

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



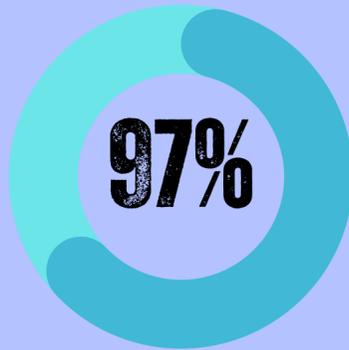
6th February 2026

## ATTENDANCE SPOTLIGHT:

This week's attendance



Target attendance



Best attendance this week



**YEAR 2**  
**99%**

**Remember: Every Day Counts!**

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this week's Celebration of the Word Assembly we heard Jesus giving His followers a description of what it looks like to live God's way - the beatitudes.

The children heard the story of St Pier Giorgio Frassati who, after being born into wealth and privilege, devoted his life to the care of the sick, lonely and poor. I told the children that as a child he would walk to school instead of catching the bus and saved up his fares to buy bread for the hungry. So he wouldn't get told off, he would run home to ensure he wasn't late for dinner. He died aged 24 after contracting polio from patients he was visiting.

Pope John Paul II called Frassati 'the man of the beatitudes' because of his selfless service to those less fortunate.

I asked the children to have a "bee-attitude" - acting like a child of God through kindness, humility, and peace as St Pier Giorgio Frassati did.

Have a wonderful weekend everybody.

Mr Doherty



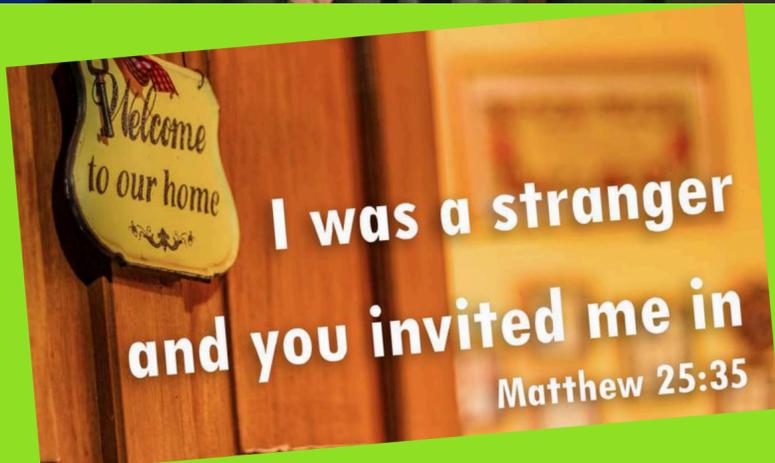
## DIARY DATES

- Mon 9th - Phonics parent sessions - **Ducklings**, 9-9.40am
- Mon 9th - Skateboarding After School Club - Years 1-6
- Tues 10th - Phonics parent sessions - **Ducklings**, 9-9.40am
- Tues 10th - Art After School Club - **Year 4, Year 5, Year 6**
- Tues 10th - Abs Football After School Club - **Years 1-6**
- Tues 10th - Book Fair, 3.15-3.45pm
- Tues 10th - Gymnastics Festival at The Grange, 3.30pm **Yrs3/4**
- Wed 11<sup>th</sup> - Coding After School Club - **Years 2-6**
- Wed 11th - Handball at The Grange, 3.30pm **Yrs3/4**
- Wed 11th - Book Fair, 3.15-3.45pm
- Thurs 12th - PJ and Teddy Day
- Thurs 12th - Book Fair, 3.15-3.45pm
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> - Tennis After School Club - **Years 1-4**
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> - Gymnastics After School Club - **Years 1-6**
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> - Book Fair, 3.15-3.45pm

## SCHOOL LIFE

# Welcome

This week we welcomed Skyler to our Year 3 class. Once again it is so wonderful to see how quickly our new children settle in. It says so much about the children and staff that make up our amazing community. Thank you especially to Connie and Molly who were chosen by Skyler because they have been extra kind friends to her during her first week. In a week when I spoke to the children about the importance of belonging I am reminded about how welcoming our children have been towards those who have joined us this term. Well done!



Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S  
MENTAL HEALTH  
WEEK

9-15  
FEB  
2026

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. In Key Stage assemblies this week I spoke to the children about the importance of how they feel and think.

This year's theme is 'This is my place' and emphasises the importance of feeling that we belong. I hope that our school is a place where our children feel they are a part of something special, that they feel included and that they feel treasured. We talked about what we can do to feel we belong and what we can do if we feel someone else doesn't feel included.

One thing we all need to do is recognise our own feelings and speak to a trusted adult if we need help. I said that each of our children need to have 5 trusted adults that they feel they would be able to talk to if they were having any negative feelings e.g worried, anxious, scared or angry. At least one of these adults needs to be in school.

I told them that I don't mind who they tell as long as they tell somebody. I reminded the children that someone we can always speak to is God.

