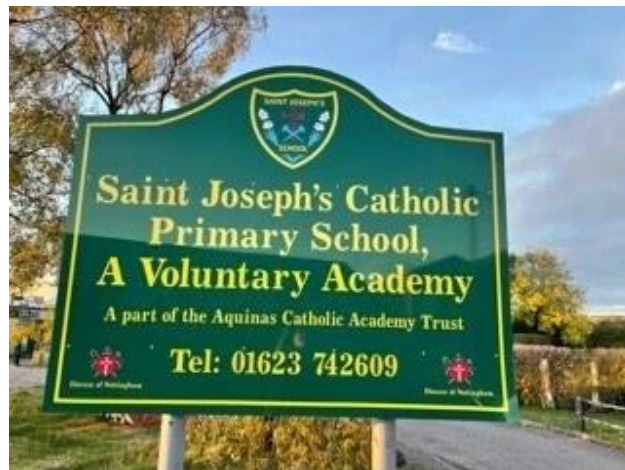


Friday 15th March

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...

Another busy week has come to an end! Across school we have celebrated Science Week with lots of fantastic science activities in each class. We have also had a visit from the dentist in reception and year 1 class, a visit from the school nurse in year 5, mini leader training for our year 5 pupils as well all classes in school completing assessments for this term. The children have been wonderful this week and it has been great to see so many of them using their STEPS manners and meeting and greeting.

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been collecting work towards of our article of the month and have created a book to display these. They have also launched our new article of the month, Article 2, 'No Discrimination.' Head Pupils visited every class this week to introduce this article to them.



Catholic Life and Mission

We have continued to celebrate the Season of Lent across school through our prayer, fasting and Almsgiving. The children have been taking part in the Big Lent Walk and thinking of other ways that they can support others through Almsgiving.

Year 5 led a beautiful Liturgy of the Word on Tuesday and we have all been preparing for our whole school Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph on 29th March. Mass will be at 9am in church and all are welcome to join us.

Every child has a sponsorship form for the Big Lent Walk. It would be great if we could raise as much money as possible to support CAFOD. If you would like to donate through our Just Giving page, follow the link below.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-josephs-shirebrook>

The Big Plastic Count



This week we have been thinking about how much plastic we use in our homes and at school. The children all have a sheet to collect as much plastic as they can in their classes. The class who collects the most plastic by the end of next week will win a prize. Also, it has been great to see so many plastic creations being made. The winner of the best plastic creation will be announced next week and they will also receive a prize. It is not too late to count your plastic and bring in your wonderful plastic creations!

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

Nursery - The children have been learning how to write and recognise their own name as well as practicing their counting.

Reception- The children have been planting cress and have started their new book, One Snowy Night.

Year One- The children have been looking at how animals adapt.

Year Two- The children have been learning about Matthew Henson in history lessons and made fantastic finger puppets in DT this week.

Year Three- The children have been learning about Greek homes.

Year Four- The children have been learning to play the toot and dood in music lessons.

Year Five- The children have been learning about the English Reformation in history.

Year Six- The children have been learning about brackets and determiners in English lessons.

Wow! What a busy week; well done children!

Pupil and Parent Voice

It was suggested in our recent parent voice survey, that we ask parents and pupils about clubs and activities at St Joseph's. Therefore, we have launched a new survey to complete with your child to have

your say on how you feel we could enhance our offer of clubs and activities in school. We will keep the survey live until Friday 22nd March and we will use this to help us plan our new clubs and activities next term.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqB-GUUnVXolaxq1tITQghEowXzmJLc3TVbK-RoH5Ge_5aVQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Friends of St Joseph

Thank you to all who attended our Mother's Day coffee afternoon.

We hope you enjoyed it and the free raffle.

Didn't the flowers look lovely!

Thank you to all that donated cakes.

This week's member bio:

Office manager and school liaison: Katja Fearn.

Job Role: we liaise with Mrs Fearn when organising school events and she sends out our information to families via email and letters.

Mrs Fearn works with us to make sure dates for events work for the school and helps with the coordination and logistics of events!

Next week member bio: Caroline Wilkinson (member)

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!

Next Event: Look out for our next pop up shop and Easter competition (prizes donated by FOSJ)

Easter Events



In the coming weeks, we will be having a number of events as we approach the Easter holidays. This is a very exciting time of the year in the St Joseph's calendar.

We will be holding our annual **Easter Egg Raffle on Wednesday 27th March** in school. We would be very grateful for any donations of Easter eggs to support us with the raffle. Tickets will go on sale in the coming weeks.

Our annual Easter competition this year will be a decorated egg competition. All children are invited to bring a decorated egg on **Wednesday 20th March**. You can decorate your eggs in any way that you choose so be as creative as you like. Each class will vote for their winner and they will receive a prize!

On **Thursday 28th March**, we will be hosting our Easter Presentation in the school hall.

Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children from Reception to year 6 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 have restarted our under 2s group in the school hall. 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 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.

Next week, we are going to be having our giant sandpit and digging area developed on the field. We are looking for donations of any sand toys or trowels/ digging toys to use in these areas.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 93.5%

Reception- 88.8%

Year One - 95%

Year Two - 91.6%

Year Three- 89.4%

Year Four- 93.1%

Year Five- 98.2%

Year Six- 98.2%

Well done to years 5 and 6 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 **E EAT WELL**

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



It was wonderful to see so many year 6 parents at the Reading Cafe this morning. We will be continuing our weekly reading cafes on the following dates:

Year Five- 19th April

Nursery- 26th April

Reception- 3rd May

Year One- Friday 10th May

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, 'Father', Year 4 have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect on how we can pray the Our Father and help us to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph next week.