

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



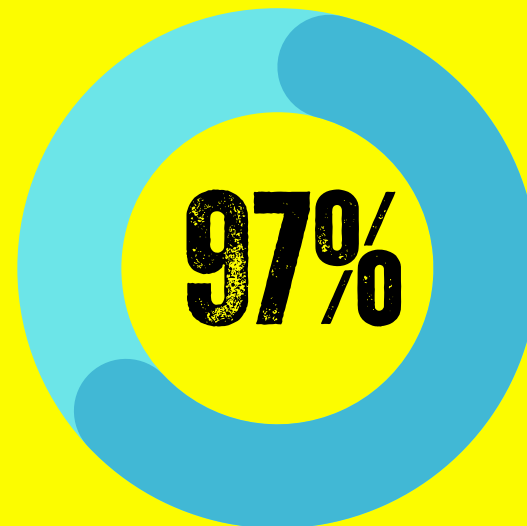
8th May 2026

This week's attendance

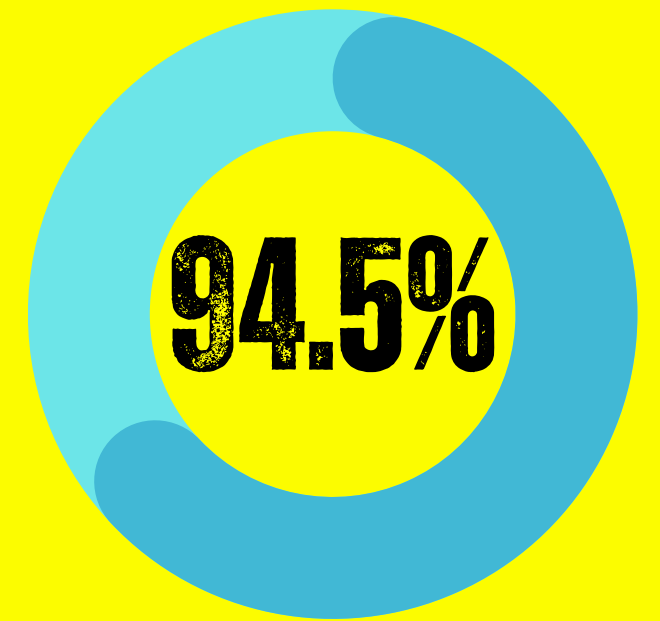


ATTENDANCE SPOTLIGHT:

Target attendance



This year's attendance to date:



Remember: Every Day Counts!

Dear Parents and Carers,

In celebration of the word assembly this week we heard Jesus tell his followers that he is 'the way, the truth and the life'. We talked about what 'the way' might be.

I told the children about an act of extreme kindness that I witnessed many years ago by a person wearing a badge with 'WWJD' on it. I asked what it meant and was told it stood for 'What Would Jesus Do'. See if your children can remember the story.

'The way' is following in Jesus' footsteps and being like him in everything we do and say.

Once again, this week, I am so proud to be your Headteacher. Mr Curran has been keeping me updated about our Year 5 children at Leeson House who he said have been a delight to spend time with and whose behaviour and manners have been praised by the staff at Leeson House and by the members of staff from other schools. When I hear such things about our children I know that they are on the right path. Thank you Year 5 for being the best of ambassadors for our school and what we stand for.

Please keep our Year 6 children in your prayers next week. From Monday to Thursday they will be taking their end of Primary school SATS tests.

Have a lovely weekend everybody.

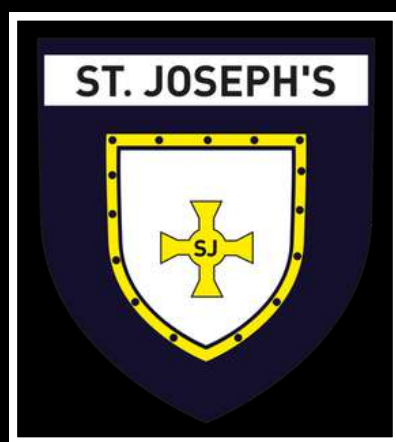
Mr Doherty



DIARY DATES

- Mon 11th - Thurs 14th - Year 6 SATS
- Mon 11th - Skateboarding After School Club - **Years 1-6**
- Tues 12th - Art After School Club - **Year 4, Year 5, Year 6**
- Tues 12th - Abs Football After School Club - **Years 1-6**
- Tues 12th - Forest School After School Club - **Years R-6**
- Wed 13th - Year 3 Ancient Egypt workshop in school
- Wed 13th - Coding After School Club - **Years 2-6**
- Thurs 14th - Yr 6 Avon Tyrell parents/ carers meeting at 2.45pm in school
- Thurs 14th - Tennis After School Club - **Years 1-4**
- Fri 15th - PTA Crazy Hair Day fundraiser
- Fri 15th - Year 6 Mufti Day
- Fri 15th - Gymnastics After School Club - **Years 1-6**

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



SEPTEMBER RECEPTION PLACES AVAILABLE

**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Tours available

**Please call to arrange a
tour with our Headteacher,
Mr Doherty.**

Please contact the school office

 01202 485976

Or email

 admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk



May Procession

May is the month dedicated to Mary the mother of Jesus. In her honour the children will be taking part in a May Procession and open air service on 19th May at 2pm. Parents/ Carers and families are welcome to attend.

Our current Year 4 children, who made their First Holy Communion last year are welcome to wear their Holy Communion outfits from last year on the day.

They will be able to change into them at lunchtime. We will be choosing two of these children to crown Mary at the service.



Rosary Club

It was lovely to see so many children attending this week's Rosary Club on Wednesday lunchtime. Thank you again to Mrs Thomas for volunteering your time each week and leading us in prayer. If you have anyone you would like us to pray for please send messages in via the office email account or on a note with your child to give to their class teacher.



The children at Rosary Club this week



Family Mass at St Joseph's

Thank you to all of the families who attended Mass on Sunday at St Joseph's. It was lovely to see so many of our children there. Father Paul spoke about how happy he is to see so many young people in church. Hope you all enjoyed your doughnuts!



Let your light shine awards

Well done to all of our children who received 'let your light shine' awards this week. Each of the children has lived out one of the school's core values including honesty, resilience and curiosity. Well done children!





Attendance

Well done to Year 1 (our serial winners) who are this week's attendance winners with an immaculate 100% attendance! This is the first time this has happened this year! Year 1 will be receiving a special treat. Whole school attendance is a very disappointing 93.6%. We need to do better everybody.



Congratulations Mrs Blake!