I shared with the children a short mantra that they can repeat over and over the next time they are feeling overwhelmed: 'Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you'. It is a prayer that my own mother taught me and it really works!

Remember to ask your children who their 5 trusted adults are.



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

## St Joseph's Parish Family Mass



It was lovely to see so many of our children at St Joseph's family Mass on Sunday. Thank you to all of our families who attended. Having so many of our children there made it extra special. We have great plans for this Mass moving forward. Given the numbers, we will be given our own reserved seating area in the church next time (Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March) and we will be practicing the hymns in school at lunchtime so we sound extra special! We will be asking children to read the bidding prayers too and I have been promised a slot where the children can perform their own song at the end of the Mass. Save the date for next time everybody.

## Ducklings Mother's Day Liturgy.

The Ducklings class warmly invites mums to join them for a Mother's Day Liturgy on March 11th 2026 at 2.30pm. This will be a short and meaningful gathering, prepared with great care by the children, and we would love to share this special time with you. We understand that not all mothers may be able to attend. If this is the case, we warmly welcome another family member or other special person to attend in their place. We hope you can join us for this lovely celebration.

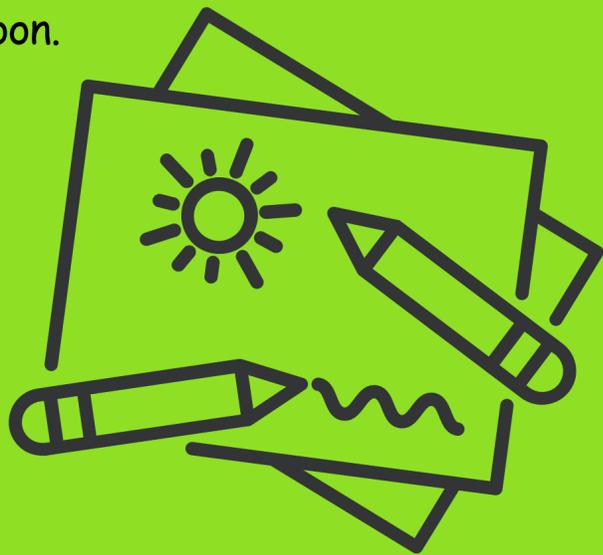


*We are all God's children and will live, love, work and serve as Jesus taught us.*

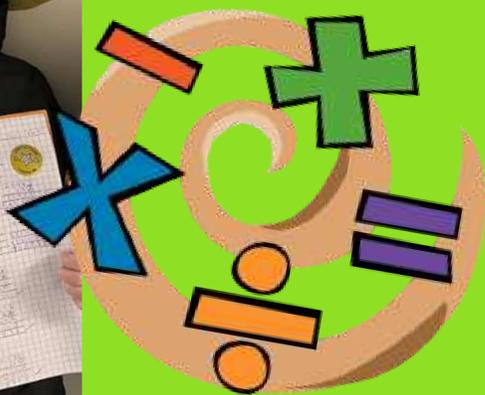


## Walk to School Design Competition

Our Walk to School Initiative (WOW) is running a design competition for the badges that each child can earn on a monthly basis. This is our school's opportunity to enter the competition and be in with a chance of winning incredible prizes and have our pupils' designs feature on the 2026/2027 WOW badges! This year's theme is: 'WALK the Senses'. Competition ends Monday 23rd February 2026 at lunchtime. Entry forms will be coming home with your child soon.



## Maths wizards!



Well done to Charlotte and Izadora who came to see me because of their wonderful work in maths. Year 5 have been using formal methods of long multiplication this week. Great work girls! Keep it up.

## Attendance

Well done to Year 2 who are this week's attendance winners with 99.15% attendance. Well done Year 2. This is a wonderful achievement! Whole school attendance is at 94.78%. Our whole school target is 97%.



## Parents' Evening

A reminder that Parents' Evening will be held on Monday 16th and Thursday 19th March from 3.30pm. Further details to follow.



## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

We are extremely fortunate that our Link Speech and Language Therapist Georgia Bray is coming in to lead a workshop for parents on Monday 9th February from 9 - 9:45am. You will get up to date information about how the service works, a deeper understanding of language difficulties and how they show up at home and school. She also has lots of top tips to help you at home. This is open to all parents but we strongly encourage those whose children are currently working with the team of therapists attend. Mrs Sparks our SENDCO, will see you there.



YOU'RE INVITED!

# MEET OUR SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPIST

**WHEN?**

MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup>  
FEBRUARY

**WHERE?**

ST JOSEPH'S  
SCHOOL HALL

**TIME?**

9-9.45AM

**WHY?**

TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT HOW THE  
SERVICE WORKS  
AND TOP TIPS TO  
HELP YOU AT HOME

EVERYONE  
WELCOME

IF YOU WOULD LIKE  
TO ATTEND, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE TO  
BOOK YOUR PLACE.

CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE: 01202 485976

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



## World War 2 experts



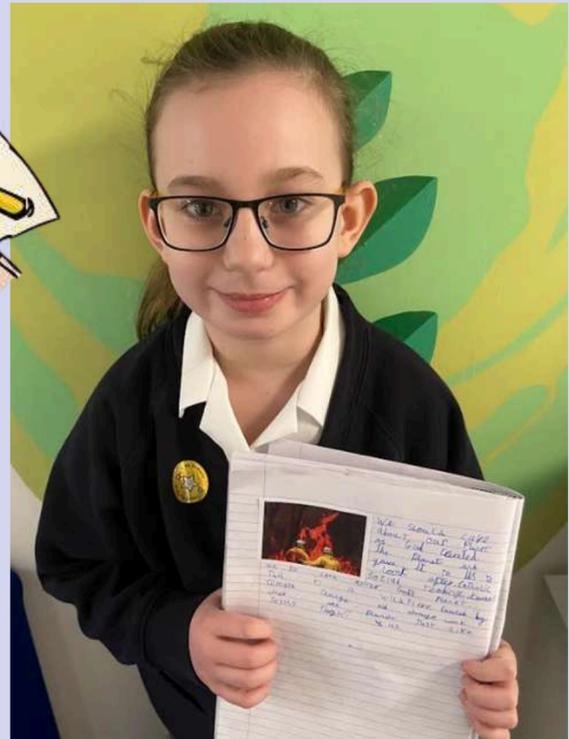
I must say that over recent weeks I have been so thrilled to see how enthused Year 6 are about their current topic on World War 2. Archie and Leo were sent to see me this week to share their super impressive work on Winston Churchill and the Battle of Britain. Well done boys!

## NSPCC Number Day.

It was lovely to see the children all dressed up today as we celebrated NSPCC Number Day. As part of 'Dress up for Digits' day the children came in very creative outfits such as dice and playing cards. Thank you for all of the generous donations which makes a huge difference to the NSPCC, helping to raise money for vital services like Childline. We are delighted to say that we raised over £170 today. Well done everyone, thank you for your support.



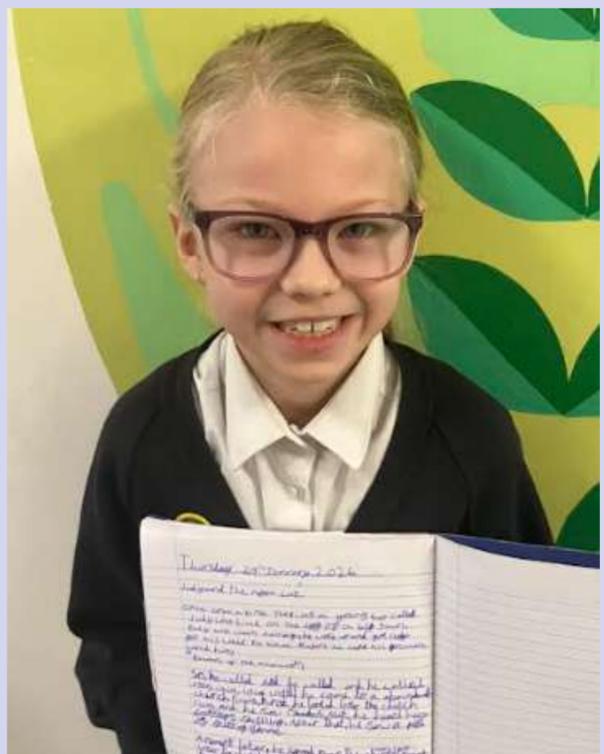
## Super handwriting



Well done to Shanice who has made huge efforts to improve her handwriting this term. It is amazing to see the progress our children are capable of in such a short space of time. Well done Shanice!

## Writer of the week

Well done to Summer in Year 4 who was sent to see me with her fabulous writing this week. The children have been writing stories about a Moon Cat. Summer used adventurous vocabulary and Mr Cook tells me that she is trying really hard with her presentation. Well done Summer!





