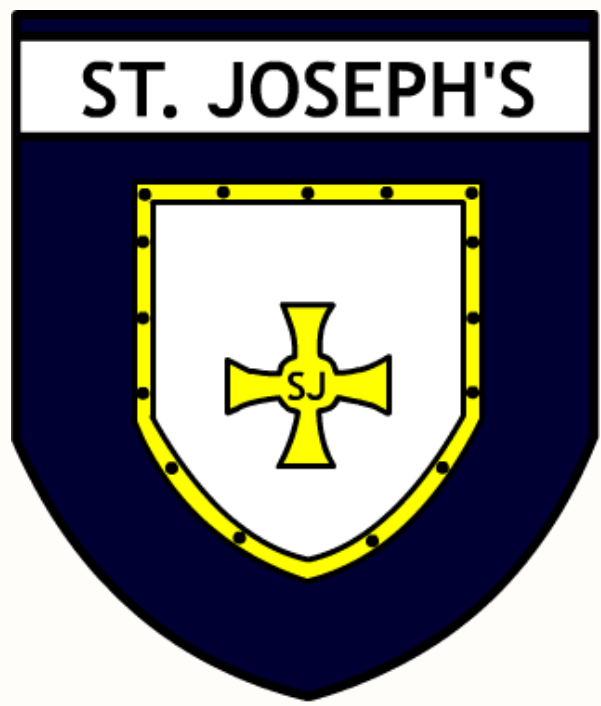




St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter 3

15.12.23

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to all the children for a great Autumn term. There have been lots of events and enrichment this last half-term, to compliment the learning taking place. These have included:

- Odd socks day to mark anti-bullying week and raise awareness around bullying;
- All Saints Mass celebrated by Father Paul;
- Opening the library up to parents and all children;
- A wonderful Art Day - you can see some of the children's work on display in the school;
- Year 5 and 6 Advent Liturgy at Church - a spiritual event which helped to prepare the community for advent;
- Year 5 and 6 Christmas carols at the Church lunch group;
- Our wonderful PTA Christmas Santa Run event;
- Mini Vinnies collected donations for Christchurch Foodbank;
- An amazing Rocksteady Concert;
- PTA Christmas discos;
- The launch of our Clean air project with Mrs Walls and Year 4;
- Our new Phiz lab;
- The PCSOs visiting KS1 to talk to the children about their role.

We have had so many positive comments from visitors about the children. I am so proud of them.

I want to say a huge thank you to my team for their dedication and hard work this term. We are really blessed with the staff at St Joseph's. We say thank you and goodbye to Mrs Dean, who leaves us at the end of this term for her new role as Assistant Principal at Jewell Academy. Mrs Dean has been an amazing teacher and colleague. She will be fantastic in her new role and we wish her every blessing. We welcome Ms Ramos as our new Ducklings teacher - she has a wealth of experience and we can't wait for her to join the team. We also say goodbye (for now) to Ms Wright, who is going on maternity leave. We wish her every blessing as she and her partner welcome their baby in January. Please keep Mrs Dean and Ms Wright in your prayers.

Finally, thank you for all your support this term. We have a strong community at St Joseph's and we value all that you do as parents to support your child in coming to school smart, on time, organised and ready to learn. The children continue to shine and are a credit to you. Wishing you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas,

"He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord." - Luke 1:14-15

Elizabeth Rippon

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

Chance to win a scooter!

We are delighted to announce that St Joseph's Catholic Primary school is one of only six schools selected to participate in BCP council's 'Clean Air Schools' project this year.

It has given our children an opportunity to get involved in a Citizen Science project led by Kate Salter, from the charity Sustrans, whose aim is to involve everyone in informing, investigating and improving the local air quality around the school.

Air pollution impacts our health, and particularly affects children, so anything we can do to reduce it will benefit us all.

During this half term Kate has been carrying out activities with the children in Year 4 and recently came in to present their findings in an assembly.

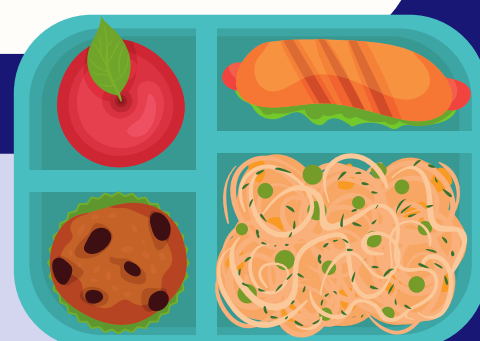
Alongside the work at school, they are running a competition with the chance to win a scooter!

Every activity that is completed will count as an entry into a prize draw.

The first of these has already been sent home. Once completed, please hand in to your class teacher.

If you need another copy of the activity, please contact the school office.

