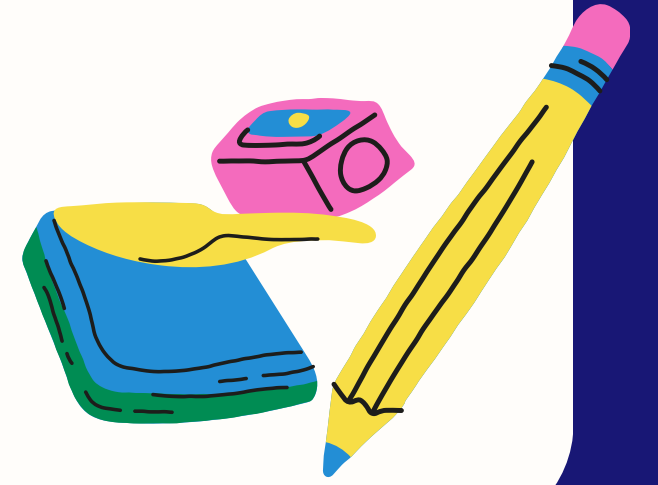


St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter 1

12.09.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you and your families well. It is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome you all back to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School as we begin this new academic year together. A particularly warm welcome to the families who are joining our school community for the first time – we are delighted to have you with us.

As Acting Headteacher, I am honoured to lead such a vibrant and caring school, rooted in strong Catholic values and a commitment to nurturing every child's potential. I am very much looking forward to working in close partnership with you over the coming weeks and months.

The start of a new school year always brings a sense of energy, excitement and opportunity. Our staff have been busy preparing classrooms and learning spaces and it has been wonderful to see the children return with smiles on their faces, ready to learn, grow and thrive.

Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on settling into routines, building relationships and setting high expectations for behaviour, learning and kindness. Our mission remains the same: to provide a safe, inclusive and inspiring environment where every child is encouraged to be the very best they can be.

We look forward to sharing updates with you regularly and I encourage you to keep an eye on our school website and newsletters for key dates, events and information.

Thank you for your continued support. Here's to a happy, successful and faith-filled year ahead.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

Warm regards,

Gerry Curran

Acting Headteacher

We are all God's children and will try to live, love, work and serve as Jesus taught us.



Hot school lunches

A reminder that our hot school lunches are provided by Forerunner. The Autumn menu can be found on our school website. Meals need to be ordered a week in advance. Forerunner is not able to add any meals after the deadline. If you haven't yet signed up to Forerunner and would like your child to have hot lunches, please book on the Forerunner portal: [Parent Portal \(myschoolmealorders.com\)](https://myschoolmealorders.com)



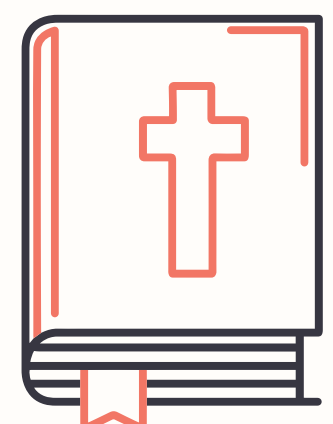
Important updates

A reminder that we have changed the way we communicate with parents. We are now using Arbor as our primary platform for sharing important information and announcements. Thank you to everyone who has engaged with the new system and signed into their Arbor account. Parents can also download the Arbor app, which is the mobile version of the parent portal. From here you can update your child's details, as well as make payments for clubs and trips. If you have any difficulties accessing or receiving communications via Arbor, please contact the school office so we can assist you. Thank you for your attention to this change and for your continued support.

Children's Liturgy

We are excited to let you know that our parish will be offering 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' during selected Sunday Masses. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to hear and reflect on the Gospel message at their own level of understanding. During the Liturgy of the Word, children of all ages will be invited to come forward and will be led to a separate space where they will listen to and discuss the Gospel while enjoying a craft or drama activity. We warmly invite you St. Joseph's Church 67 Purewell, Christchurch BH23 1EH during mass on the following dates:

- September 14th
- September 21st
- September 28th
- October 5th
- October 12th
- October 19th



We are grateful for all those who volunteer to run this for the children. If you would like to learn more, or if you are interested in volunteering as a helper or leader, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office or speak to one of the volunteers.