Congratulations to Mrs Blake, who completed the London Marathon last weekend. Mrs Blake was raising money for our local Macmillan hospice. If you would like to make a donation please do so via the QR code or follow the attached link:

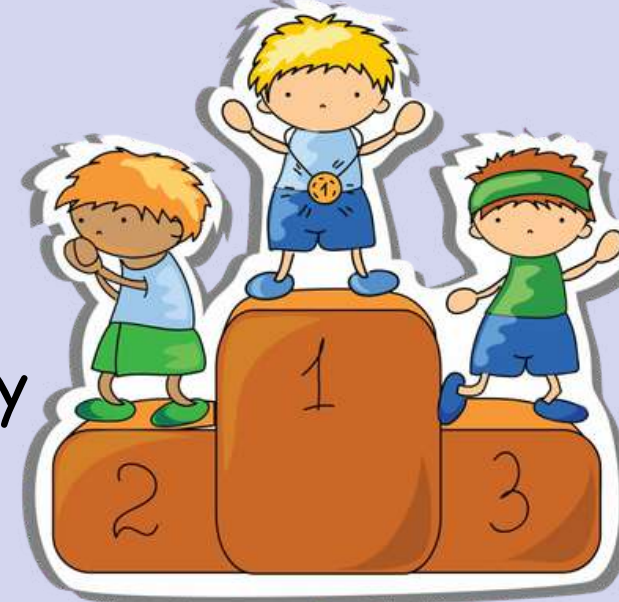
<https://2026tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/p/f/katy-blake>



Sports for all Day and Sports Day

Sports Day will be on Tuesday 16th June this year. Ducklings and KS1 (Years 1 and 2) will be in the morning and KS2 (Yrs 3,4,5 and 6) will be in the afternoon.

Friday 19th June will be Sports for all Day when the children will get to try different sports in school. These dates are in the termly calendar at the back of the newsletter.



Thank you to the staff from Dr Bike who came to school to safety check our children's bicycles. They were here for a whole day and it was lovely to see that so many of our children have access to bikes. Thank you to everyone who booked a slot with the team. Keeping our children safe is our number one priority. Keep on cycling everyone!

Year 5 at Leeson House



Year 5 had a fabulous time on their 2-day residential trip to Leeson House this week. They explored the beautiful countryside and took part in a range of hands-on learning activities. During the visit, the children walked through the local landscape, discovering fascinating dinosaur footprints and learning about the area's rich history, including tales of smuggling in Langton Matravers and the famous smuggler Isaac Gulliver.

The trip also included a visit to Durlston Country Park, where pupils developed their understanding of rocks, geography and the natural environment. Throughout the few days, the children took part in map-reading, navigation and orienteering activities, building teamwork and problem-solving skills. They also enjoyed science lessons on animal classification and life cycles, making the experience both fun and educational. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for Year 5 to learn outside the classroom and create lasting memories together. Mr Curran

Can I say a huge thank you to Mr Curran, Mrs Farrell, Mrs Wasmuth and Miss Wright for accompanying the children. We are so lucky to have such dedicated staff who are willing to go above and beyond for the children to ensure they have the most wonderful of experiences and thank you God for the gorgeous weather! Our prayers were answered!



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



'WONDER'ful dancers

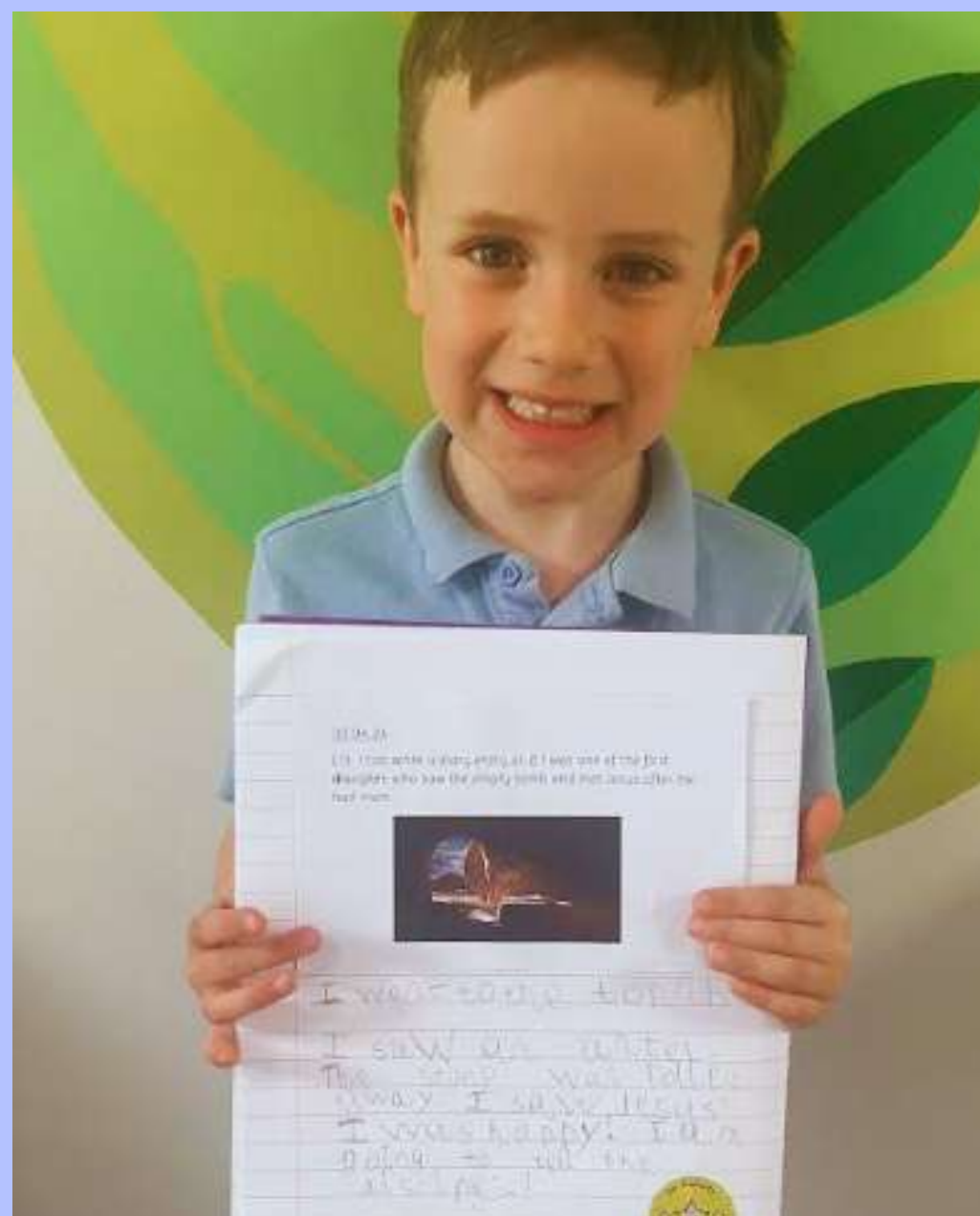


Well done to the St Joseph's children (Robyn, Thomas, Isabel and Effie) who performed in an incredible dance show called 'Wonder of you' at Poole Lighthouse theatre last weekend.