Lunch ordering



Please note that the deadline for ordering school lunches for the start of the new school term on 2nd January is 25th December.

The deadline for ordering lunches for the week commencing 8th January is 1st January.

Please do order in plenty of time as Forerunner are not able to add any orders 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)

LEARNING

Year 1

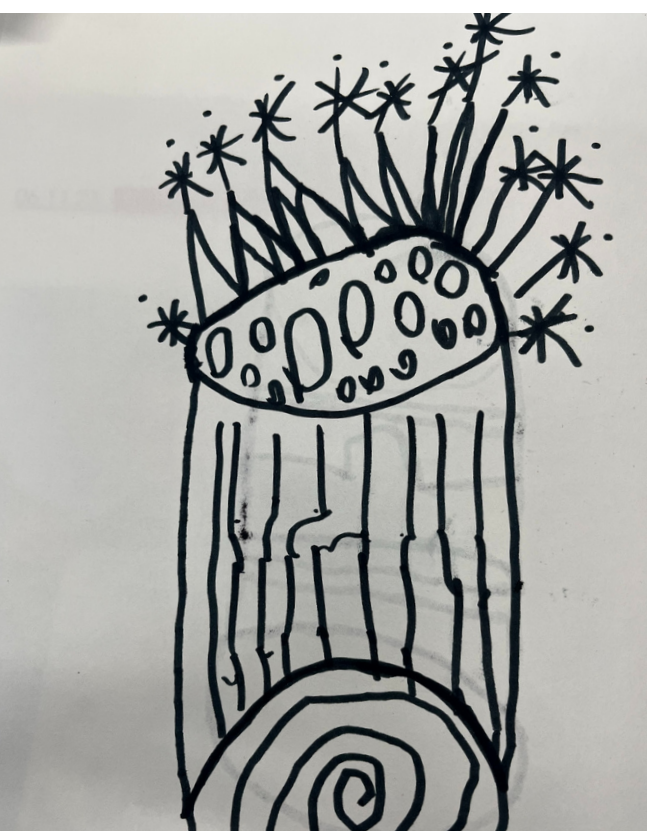
Year 1 have had a very busy half term! In art we have been using a range of materials to explore colour, pattern, texture and line. We feel their finished pieces of work are very effective!



Art and DT day

On the 28th November, the whole school chose to focus on either Art or DT in class and explore skills relating to their current Kapow Unit.

The children loved this and we were very impressed with how engaged they were with their creative learning! We had classes exploring 'installation art', colour mixing, drawing and even felt making! Year 1 did some lovely line drawings when exploring different ways to make marks - here are some examples!



Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful start to the academic year! The children have worked very hard in all learning including phonics and reading, English and Maths.

In Science we have been learning about Living things and their Habitats. The children looked at live, dead and never been alive (plastic) spiders and insect habitats. In two groups we built a fabulous bug hotel in the school garden. As we were building it, we saw lots of insects including ladybirds and woodlice already moving in!



In Art and Design and Technology we have been exploring and learning about the felt making process and designed a stable structure according to a design structure, baby bears chair! Thank you to the children for all their hard work this term.

A message from Mrs Wasmuth: "A huge thank you to all the children in Year 2. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to get to know you all. I will miss teaching you all and I look forward to hearing all about your progress this year."



Year 3

Year 3 worked really hard on learning their lines, the songs and their moves for the Christmas play. They had lots of fun and really loved performing with Years 1, 2 and 4 in front of their families at the 3 performances.

Mrs Whyte and the rest of the team were so proud seeing them up there on the stage. Now that the hard work is done we wish all the families at home a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Year 5 & 6 Advent Service

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed a lovely evening of song and reflection at St Joseph's Church on Thursday 7th December for the annual Advent Service. The children were wonderful in their performances and gave a truly memorable start to the Christmas celebrations for parents and extended families. Well done to the Year 5 and 6 children.



Our Amazon Book Wish List

Thank you to everyone who has bought a book from our Amazon Wish List and sent it to school. At St. Joseph's, we think reading is so important and want the children to have access to as many high quality texts as possible. If you would like to buy a book for our children at our school, please choose one of the books on our list. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you. <https://t.ly/ELO9c>



SENDiass want to hear your views

SENDiass will be closed over the holidays so their replies may take a little longer than normal over the Christmas and New Year period, They will otherwise be open for normal days and times:

Monday 25/12/23 Closed
Tuesday 26/12/23 Closed
Wednesday 27/12/23 Open
Thursday 28/12/23 Open
Friday 29/12/23 Open
Monday 01/01/24 Closed
Tuesday 02/01/24 Open