Change to admissions process

There is a major change to the Admission to Reception Process for September 2026, for families that live in the BCP area. The application process for BCP residents will now open from Saturday **1st November 2025**. This has changed to give parents more time to decide on the right school for their child before the applications open. The closing date is **Thursday 15 January 2026**.

For families resident in the BCP area, parents can apply online via the Parent Portal at <https://bcp.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/ApplyforaSchoolPlace.aspx> from 1st November 2025 (please note this a new link as the Parent Portal has recently been updated and the previous link will no longer work).

Parents who are having difficulty applying through the BCP Portal can contact the Admissions Team on 01202 123222 / 127963. Paper application forms can also be obtained directly from the Admissions Team after 01 November 2025.

Open Days at St Joseph's

We are holding open days for parents applying for a primary school place in 2026 - please see flyer below for details. Please come along if you are applying for 2026! If you know someone who is applying please feel free to share.



OPEN DAYS INVITATION

Applying for a September 2026 primary school place?

Join us for one of our open day sessions below:

- OPEN EVENING - MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 6PM**
A chance to visit St Joseph's, see our Ducklings classroom and ask any questions you have about starting school.
- SHOWAROUND TOURS - MON 15TH SEPT, WED 24TH SEPT, TUES 30TH SEPT: 9.30AM START**
Join us on a showaround tour during a school morning to see the Ducklings classroom and the whole school in action.
- STAY&PLAY SESSIONS - MON 29TH SEPT, MON 10TH NOV, MON 1ST DEC: 1.30PM-2.30PM**
Get the chance to stay for in school for an hour and play in the Ducklings classroom!

BOOK YOUR PLACE!

01202 485976 | admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk

Free help for 10-13 year olds

Dorset Mind runs the Connected Minds Programme. They offer an 8-week programme of support to 10-13-year-olds who are experiencing mild to moderate anxiety and emotional problems and/or are experiencing low attendance at school.

Christchurch Family Hub 9-12pm		
Meet & Greet/Session 1	08-Oct	9.30-11.30am
Session 2	15-Oct	9.30-11.30am
Session 3	22-Oct	9.30-11.30am
Half Term	29-Oct	No Session
Session 4	05-Nov	9.30-11.30am
Session 5	12-Nov	9.30-11.30am
Session 6	19-Nov	9.30-11.30am
Session 7	26-Nov	9.30-11.30am
Session 8	03-Dec	9.30-11.30am

Before and After School Club

If you need before and after school club childcare, we have our very own Starlight Club. Dom, Niamh and the team do an excellent job of providing fun and engaging provision for the children. To book sessions with Starlight Club, please register your child at stjosephs.magicbooking.co.uk/



STARLIGHT CLUB

LIGHT SNACK INCLUDED

AGES 4-11

NEED WRAPAROUND CARE?

TRY STARLIGHT - OUR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

BREAKFAST CLUB: 7.45-8.45AM
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB: MON-THURS UNTIL 6PM, FRI UNTIL 4.45PM

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: INDOOR GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS, LEGO, READING, OUTDOOR GAMES AND MORE

FOR PRICES AND TIMES PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.STJOSEPHS.DORSET.SCH.UK/STARLIGHT-CLUB-BREAKFAST-AND-AFTER-SCHOOL-CLUB
OR EMAIL: STARLIGHTCLUB@STJOSEPHS.DORSET.SCH.UK