I have been told that the children worked so hard with all day rehearsals every weekend for the last month. To work this hard and then perform in front of an audience requires resilience and courage. Well done children for showing these values, for making the most of your God given talents and for sharing them with others. When people see what you are capable of it makes them realise just how wonderful you are as a creation of God.

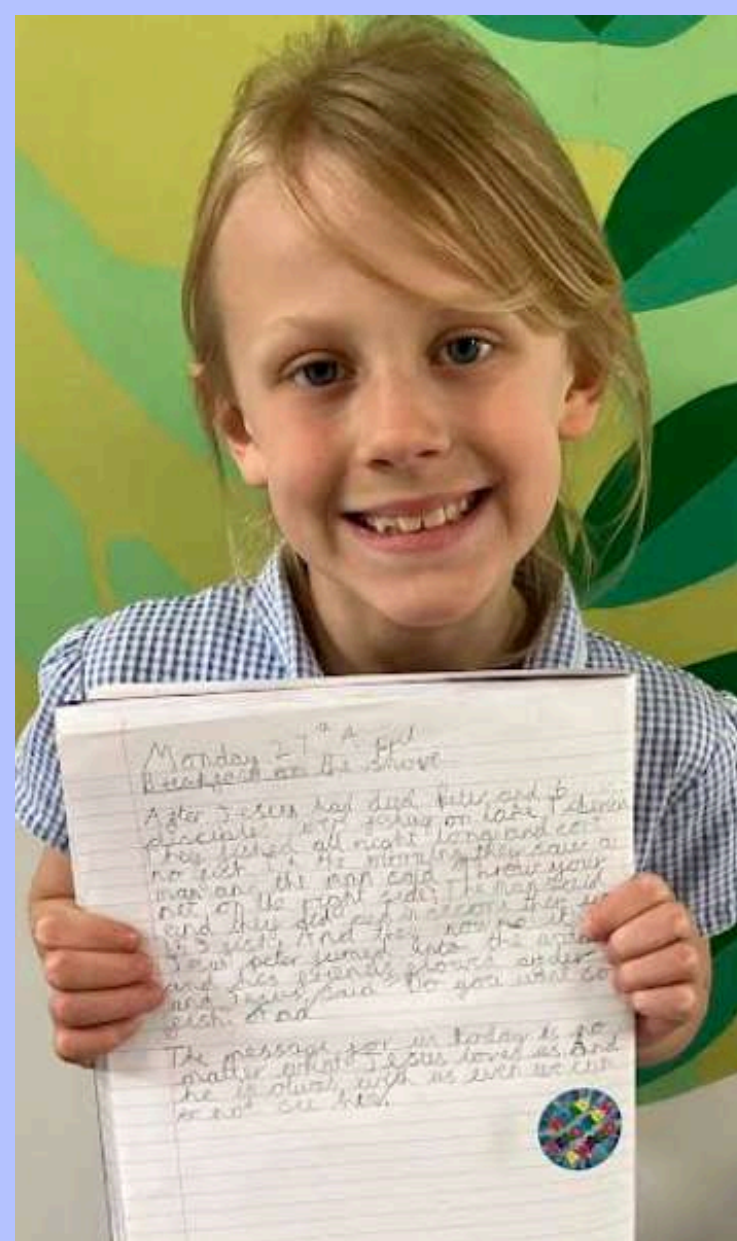
We are all very proud of your achievements.

Brilliant Brodie!



Well done to Brodie who was sent to see me this week with his wonderful RE work. Brodie wrote a diary entry as one of the Disciples who discovered the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. Great work Brodie!

Well done Aria



Well done to Aria, in Year 3, who was sent to see me this week with her wonderful RE work. Aria wrote a recount of the story where Jesus had breakfast with the Disciples on the shore after his resurrection.

Wonderful work Aria. You should be very proud of this.



Year 6 maths leaders

It was wonderful to see our Year 6 children supporting our Year 4 pupils in maths this week with their multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. Seeing our children work together reminds me of the importance of community (one of our core values). Well done Year 6. It is lovely to see you taking on such responsibility and doing it with such enthusiasm.



Skating superstar



I had a lovely surprise this week when Amber in Year 6 revealed to me that she is an ice skating champion! Amber came 1st in her latest competition at Planet Ice. To skate to the level that Amber has requires resilience and a LOT of courage! Well done Amber we are so proud to see you up on the 1st place podium. This is what hard work and dedication results in.

Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's

Children's Liturgy is a time during Sunday Mass where children are invited to explore the Gospel in a way that is joyful, simple, and tailored just for them and take part in craft activities relating to lessons they have learned from the Gospel.

The sessions are held at Joseph's Parish Church, Purewell during Sunday's 9am mass.

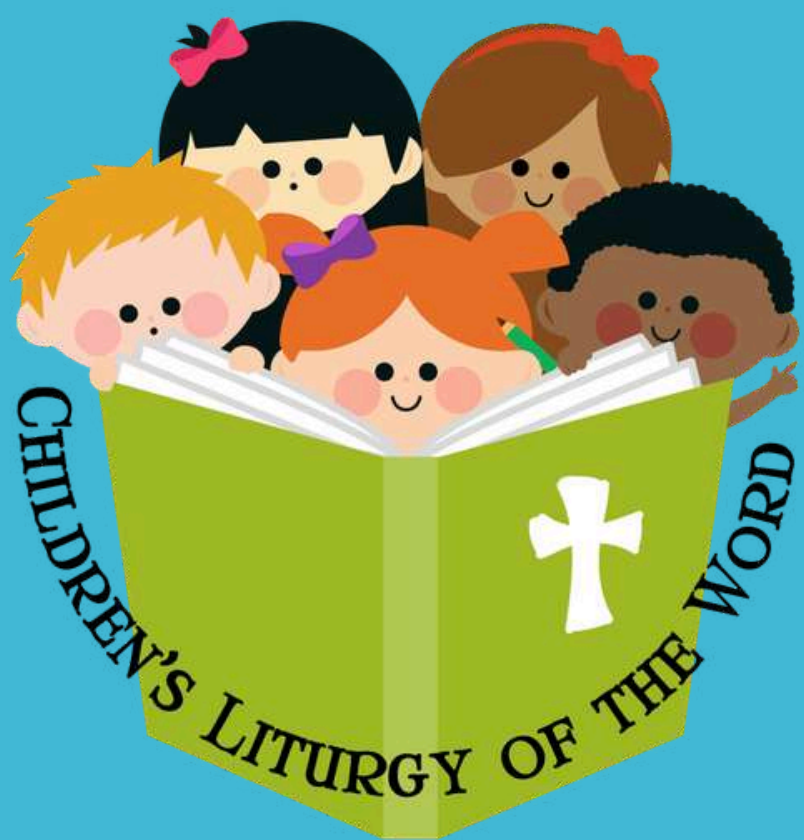
They are held during term time except the 1st Sunday of the month as this is Family Mass.