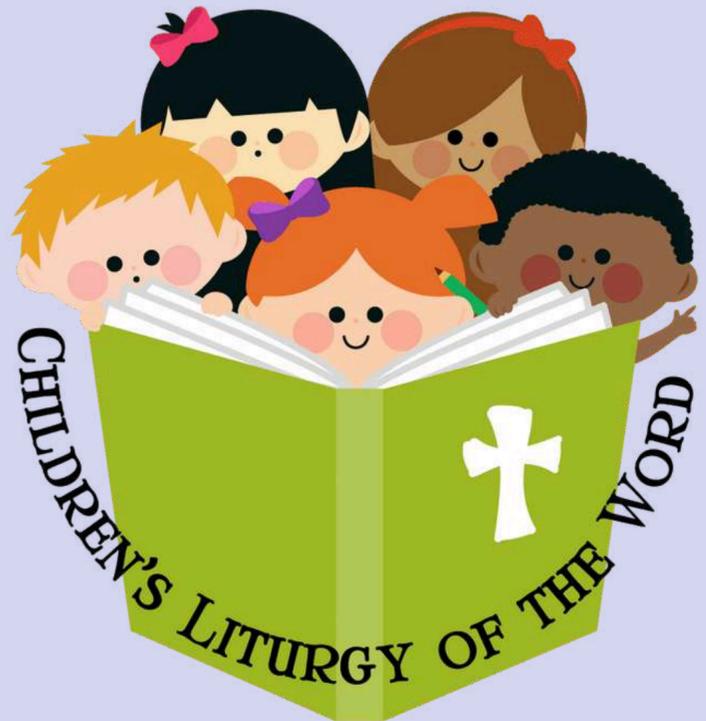
## Plastic bottle appeal

Mrs McCarthy is asking for any empty 500ml plastic bottles you may have. These will be used in science lessons to create torches. Please send in with your children to give to their class teachers. Thanking you in advance.



## Walk to school class winners for January.

January's Walk to School winning class (for the second month in a row) was Year 6 with 79% of their journeys to school being active. Well done Year 6. Year 1 were 2<sup>nd</sup> with 76% and Year 4 were 3<sup>rd</sup> with 68%



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 and enjoy a craft or drama activity.

We warmly invite you to encourage your children to participate. It will take place in St Joseph's Church, 67 Purewell, Christchurch, BH23 1EH during Mass every Sunday at 9am during term time except for the first Sunday of each month as this is a Family Mass.

We are grateful for all those who volunteer to run this for the children and are always eager to add to our team. 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 our volunteers during the service. Thank you.

Mrs McCarthy



## Phonics workshops

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended the phonics workshops over the last two weeks. We hope you found it valuable to see how phonics is delivered in school and we hope you will feel more confident supporting your children at home. I would like to also say thank you to our staff for inviting you all in to see the children at work.



## Super progress

The following children in Year 6 have made super progress with their maths over the last half term and have made the Year 6 staff team and Mr Doherty VERY happy. Well done Klaudia, Ava, Archie, Lily, Reese, Ted, Leo, Sasha, Ella and Tilly.



## Learning about The Eucharist



Mrs Mills came in and talked us through the different stages of Mass to give the children a greater understanding of how God is revealed during mass. She talked about the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This is also part of supporting our children who are taking their First Holy Communion in June. Our children were very respectful and asked some really interesting and appropriate questions.

Mrs Whyte (Year 3)