SCHOOL LIFE

Important Dates for your diary

EVENT	DATE
Swimming lessons start for Year 3 and Year 4	Monday 15 th September
Life Education sessions in school	Tues 16 th September, Wed 17 th September
Year 6 trip to Parliament	Thursday 18 th September
Open Evening for new starters 2026	Monday 22 nd September
School Nurse Drop In	Tuesday 23 rd September, 8.45am
Bikeability for Year 4	Wednesday 1 st October
Year 6 trip to Hampton Court Palace	Thursday 9 th October
Year 6 Imaginative Prayer	Thursday 16 th October
Rags to Riches clothing recycling	Friday 17 th October
Parents' Evening	Monday 20 th October
Bikeability for Year 5	Monday 20 th , Tuesday 21 st , Wednesday 22 nd October
Parents' Evening	Thursday 23 rd October
INSET DAY	Friday 24th October
HALF TERM	Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October
School Photos with Fraser Portraits	Thursday 6 th November
Year 6 Imaginative Prayer	Thursday 13 th November
Year 6 Imaginative Prayer	Thursday 11 th December
Party Day	Thursday 18 th December
Rocksteady Concert	Thursday 18 th December
Last day of term	Friday 19 th December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January

Car park reminder



Our school car park is reserved strictly for staff and deliveries. For the safety of our pupils and to keep the school running smoothly, please do not use the staff car park at drop-off and pick-up times.

Nut-free school



A gentle reminder that we are a nut-free school to ensure the safety of students with severe allergies. Please ensure all lunches and snacks are free from nuts. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please see our school website for details of our After School Clubs:
www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/after-school-clubs/

Year Seven Open Evenings

Please see the flyers below for Y6 families who are currently making decisions about entry to Secondary school in September 2026.



To arrange a visit to the Ballard School Year 7 Open Mornings, please email registrar@ballardschool.co.uk

Join the Co-Educational School of the Year and find out why parents call us *'Simply the best school every day.'*

Open Mornings
26th September and 17th October

BOOK NOW



Scan the QR code, call 01425 626900 or email registrar@ballardschool.co.uk

THE GRANGE SCHOOL
YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING
Thursday
25th September
5.30 - 7.30pm

REGISTER HERE

SCAN ME! >>>

Twynham Learning

OPEN EVENING
YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND

THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2025
5:00PM to 7:30PM

- Everyone welcome
- Principal's presentations: 6:00PM and 6:45PM
- Student Tour Guides to accompany guests

Magna Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy

Open day - 18 Sept | Book your place!

YOUR NEXT BIG **Adventure** STARTS HERE!

Located in a picturesque setting on the Bournemouth Coast
 Superb results at all ages Reception to A Level
 A welcoming, faith-led community
 Global partnerships and forward-thinking learning
 Come & discover what makes us exceptional during our open day on 18th Sept

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL 17:00-20:30 | THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2025
Welcome Talks 17:30 & 18:45 Identical presentations in the Theatre
St Peter's School St Catherine's Road BH6 4AH

Twynham School Year 7 Open Evening – Wednesday 17th September 2025 (5.30pm–7.30pm)

We are delighted to invite you to Twynham School's Open Evening on Wednesday 17th September, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. This is a fantastic opportunity to explore our vibrant school community and discover what makes Twynham such a special place to learn and grow. Whether you already have a connection with the school or are visiting us for the first time, you are warmly welcome. Twynham School is proud of its strong academic outcomes, inclusive ethos, and wide range of enrichment opportunities that support every student to thrive. During the evening, you will be able to tour the school, meet our dedicated staff and enthusiastic students, and visit subject areas to learn more about our curriculum and wider school life. There will be two talks from the Head of School in the main hall at 5.45pm and 6.45pm, where you'll hear about our vision, values, and what you can expect from a Twynham education.

To help us manage numbers safely, we will issue tickets for these talks on arrival. In addition to the Open Evening, we are also offering short "School in Action" tours on:

- Wednesday 1st October, at 9am
- Wednesday 8th October, at 9am
- Wednesday 15th October, at 9am

Places for these tours can be booked on this [link](#). These 45-minute tours will give you the chance to see Twynham during a normal school day, visiting lessons and speaking with our students about their experiences. Parking is not available on site, so we encourage those living nearby to walk if possible. If you have any mobility needs, please contact us in advance so we can support your visit. We look forward to welcoming you to Twynham School and sharing what makes our community so special.