This half-term:

Children's Liturgy will be held on: 10th May and 17th of May.

Family mass: 7th of June.

We hope you can join us there.



Year 3,4,5,6 Mass at St Joseph's

Year 3,4,5 and 6 will be joining the Parishioners at the 10am Mass on Wednesday 17th June. We will be leaving school at approximately 9.15am. Parents/ carers and families are welcome to join us.



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

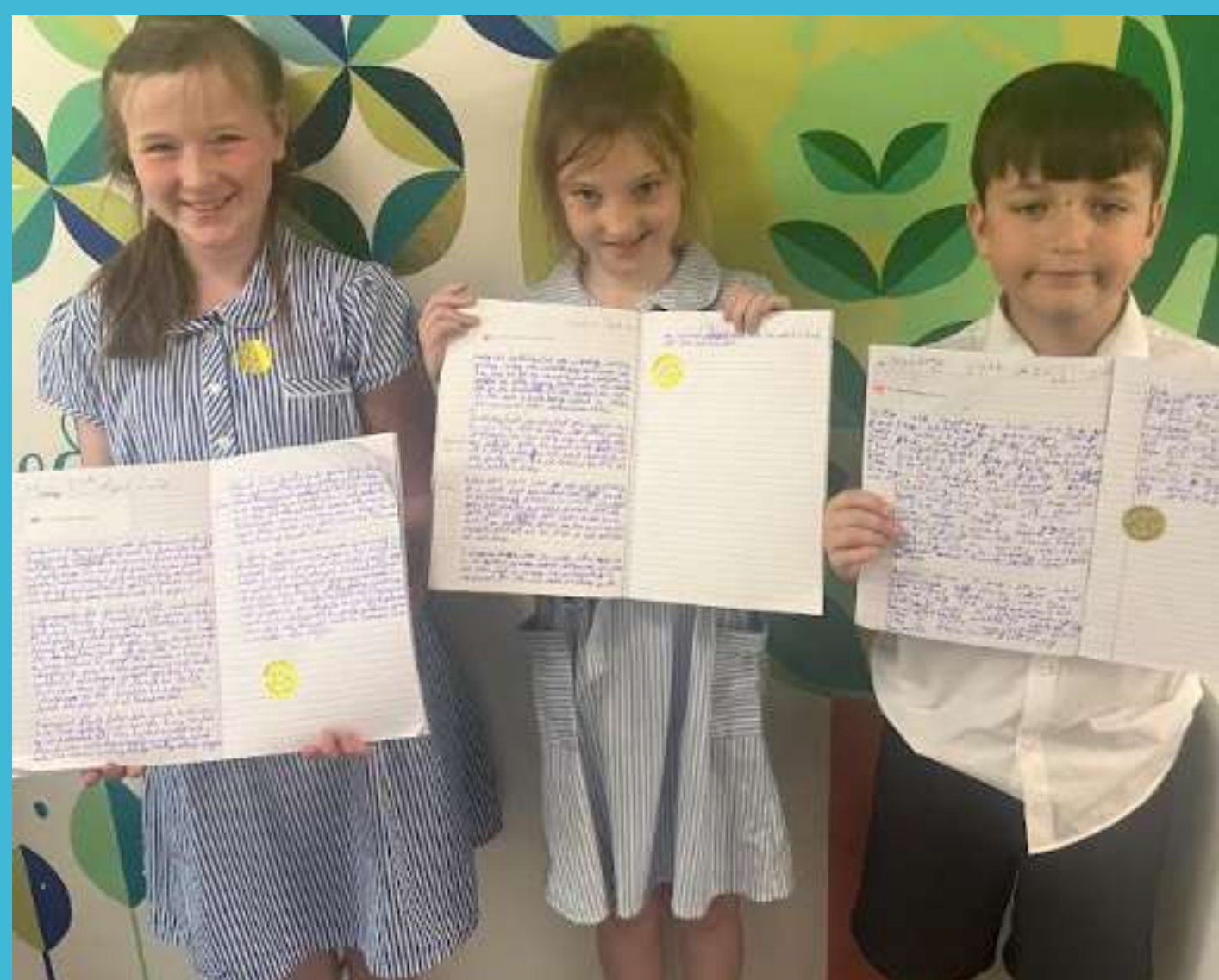


Circle books in Year 6



I had a lovely visit from Leo and Aimee in Year 6 who came to see me with their circle books, which described the different climate zones on the planet. This is linked to their current Geography topic. We are so fortunate to have teachers who are so creative in engaging our children with their learning.