## SCHOOL LIFE



### Sasha our swim star

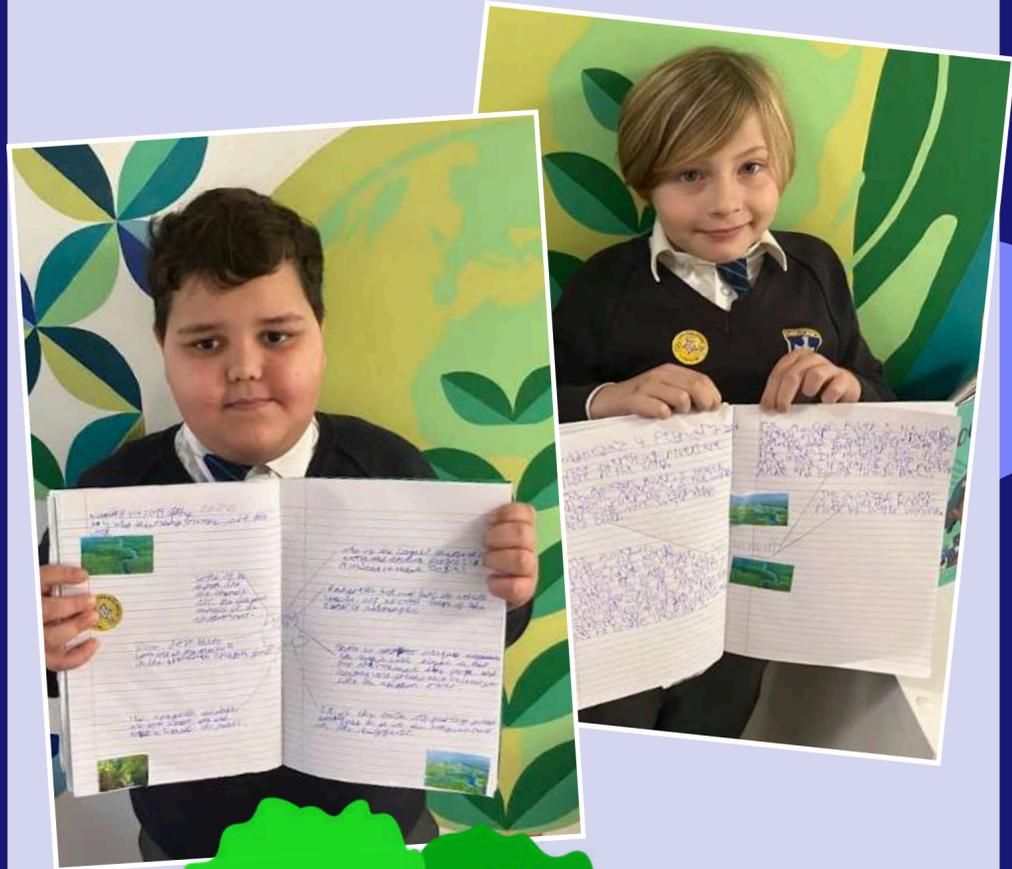


Well done to Sasha in Year 6 who won gold medals in the 200 metre butterfly, gold in the 400 metre freestyle and bronze in the 200 metre breaststroke at the recent Dorset County championships. She also made the finals of the 100m backstroke and 100m freestyle. These are wonderful achievements and it is lovely to see our children having success outside of school. Her sister Shanice also qualified and swam at the same meet in the 100m backstroke. Looks like we might have a super swim team for the gala in May!



### Amazing Amazon work

Well done to Ava, Alex and Adrees who were sent to see me with their wonderful work on the Amazon river. The children are currently learning about rivers in geography.



### Times tables success!

Well done to Lillie in Year 4 who passed her 3 x tables this week using her 'Big 3' times table game. Most impressive of all was that she managed to learn them inside a week! Well done Lillie.



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



## SCHOOL LIFE



# Beat boxing with Ricky.

On Wednesday Ricky - a beatboxer - came to our school and it was AWESOME! Beatboxing is where you use your mouth to sound like a beat. When he started making drum noises with his mouth, it sounded like a whole band was hiding inside his face.

He taught us how to make a beat using the words "boots and cats" and talked about plosive sounds. These are explosions in your mouth! He used a loop machine to record different beats and melodies and then put them altogether in layers to make a track that we could all groove along to. Lots of us had a turn with the microphone. It was extremely loud!

The best thing about beatboxing is that you can do it anywhere and it's free!! Try it for yourself - it works well in the bathroom or kitchen because of the echo!

A big THANK YOU to Ricky and Soundstorm who brought the workshops to us. We had a day filled with joy. Why don't you have a practice at home or try and teach someone else how to beatbox? Here are some top tips to get you started.

### The 3 Basic Sounds BOOTS AND CATS

#### Kick Drum = "B"

- Say "B" but don't use your voice
- Keep your lips tight, then pop them
- Sound: "Buh!"

Tip: Put your hand in front of your mouth - you should feel air. Thus is the plosive sound!

#### Hi-Hat - "T"

- Say "Tss" or "T"
- Teeth together, tongue near the top
- Sound: "Tss!"

This is your fast sound.

#### Snare Drum - "C"

- Say "Cah" from the back of your mouth
- Sharp and quick
- Sound: "Kah!"

#### Put Them Together

Try this slowly: B - T - C - T

(boo - tss - cah - tss)

This is "boots and cats"!

Mrs Hughes



Scan the QR codes to hear Year 6 beatboxing!



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

## Step into Sport Festival



Well done to our Key Stage 2 children who took part in this week's 'Step into Sport' Festival. The children participated in a range of sports such as curling, golf, bench ball and sitting volleyball. Mr Curran said that the children represented the school brilliantly. All were enthusiastic and willing to give it a go. Thank you also to Mr Curran for accompanying the children to the event.





## Year 6 in Ducklings

Year 6 and their Duckling buddies adore each other and it so lovely to see the relationships between them and how caring the Year 6 children are with their Ducklings. Ducklings have been learning the story of Elmer and Year 6 helped them to make their Elmers. I don't know who enjoyed it more, Year 6 or Ducklings! Year 6 also spent time reading to their buddies. It is great to see them enjoy a love of reading together. Miss Thomas





## Coding workshop

Thank you to Get with the Program and Vitality for providing the wonderful opportunity of a fully-funded STEM workshop for our Years 1-4 on Tuesday. The 'Eco-Coding Adventure' was designed to show our pupils how computing can help save the planet by programming an eco-friendly shopping robot! We were one of 40 Dorset schools sponsored by Vitality to receive the interactive and exciting experience. Our children learnt to design, write, test and debug algorithms as they guided a 'robot' to reduce the amount of waste in their shopping basket. The children had a fantastic day and were fully engaged in the activities. Thank you also to the two volunteers from Vitality that came in for the morning to help and to Mr Curran for delivering the workshops.



## Ducklings caring for our planet

One of the pillars of Catholic Social Teaching asks that we look after the world and all that God has created. It was lovely to see the children in our Ducklings class putting Catholic Social Teaching into practice by making bird feeders in class and then placing them around our school grounds. This will help our birds get through the rest of winter.

The children coated cardboard tubes with lard and stuck on seeds. Yummy!





## Enrichment time

Mrs Walls sent me these lovely photos from this week's enrichment time session with Year 1 and Year 2. They were shooting 'rocket mice' from plastic bottles and learning about air pressure, air resistance and gravity. Thank you Mrs Walls for planning such fun activities. It was a delight to hear some of our youngest children using fantastic scientific vocabulary while enjoying themselves.



