be very proud of how they have conducted themselves this term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their continued support this term.

School will be closed from today and will reopen to all pupils on 19th February.

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been working hard with the pupil voice groups to promote internet safety day and children's mental health week this week in school. The Head Pupils have been thinking about their action plan (which is available on our website) and how they are working towards the targets that they set.



Catholic Life and Mission

Year 5 led a beautiful Liturgy of the Word in church this week and year 3 led a Celebration of the Word for the whole school in the hall. The eco committee have been busy this week thinking about how they can raise awareness of how we can care for our common home.

Over half term, we will be entering the Season of Lent. As we prepare ourselves during this Holy Season, there will be a number of events in school to support the children's spiritual development.

First Holy Communion

On Monday 26th February, we will be hosting a Parents meeting for those wishing to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This will take place at 3:45pm in church. If you have not yet expressed your interest in your child preparing for these sacraments, please contact the school office.

On Saturday 2nd March, all children enrolled on the programme will take part in an Enrolment Mass in church at 5pm.

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

Nursery - The children have been looking at different ways to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Reception- The children have been doing some wonderful drawing and writing based on the book Journey in preparation for our work gallery after half term.

Year One- The children have been learning about Chinese New year and have been writing their own poems for our gallery.

Year Two- The children have been looking at human features in geography and have been learning about money in maths.

Year Three- The children have been planning and writing poems using similes.

Year Four- The children have been learning about factors in maths and completing their art work for our gallery using water colour paints.

Year Five- The children have been learning about materials that dissolve in science and how to add and subtract fractions in maths.

Year Six- The children have been learning about how to look after themselves in RSHE lessons.

Wow! What a busy week; well done children!

Friends of St Joseph

Hello there, we hope you are all well and looking forward to the half term holiday!

Meet the team continues:

Treasurer: Kerry Brocklehurst

My son Joseph is in Year 1.

I am the treasurer of FoSJ and have been part of the parent team for 18 months. I joined as I had Fridays free from work and wanted to help with the school events and be part of the fun. In September I took over the treasurer role.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the FoSJ, brainstorming for our current and new events, being part of planning to make these happen, having fun whilst hosting the events and now accounting and administering the money we make.

What I love about the FoSJ is that you give only the time you have spare, a little helps a long way.

Fun fact: I love to grow my own vegetable, there is nothing better than picking fresh vegetables from the ground for your Sunday dinner.

Day Job – Client Director for an Internet company who provides services to universities and student accommodation.

If you are available to help out in anyway to support your children and St Joseph's then please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Fearn or one of the team...new volunteers are always welcome!

Parent Voice

Thank you to the parents who completed our parent voice survey. We would like to open the opportunity to any parents that completed the survey and wish to discuss the points that they raised, to contact the school office.

Based on your feedback, we are introducing a number of new ideas over the next term. These will include:

An events section on our Facebook page.

A timetable of parent workshops on different curriculum areas.

Opportunities for all classes to invite parents into school and share work with them.

We have updated our you said, we did board in the entrance to school.

If you would like to speak to a member of staff about any ideas or concerns you may have, please contact the school office.

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. There were a number of fines issued by the Police this week in an attempt to make the road safer for both our children and families.

Mrs Carlisle has extended the art competition to after half term. Children are invited to create a piece of art which promotes road safety.

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 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



Thank you to the incredible support so far this year with our OPAL provision. We have lots of fantastic equipment for our children to use. We are looking for any handy helpers who may be able to help us build some of our new storage and equipment. If you are able to offer your services, please contact the school office.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 91.1%

Reception- 88.2%

Year One - 91.9%

Year Two - 88.2%

Year Three- 93.1%

Year Four- 96.9%

Year Five- 95.3%

Year Six- 92.3%

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

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

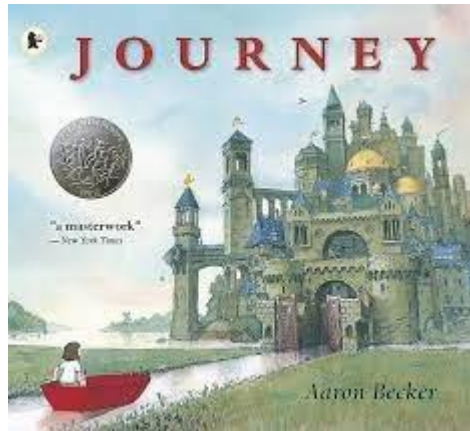
Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = **4 weeks missed per year**

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.**

Work Gallery



On Friday 23rd February at 2:30pm, we will be hosting a work gallery in school. This will be an opportunity for the children to showcase their writing and art work based on the book, 'Journey'. Friends of St Joseph will be serving hot drinks and you will be able to walk around the gallery in the school hall.

Children's Achievements



Well done to Charlotte K and Ciara in year 5 who took part in an Irish dancing competition last weekend. Charlotte won a 1st and Ciara moved up a grade in 2 dances. Well done girls!

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**

The Wellbeing Champions led a fantastic assembly introducing this to the children. There is more information attached to the newsletter to find out more!

Reading Cafe



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

Year 4- Friday 1st March

Year Three- Friday 8th March

Year Six- Friday 15th March

We will then continue these after the Easter holidays.

School Facebook Page

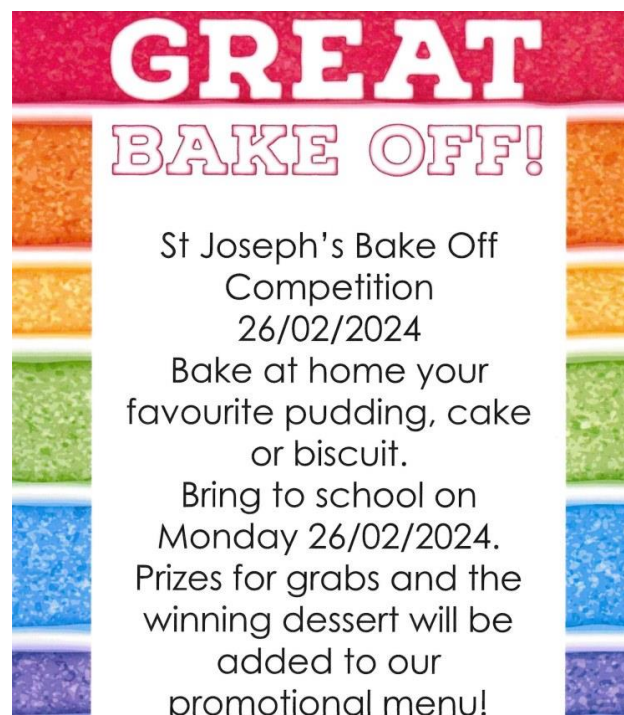


A reminder that we have launched our school Facebook page. We have been adding updates of children's work and news for parents onto the page regularly. Please follow us at 'St Joseph's Shirebrook' to keep up to date with our latest class news and school events.

Word of the Week

After half term, our word of the week is, 'Fasting', Year 1 have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect as we enter the Season of Lent.

St Joseph's Bake Off Competition

A vertical poster for a bake-off competition. The top has a red background with the word 'GREAT' in large white letters. Below that, 'BAKE OFF!' is written in a pink, outlined font. The central text is on a white background, flanked by two vertical columns of six colorful, textured squares each (orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).

GREAT
BAKE OFF!

St Joseph's Bake Off
Competition
26/02/2024

Bake at home your
favourite pudding, cake
or biscuit.

Bring to school on
Monday 26/02/2024.
Prizes for grabs and the
winning dessert will be
added to our
promotional menu!