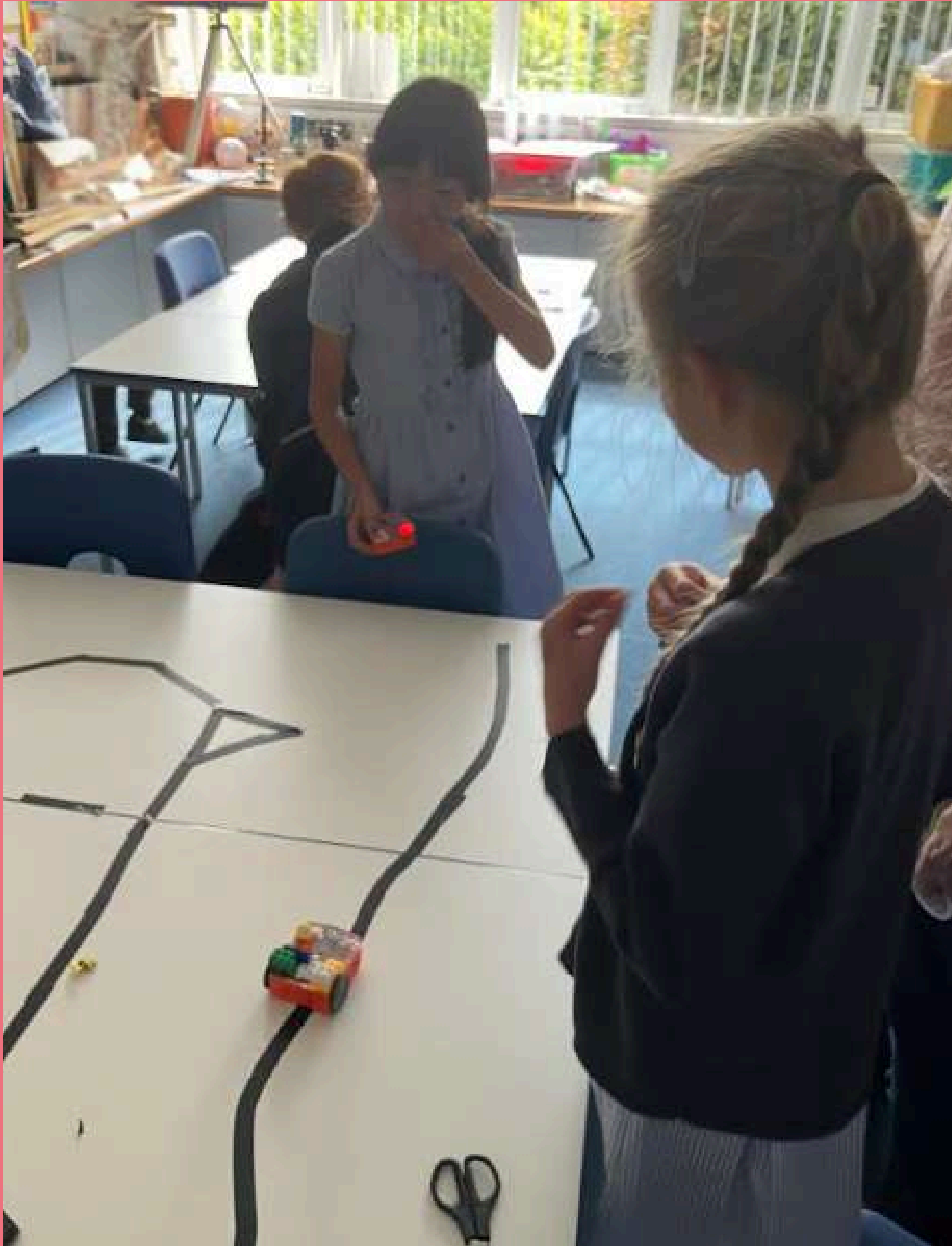
Wondrous writing!



Well done to Robyn, Olivia and Oliver in Year 4 who were sent to see me with their wonderful writing this week. The children have been writing narrative stories about a magic book which takes them to a new dimension when they open it up. Some of your vocabulary choices were fantastic Year 4. Well done!



Coding Club



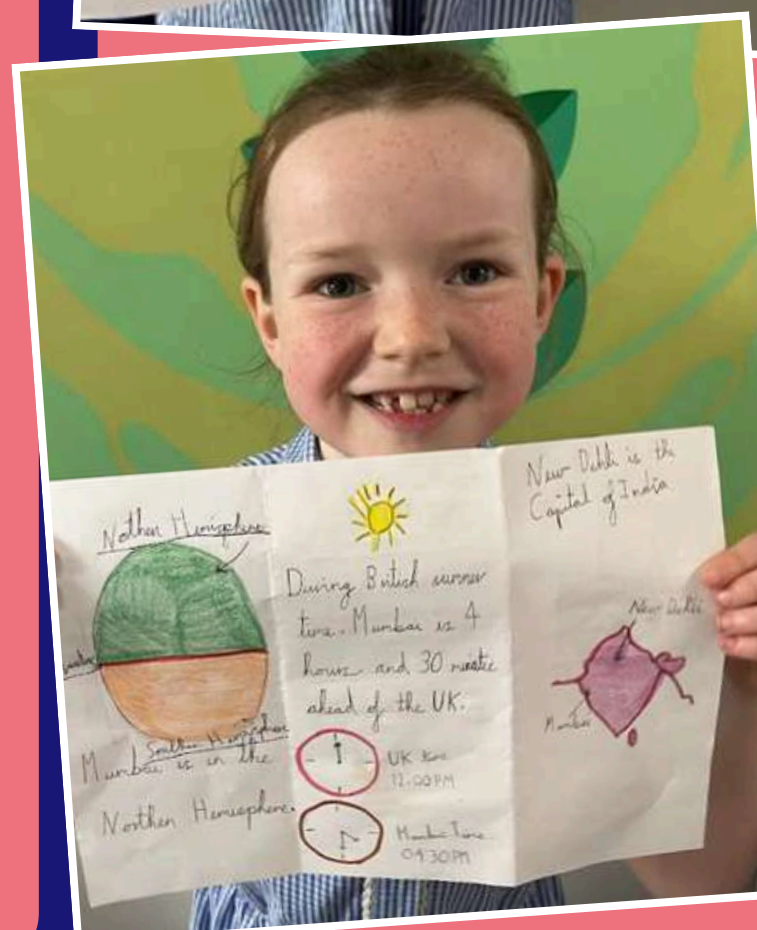
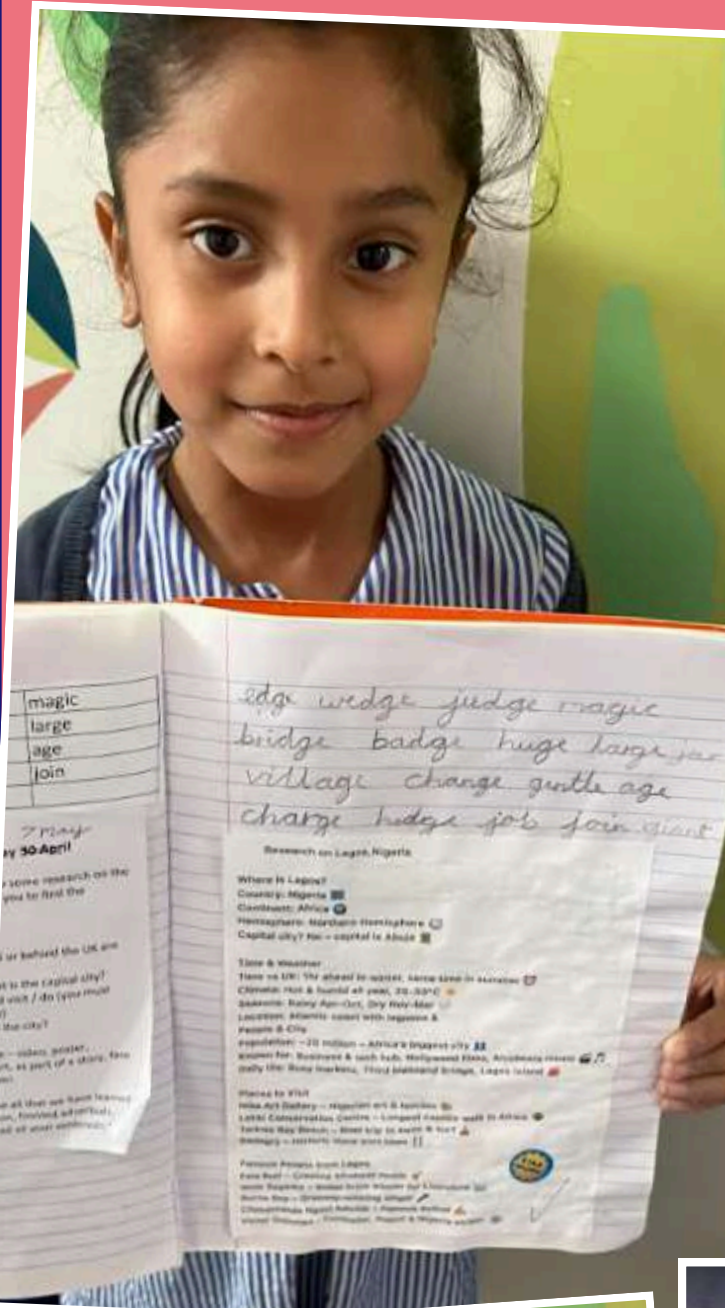
I was so impressed to see what our children were up to in Coding Club this week. They were programming robots to follow a track and giving them directions to follow. Alarming, it appeared that the robots were also capable of making their own decisions at times!!!!