## Rock Star Reese!



Well done to Reese in Year 6 who received her Entry Level Award for 'music performance in bands' this week from Trinity College London. This is a wonderful achievement and a result of lots of hard work and dedication. Congratulations Reese.





## Reading

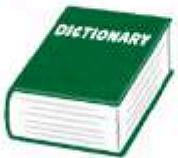
As you may be aware St Joseph's is the top school in BCP for greater depth in reading in 2025. This only happens if we continue to encourage every one of our children to read for at least 20 minutes a day. 20 is plenty! Please do your very best to support your children so they can continue to flourish. Below are some of the benefits from reading for just 20 minutes a day:



# 20 is plenty



Children who read for 20 minutes every day will ...



be exposed to 1.8 million words a year



have stress levels and anxiety reduced



learn how to develop empathy



have a broad vocabulary



have better general knowledge



improve critical thinking skills



improve communication skills



improve their test results



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

5 MARCH 2026

## Celebrating World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March. This year, we would like children to dress up as a book character and be able to tell the children in their class who they have dressed up as. Last year, our book swap was extremely successful, so we will be doing the same this year. We will also be inviting parents in to read with their children in the afternoon. Please put this date in your diary. More information will come out in the next couple of weeks.

Please find the family prayer sheet for February below. This is a lovely resource to share with your families and friends.

# Families of Faith

† February †

## Prayer Corner



Dear Jesus,  
Thank you for this new day,  
For our family, our friends, and all  
the love around us.  
Thank you for the saints we  
remember this month,  
Who teach us to pray, be brave,  
and care for others.  
Help us to be kind, share our gifts,  
And shine your light wherever we  
go.  
Amen

## Saints to Inspire



**14 February - St Cyril**

St. Cyril and his brother St. Methodius helped teach the Slavic people about God and made the first Slavic alphabet called Glagolitic. They also translated the Bible so people could read it in their own language. Today, St. Cyril is remembered for helping people learn to read and for creating the Cyrillic alphabet.



**10 February - St Scholastica**

St. Scholastica, twin sister of St. Benedict, devoted her life to God and led a community of women. She is remembered for her deep faith and prayer, including a famous story where God sent a storm so she could spend more time with her brother.

## Good News from the Gospel



**Week 1 - Matthew 5:1-12**

We listen to the Beatitudes. How can you be a peacemaker?

How can you promote peace at home or at school?

**Week 2 - Matthew 5:13-16**

We think about how salt brings out the best things. What good deeds can you do today? How can you bring light to the world?

**Week 3 - Matthew 5: 17-37**

Teaches us about following laws and commandments. What would you like to say sorry for? How can you show you are sorry?

**Week 4 - Matthew 4: 1-11**

We have begun Lent and hear about Jesus being tempted in the desert. What are you giving up for Lent?

## National Inventors' Day 11<sup>th</sup> February

Research an inventor. Find out more about what they created



## National Random Acts of Kindness Day 11<sup>th</sup> February

Offer words of encouragement or make a donation to a local cause

## National Love Your Pet Day 20<sup>th</sup> February

Our relationship with our pets are part of our call to Stewardship. Genesis 1:25



# PTA NEWS

## Could you be our PTA Treasurer?

Want to be our next PTA treasurer? With a clear head for numbers, you will control the PTA funds in line with the committee's decisions, as well as charity law. You will also make sure upcoming events are affordable and profitable, and report financial information to the rest of the team. For more information or to come in for a chat, please contact the school office on 01202 485976 or please email on [admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk)

The treasurer's responsibilities:

- Manages the day-to-day finances.
- Keeps a detailed record of the PTA's financial activity.
- Reports on the finances at meetings in a clear, concise way.
- Banks the takings from events and fundraisers.
- Arranges floats for events.
- Ensures money is kept safely before and during events.
- Makes Gift Aid claims.
- Implements procedures for making payments and claiming expenses.
- Completes the Charity Commission annual return.
- Arranges audits for accounts.
- Reports at the AGM.
- Prepares the financial report.

Suits people who are...

- Confident at handling money and budgets.
- Good with numbers.
- Methodical.

If you are interested in this role please contact the school office.



## Join the fun in our Colour Run!

We are delighted to be able to host another Colour Run this year, taking place on 19th June at 2pm. Last year's colour run was a great success with everyone joining in the fun. More details will be released nearer the time.