SENDiass would like some feedback from parents or pupils who have made use of their information, or tried to access their information, as well as any pupils or parents who have made more in-depth use of their advice and support – this is so that they can make sure that they are reaching out to people in the ways that are most useful. Please take the short survey by clicking this link: <https://sendiass4bcp.org/2023/12/08/sendiass4bcp-ways-of-working/>

Support

Please read our monthly e-safety newsletters which are on our website: <https://www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/e-safety-1/>

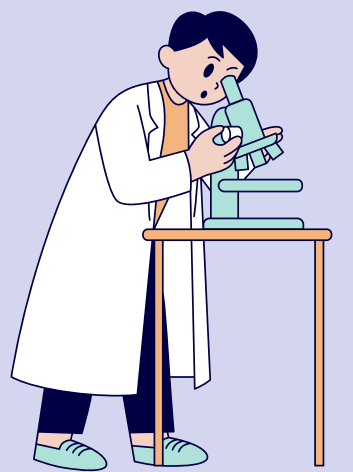
Please note that there is a navigator drop in at Somerford Hub Friday 22nd December morning. For more information about the Somerford Hub please visit their website: <https://fid.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/family-information-directory/directory/childrens-centres/centre-details/family-hub-at-somerford>

Vote for our science lab!

We are delighted to announce that from mid-January, you will be able to vote for our new Phiz Lab in Tesco stores to help us secure funding from the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme. The voting will run until the end of March 2024.

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction. Please cast your vote by putting the token in the voting unit. The funding will help us to buy essential equipment for our science lab to further the learning opportunities for our children. Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on our project. Thank you in advance for your support!

- Lymington High Street SO41 9AP
- New Milton BH25 6BP
- Lymington South Street SO41 8GN
- Lyndhurst Express SO43 7BH
- Brockenhurst Express SO42 7RB
- Old Milton Road Express BH25 6DN
- 5381 Highcliffe Express BH23 5HD



Astronomy Club

A reminder that we still have places on our new Astronomy after-school club with Vantage Education for pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. It will cover an Introduction to Astronomy, our solar system, using binoculars & telescopes, Earth from space, our sun and our moon.



It will start from Wednesday 3rd January 2024, for six weeks, concluding on Wednesday 7th February 2024, for an hour after school at a cost of £6 per session per pupil, £36 for the course.

If your child would like to take part please see the Parentmail sent out with the registration form. If you are interested and need a registration form please email admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk

Starlight Club

A reminder that if you need wraparound care before or after school you can book a place at our Starlight Club.

Please see our website for times and prices:

<https://www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/starlight-club-breakfast-and-after-school-club/>

Please book and pay online for places via Magic Booking, using this link: <https://stjosephs.magicbooking.co.uk/>

We are a centre of excellence!

We are delighted to announce that St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Leadership Skills Foundation Centre of Excellence!

Richard Norman, Chief Executive of the Leadership Skills Foundation told us:

"We are always inspired by your hard work to provide so many leadership opportunities for young people and how you have embedded this into your culture and the experiences you provide for so many.

"St. Joseph's stood out against all other applicants for the integration of Year 5 Sports Leaders with engaging peers and building the confidence to talk about their life skills. Becoming a Centre of Excellence is highly competitive, and we only seek to recognise the top 1-2% of our 2,500 centres. As such, we feel truly privileged to work with you and thank you for all you and your colleagues to help young people Believe, Lead, and Succeed."



Cost of living support

If you child is pupil premium eligible, you will have received the Wonde food vouchers for the Christmas holiday period. If you think you may be eligible and would like to apply for free school meals, please contact the school office.

Just as importantly, there is other support available for Cost of Living issues including:

- Website: <https://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/costofliving>
- Household Support Grants administered through Citizen's Advice BCP - Next round of applications open Monday 15 January until Friday 9 February 2024
- Household Support Fund - Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole (citizensadvicebcp.org.uk).
- Ridgewater Energy provides advice and assistance to any of our residents in fuel poverty. They can assess your eligibility for various schemes and grants, and can help you with expert energy saving advice to help lower your energy bills, insulation grants and free energy saving products. Home | Ridgewater Energy.
- Warm welcome spaces - Find friendly, welcome spaces in your local community where you can meet others, take part in activities, get a warm drink or meal, find out about cost of living support services or spend some quiet time away from your home.
- We have produced a map of local welcome spaces, including places of worship, community centres, libraries and cafes. <https://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/costofliving>

Important Dates

EVENT	DATE
Early finish for Christmas	Friday 15th December, 1.20pm
Return to school	Tuesday 2nd January
Exploring the Christian Faith course	Friday 5th, 12th, 19th January, 9am
Polly Bartlett Performance at school, Years 2-6	Thursday 18th January
Scholastic Book Fair after school	Tuesday 6th February - Friday 9th February
HALF TERM	Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

INSET Days 2023-24

Friday 22nd March 2024, Friday 21st June 2024