It is wonderful to see our children being equipped with such useful life skills. Thank you to Mr Andrew who runs our club each week.



Homework stars!

Well done to Saira, Ted, Molly and Joshua, who were sent to see me for completing outstanding homework linked to their current Geography topic on weather. The children had to produce a weather report from a city of their choice from around the world and then research facts about that place. Ted chose Cairns in Australia, Saira chose Lagos in Nigeria and Molly chose Mumbai in India. Joshua produced the most amazing video of a weather report from Jakarta, which he recorded at home using a green screen. It was INCREDIBLE and very funny. Well done children. Completing homework to this standard shows great independence - one of our core values.





HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY

Nominate us and you could win a £100 gift card!
nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize



SCAN ME

NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens

In association with

Read
for Good

GO
ALL
IN.

#rebuildthelibrary

National
Year of
Reading
2026



Our core values

Below are our 8 core values. This term the children will be learning these and linked bible stories during phase assemblies. I have asked the children to try and learn them by heart. If your child shows these values outside school please let us know by sending an email to the office. I would love to share these examples in the weekly newsletter.



PRAYER LIFE



Please find below the prayer of the month for May. The Hail Mary is a prayer that the children should all know. Please say this prayer with your children and encourage them to learn it by heart if they don't know it already.



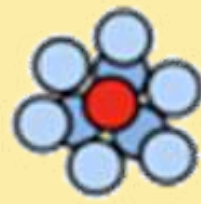
Hail Mary



Hail Mary full of grace



The Lord is with thee



Blessed art thou amongst women



and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus



Holy Mary, mother of God



Pray for us sinners



Now and at the hour of our death



Amen

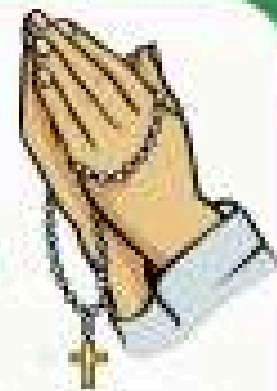
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Families of Faith

MAY

Prayer Corner



Prayers and music to consider for Mary and the month of May:

The Magnificat

Salve Regina

Hail Mary

Worship Songs



Saints to Inspire



22nd May - St Rita of Cascia

Saint Rita was born in Italy; her name means "pearl." As a child she wanted to become a nun, but her parents arranged her marriage at twelve to a man who was unkind. Through patience, prayer, and kindness, she helped him become gentler. After his death, she joined the Augustinian convent. Around 1422, a thorn from Christ's crown appeared on her forehead and remained until her death. One winter, a red rose bloomed in the garden - seen as a sign of God's love for her. She is known as the patron saint of impossible situations, especially in family life.

Family talk and challenge time:

- Why might she be holding a rose?
- Why do you think she is a patron saint of peace and protection?

Challenge:

Can you write a family prayer to St Rita?

Family Faith in Action

World Fair Trade Day - 14th May:

'Do for others what you would want them to do for you.' (Matthew 7:12)

Make a point of buying a fair-trade product this week.

Friendship Fun Day - 20th May:

Make a point of talking to someone new.

Deaf Awareness Week - 4-10 May:

Teach your parents Makaton or BSL Hail Mary

Mental Health Awareness Week - 11th - 17th May:

'Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you.' (1 Peter 5:7)

Share a positive affirmation or a simple action of kindness with someone.

Good News from the Gospel



Sunday 3rd May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Following Jesus is a way to a place in God's house.

Sunday 10th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

By following his commandments, we show love to God.

Thursday 14th May - Feast of the Ascension

We must follow God's commandments and make disciples of all nations.

Sunday 17th May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

We are protected and united as a community because Jesus prays for us.

Sunday 24th May - Pentecost Sunday

Forgive others with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 31st May - Holy Trinity

Our world is saved because God sent his son.

World Fair Trade Day - 14th May



Friendship Fun Day - 20th May

Deaf Awareness Week - 4-10th May



Mental Health Awareness Week -

11-17th May

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

Please see the attached from Dorset police. A simple way to report any concerns you may have about the local community.

Your information matters

We rely on our partners and those working with the community to help us understand local and wider issues.

Even small pieces of information can help connect the dots, support investigations and safeguard individuals.

If you come across any information such as

- anti-social behaviour
- child abuse, sexual or criminal exploitation
- community tension
- drugs and county lines
- gang activity
- modern slavery, exploited or trafficked
- sexual offending

You can safely share non-urgent information to help protect your community.

If there is immediate danger / crime in action you should still call 999.



**DORSET
POLICE**

Scan the QR code
to pass us information.