## ST. JOSEPH'S HORSE RACE NIGHT



**6**  
**MARCH**  
**7PM**

**Grab your tickets for £8 and join the action!**

**Pizza included in ticket price. Bring your own drinks.**

**Doors open at 6:30pm with the first race starting at 7pm**

**Tickets available before & after school.**

**Feel the Rush – The Race is On!**

# PTA NEWS

## Easyfundraising

Did you know that you can raise funds for our school everytime you shop online? It's easy to join and every time you shop online you raise donations for our school at no extra cost to you! We have already raised £1,869.14 with 101 supporters. If you haven't already signed up it's easy to join - please follow this link and check out the latest deals: [Easyfundraising](#)

## Pre-loved uniform

Just a reminder that we have our very own second hand uniform shop on the Uniformd platform where we sell good quality pre-owned uniform with all funds raised going directly back to the school. To view our catalogue of clothes and to purchase, please visit the Uniformd shop here: [Uniformd](#)

## Teddy bear and PJ day 12th Feb £1



**Wear your comfy PJ's  
and bring a small cuddly  
bear. Money raised for  
yr6 leavers and PTA.**

# SAVE THE DATE

**PTA SUMMER FAYRE**  
**FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2026**  
**3.15-6.15PM**



**Next PTA  
meeting:  
24th Feb, 6pm**



# SCHOOL LIFE

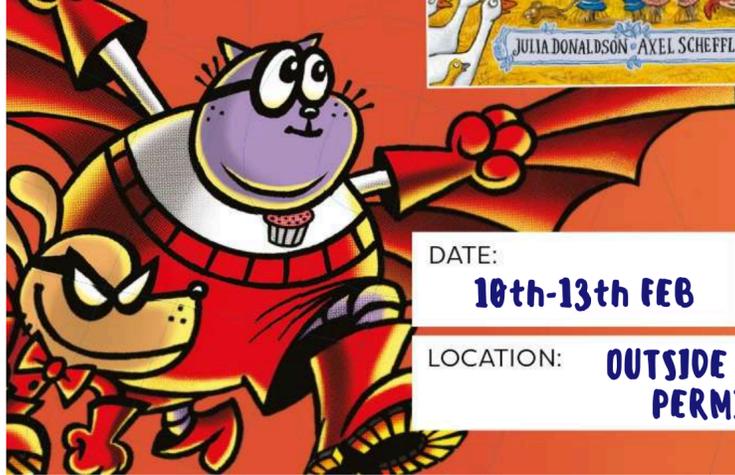
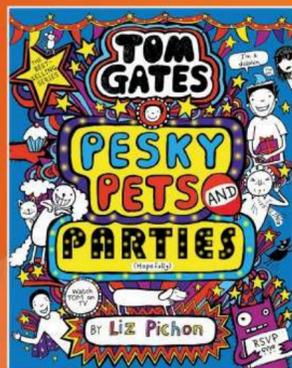
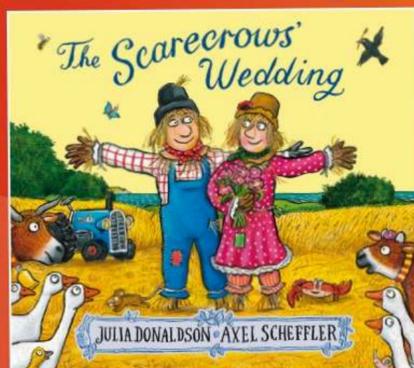
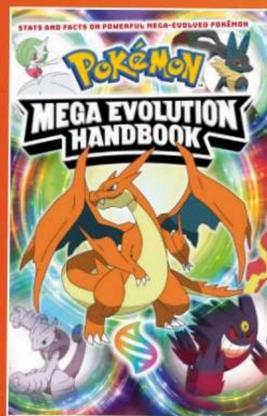
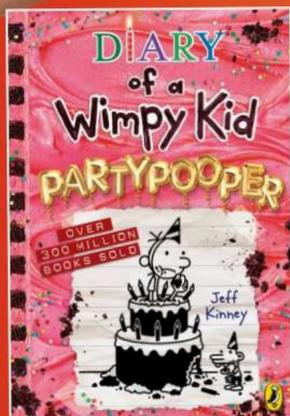
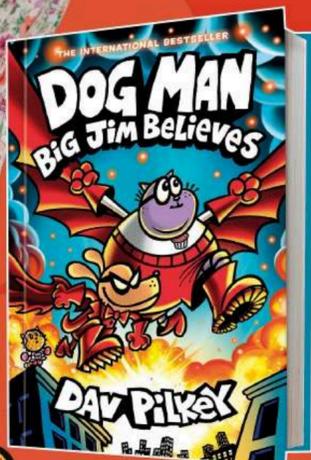
## Scholastic Book Fair

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

Every book you buy earns  
**FREE BOOKS**  
for our school\*

# COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

AND FIND YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ!



DATE: **10th-13th FEB** TIME: **3.15pm**  
LOCATION: **OUTSIDE (WEATHER PERMITTING)**

**GO ALL IN.**

National Year of Reading 2026

### When is the Book Fair?

We are delighted to be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair next week, from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb every day after school from 3.15pm in the school library.

### What happens at a Book Fair?

Just come along and browse the wonderful books available to purchase. Every book you buy earns free books for our school through the Scholastic Reward Scheme.

### How do I pay for the books?

You can pay by cash on the day or via the QR code below which will take you to the Scholastic website where you can pay by card. Don't worry, this QR code will be on display at the event.



You can also buy gift vouchers before the fair if you want to send your child in with them rather than money.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>

All books subject to availability.

## DISCOVER MORE BOOKS ONLINE!

[www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases)



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



# SCHOOL LIFE

## Important Dates for your diary

EVENT	DATE
Scholastic Book Fair	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February
Gymnastics Festival at The Grange Y3/4	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Handball Tournament at The Grange Y3/4	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February
Imaginative Prayer for Year 6	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
PJ and Teddy Day Fundraiser - whole school mufti	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
Year 2 Space Camp	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February - overnight
February Half Term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Football Development Tournament Y4	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February
Live and Inspired Music Performance	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March
Shooting Stars Festival at The Grange 2,3,4	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
PTA Race Night Fundraiser	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March
Ducklings Mother's Day Liturgy	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Imaginative Prayer for Y6	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
Netball Tournament at Twynham Primary Y5/6	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
Class Photographs with Fraser Portraits	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents' Evening	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March
Cross Country at The Grange Y3,4,5,6	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents' Evening	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
St Joseph's Feast Day	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
Mass to celebrate St Joseph's Feast Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Netball Tournament at Twynham Primary Y5/6	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
Last day of term - finish at 1.30pm	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Back to School for Summer Term	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April
Imaginative Prayer for Year 6	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
KS2 Science Fair	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
Dr Bike - bring your bike along for a health check	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
Y5 Residential to Leeson House	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
Year 6 SATs week	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May

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

# Community

## Well done Tommy! What a fantastic act of kindness



Tommy, from Year 2, has cut his hair to raise money for a fantastic cause. His family heard about the plight of Taraysa, a 3-year-old girl, who was just diagnosed with Batten disease. Her family needs help to cover her treatment costs.

Tommy decided to raise money for Taraysa by doing a sponsored hair cut. Well done Tommy!

Every donation makes a difference in providing Taraysa the best quality of life and supporting her family during this tough time. If you can, please click the link below to donate or share it with others who might want to help. Thank you!

<https://gofund.me/295e0a5ef>

## Applications open!

Could your child be the next Junior Bake Off champion?

If you have a young baker at home aged between 9 and 15 years old who enjoys baking, then Love Productions (the production team behind The Great British Bake Off and The Great British Sewing Bee) want to hear from you!

Applications are now open for the 12<sup>th</sup> series of Junior Bake Off - the Channel 4 competition series celebrating Britain's young baking talent.

If your child is interested in applying, please apply online via the link below:

[www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk](http://www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk)

Filming will take place from July 2026, but applications close on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Good luck!



APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

AGED BETWEEN 9-15 AND WANT TO GIVE YOUR BAKING SKILLS A GO?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026



# Community

## Getting support with ADHD



ADHD UK are providing a monthly online event for parents and carers to ask questions, gain perspective and feel supported in navigating ADHD. The next online event is 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Led by Chris Benson – an ADHD adult, parent, and school leader from 2007–2025, these sessions offer insight, encouragement and practical thinking. Please book your place via the link below.

[Parent School Support Group with Chris Benson - ADHD UK | Events](#)

## Staying well



Flu season lasts until March/April and the best way to be protected against flu is to get vaccinated. If you missed the day that the school immunisations team were at school, catch up clinics are still available. Please contact Dorset HealthCare school immunisations team on [dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net](mailto:dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net).

To find out more, please visit [School-age immunisation service :: Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust](#)

For children, a flu vaccine is a pain free nasal spray. You can get one through the GP, pharmacy or a community walk-in clinic: [Vaccinations – Stay Well Dorset](#)

For more information about staying well this winter visit [Stay Well Dorset – Stay informed, stay protected, stay well.](#)

A poster for 'Winter Wildlife Adventure Day' at Upton Country Park. The main title is 'Winter Wildlife Adventure Day!' with the subtitle 'How many species will you see?'. It features images of a bat, a sparrow, and a pond. A starburst graphic says 'Join the experts for pond dipping, guided bird walks, crafts and lots more!'. The event is on Monday 16 February 2026, 10am-4pm, FREE. It lists partners: Poole's Heathland, National Trust, Dorset Heaths Partnership, RSPB, Dorset Wildlife Trust, BARI (The Bird & Recreation Initiative), Dorset Bat Group, and The Parks Foundation. A snail is at the bottom. More info is at [uptoncountrypark.com/events/](http://uptoncountrypark.com/events/).

Upton Country Park

# Winter Wildlife Adventure Day!

How many species will you see?

Join the experts for pond dipping, guided bird walks, crafts and lots more!

Upton House  
Monday 16 February 2026  
10am-4pm  
FREE

Discover Upton Country Park's wildlife with...

More info at [uptoncountrypark.com/events/](http://uptoncountrypark.com/events/)



## School Nurse

If you have a question about your child's health or any parenting questions, our school nurse is always on hand. You can contact the nursing team on 01425 891157. We do also hold school nurse drop-in sessions from time to time, so look out for the next date.