SCHOOL LIFE

Important Dates for your diary

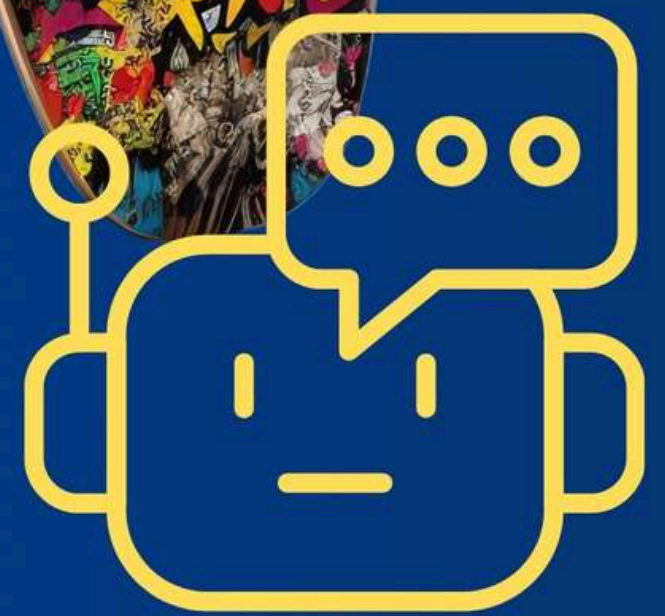
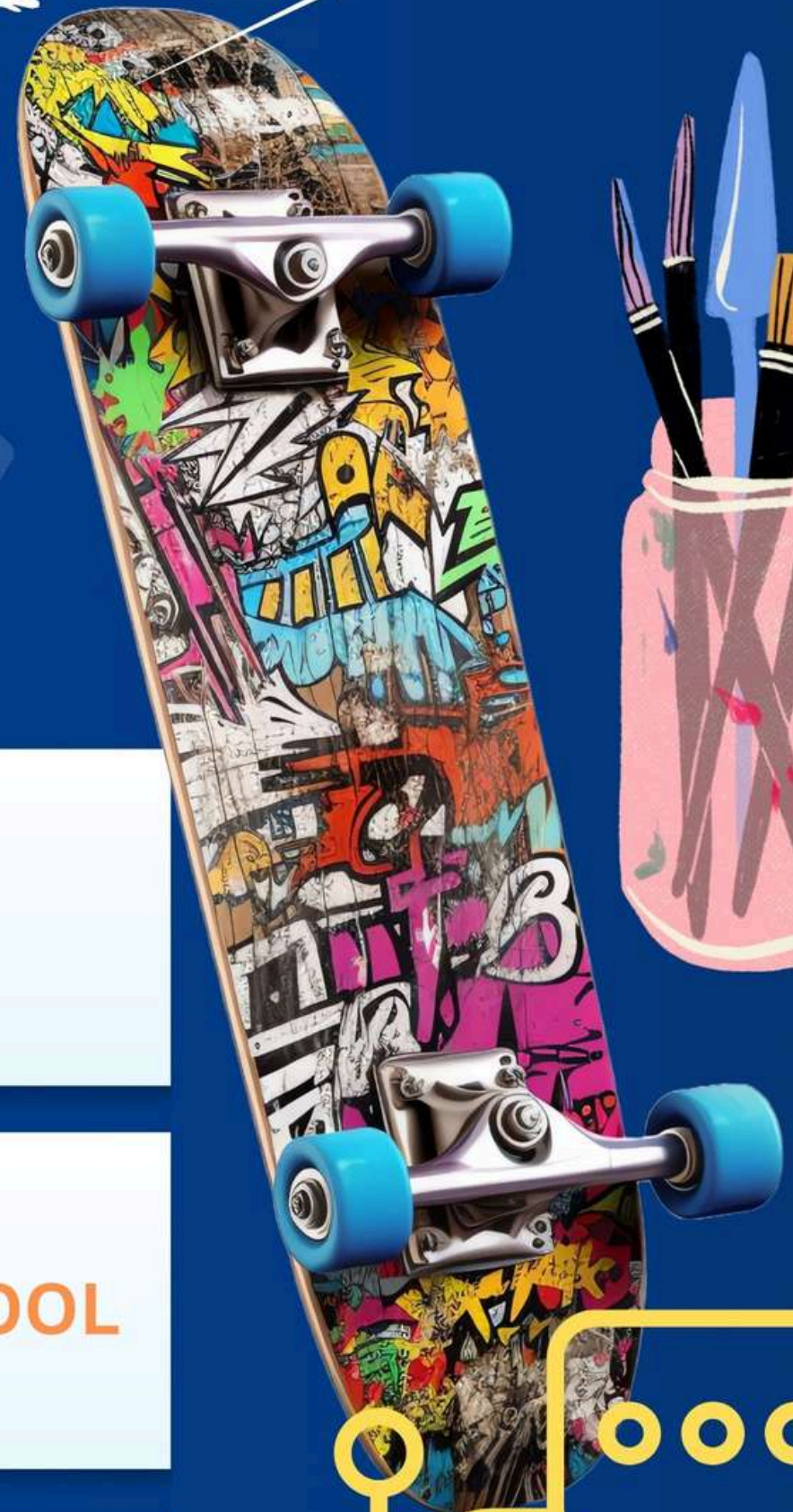
EVENT	DATE
Year 6 SATs week	Monday 11 th - Thursday 14 th May
Egypt Workshop for Year 3	Wednesday 13 th May
PTA Crazy hair day	Friday 15 th May
Year 2 Creature teachers Workshop	Monday 18 th May
Coffee Morning with the Mental Health Team	Tuesday 19 th May 9am-10am
May Procession Service in school	Tuesday 19 th May at 2pm
Ducklings class trip to Nick's Farm	Wednesday 20 th May
Half term	Mon 25 th - Fri 29 th May
PTA Film Night	Thursday 4 th June
Year 2 Trip to Stanpit Marsh	Friday 5 th June
School led Mass at St Joseph's Church	Sunday 7 th June at 9am
Year 6 Avon Tyrrell Residential trip	Monday 8 th - Friday 12 th June
Welcome Liturgy for September starters	Wednesday 10 th June, 6pm
Stay and Play sessions for September starters	Friday 12 th June
Multiplication Tables Check	Starting from Monday 1 st June
Sports Day	Tuesday 16 th June - Ducklings and KS1 (am) KS2 (pm)
Years 3,4,5,6 at 10am Parish Mass at St Joseph's Church	Wednesday 17 th June
Sports for all Day	Friday 19 th June
PTA Colour Run	Friday 19 th June
1 st Holy Communion Mass at St Joseph's	Sunday 21 st June
Year 1 class trip to Beaulieu	Friday 26 th June
Feast of St Peter and Paul	Monday 29 th June
PTA Summer Fayre - Own clothes day	Friday 3 rd July
Year 4 trip to Winchester Science Museum	Wednesday 8 th July
Year 6 play	Thursday 9 th July at 2pm and 6pm
End of year reports sent home	Friday 10 th July
Year 6 celebration Mass in school at 9.15am	Wednesday 15 th July
Rocksteady Concert	Thursday 16 th July, 9.45am
Year 6 celebration assembly	Thursday 2pm in school hall
Last day of Summer term	Friday 17 th July - 1.30pm finish



After School Clubs



Where education meets excitement! Our after-school program is designed to inspire, engage, and empower your child beyond the classroom.



MON

STARLIGHT CLUB
SKATEBOARDING CLUB

TUES

STARLIGHT CLUB
ART CLUB FOREST SCHOOL
FOOTBALL CLUB

WED

STARLIGHT CLUB
CODING CLUB

THURS

STARLIGHT CLUB
TENNIS CLUB

FRI

STARLIGHT CLUB
GYMNASTICS CLUB



Full information is available on our website, under **Parents** or scan the QR code above to be taken to our website.

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



A GUIDE TO SCREEN TIME



UNDER 5s

How to help little brains develop healthy screen habits

How much screen time should my child have?

Limit total screen time, wherever possible.

Under 2 yrs: Avoid screen time except shared activities with family that encourage bonding and interaction.

2-5 yrs: Try to keep to 1 hour a day. Less if possible.



Young children's brains are over-stimulated more easily than adults', so they need specifically tailored content.

Slow paced content: Choose content with simple stories and clear, slow speech, so emotions are easy to follow.



What content is better content?



Safe content: Use parental controls to block inappropriate, harmful material.

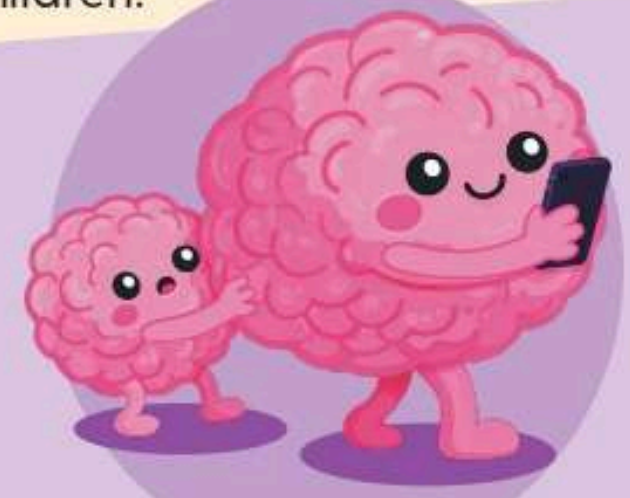
Social media: This isn't made for young brains, so it should be avoided.

AI: Don't let them use AI toys, tools, or chat-bots until we know more about their effects on children.

Safe screen swaps: Switch fast-paced style videos for slower-paced content with simple stories.

How does my screen use affect my child?

Lead by example: Children's brains are like sponges – they'll copy your screen use habits. Be mindful of how often you use screens around your child.



Set clear boundaries for screen use. This gives children time for activities and play that help them develop.

Avoid young children using screens alone. Try to keep bedrooms and mealtimes free from screens.

Why not try... watching and discussing content with your child? Conversation helps their development.



Safe screen swaps:

Mealtimes: Swap screens for music, games or conversation – make it social.

Bedtimes: Swap screens for bedtime stories 1 hour before sleep.

When and where is it okay for my child to use screens?

Children with disabilities or special educational needs may benefit from tailored screen use. And for some, assistive technology can be an important tool for communication and everyday participation.

My child has SEND. Is the advice the same for us?

They also need ample time for interaction, play, and sleep. Try to avoid screen time for these activities.



How does screen time affect my child's development?

Large amounts of screen time are linked with negative effects on children's health and development. It can affect social, emotional, language & brain development, sleep, eyesight and weight.

Young children learn best through warm interaction with parents and carers – reading, play and conversation. These early moments build the foundations for life.



SAVE THE DATE

PTA SUMMER FAYRE
FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2026
3.15-6.15PM



Easyfundraising

DID YOU KNOW? Every time you shop online you can raise donations for our school through Easyfundraising! We have already raised £1,952.57 with 101 supporters. If you haven't already signed up it's easy to join: [Easyfundraising](#) Please help support our school.



PTA COLOUR RUN
19th JUNE 2pm

Thank you! We raised £31.95



Thank you for all of the generous clothes donations today. We raised £37.95 for our school by donating 151.8 kilos of clothes for recycling, which is protecting the planet by saving all of these clothes going into landfill. Our next collection dates are:

- 14th September 2026
- 25th January 2027
- 28th May 2027

Community

JOIN US FOR A COFFEE MORNING WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM (MHST).

TUESDAY 19TH MAY | 9:00–10:00 AM
AT ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT:

- How we support children's emotional wellbeing in school
- What mental health support is available for children and families
- How school and families can work together to support wellbeing

WHY COME ALONG?

- Meet the MHST in a friendly, informal setting
- Ask questions over tea and coffee
- Share your views as part of the school's wellbeing audit
(there are no right or wrong answers)

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

- Your feedback helps the school understand what's working well and how support can be improved for all families.

Tea, coffee & biscuits provided.

No need to book – just drop in

**WE LOOK FORWARD
TO MEETING YOU**



Community



FUN IN THE FOREST

SUMMER CAMP

For ages 4 -12

6 JULY - 21 AUGUST 2026
MOYLES COURT SCHOOL, RINGWOOD

£45 per day (9 - 4 pm) | £40 per sibling per day
 £55 per extended day (8 - 5 pm)
 Childcare vouchers accepted
 5 days for the price of 4
 (when booking 5 consecutive days)




Call: 01425 472856 | www.moylescourt.co.uk





SUMMER WORKSHOP

4-16YRS

Join us as we delve into the magical Emerald City and explore the wonderful world of Oz! We will be learning our favourite songs, dances and scenes, accumulating in a performance at the end of the week!



L MONDAY 3RD - THURSDAY 6TH - AUGUST
 9.30AM - 3.30PM

LOCATION
 WINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL,
 OSWALD ROAD,
 BOURNEMOUTH

SHOWTIME!
 THURSDAY 6TH TIME TBC

£ £140 (SIBLINGS £115)
 EARLY BIRD FEE £125 (SIBLING £115)



CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

WWW.STAGECOACH.CO.UK/BOURNEMOUTH BOURNEMOUTH@STAGECOACH.CO.UK **APPLY ONLINE NOW**
 01202 238810



May 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm



Wednesday Club

High Cross Church
5:30—6:45pm
Ages 7-11
Term time only
Games And Craft Activities
Snacks and refreshments
£1.00 Per child

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