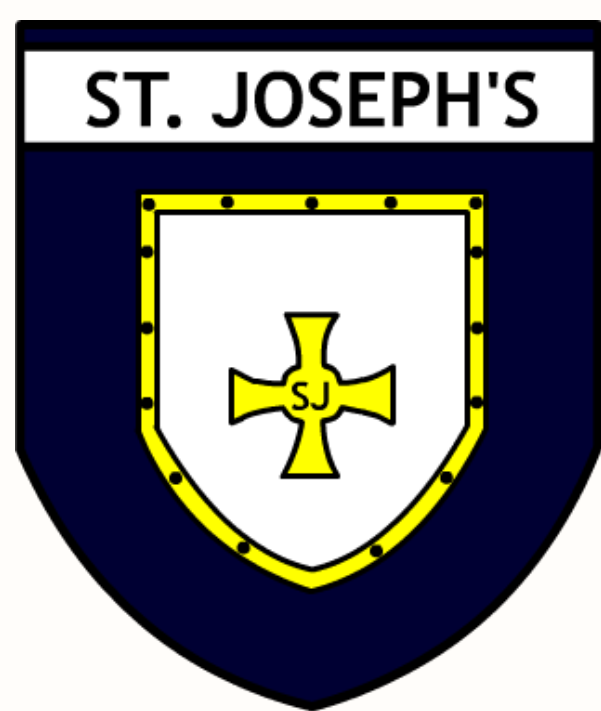
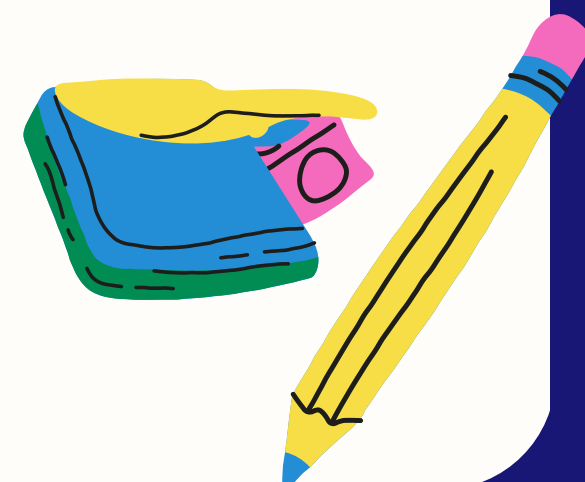




St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter 6

31.3.23



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy Spring Term at St Joseph's: Space Camp, Science Fairs, Sports Events, STEM days, not to mention our teaching and learning! The children and staff are all ready for a well-deserved Easter Break. Thank you for your support with the morning school drop-off system, this term. It is much more successful and safer. We are still pursuing a zebra crossing outside the school so please support this by emailing BCP to raise this as an urgent request: TEnghelpdesk@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Sadly, we are experiencing an increasing number of incidents of verbal abuse, rudeness and disrespect towards staff. Please can we all aim to be more positive. We are aware that we are all living in challenging times, however, in order for my dedicated staff team to be at their best for your children, a reminder that in our Parent Code of Conduct, it states that we expect all parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues

In this season of rebirth, may we feel our faith renewed and our hearts made new with the hope Easter brings. Wishing you all a blessed and peaceful Easter.

God bless, Elizabeth Rippon
Headteacher

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

School Uniform and PE Kits

We seem to have a range of colourful socks being worn by the children - these are not part of our school uniform. Please ensure your child has the correct coloured grey socks (boys) or white / grey socks or navy tights for girls. Thank you for your cooperation.

Staff News

Farewell Ms Hopkins: It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that our wonderful Ducklings teaching assistant, Ms Hopkins, will be leaving at the end of this week. She has been a valued member of the St Joseph's team for 11 years. We keep her in our prayers. Ms Cheeseborough who works in the afternoons, will now be the Ducklings full-time teaching assistant.

Welcome back! This week we welcomed back Miss Fox, who has returned from maternity leave. She will be joining Mrs Wilson in Year 1, taking over from Mrs Corallo who will be finishing as class teacher this week. Mrs Corallo will still be coming into school as a supply teacher so she will still be part of our lovely teaching staff.

Our new SENDCO

"Thank you to everyone who has made me so welcome during my first half term. It is a privilege to work with such a fantastic team who are committed to ensuring every pupil fulfils their potential and most importantly the wonderful children.



I have been working in education for over 25 years in a wide variety of roles and schools, most recently in a specialist unit for pupils with complex communications needs, Autism and ADHD. My usual working days are Mondays and Fridays. Please come and say hi when I'm on the gate and get in touch if you would like to discuss your child's needs. I wish you all a peaceful Easter break." Sarah Sparks

Attendance heroes

Our Attendance Incentive is well under way! Every week a class wins 'Best Attendance of the Week' and/or 'Most improved Attendance of the Week'. A certificate is then displayed on the appropriate classroom door for the week, along with the winning classes also being displayed in the hall. The classes that have won the most times at the end of term receive a class treat!

There are also lots of certificates going out to children who are making a real effort to improve their attendance with the support of their families. So far the leaders of Best Attendance are Year 6, and Most Improved is Year 1 and Year 2 in joint position. We have one more week to go so this could all change!

Attendance is important. Statistics show that regular attendees make better progress, both socially and academically.



Our attendance motto: 'H.E.R.O' 'Here Everyday Ready Ontime'

Important Dates



Event	Date
KS1 SATS	Taking place the whole of May
Whole school celebrating the King's Coronation	Thursday 4th May
KS2 SATS	Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May
Year 5 Assembly	Friday 12th May at 2.30pm
Avon Tyrrell Parents Information Evening	Monday 15th May at 3.30pm
Walk to School Week	Monday 15th to Friday 19th May
Half Term	Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June
Sports Day	Wednesday 28th June
Whole School trip to Moors Valley	Thursday 29th June
Year 6 Leavers' Mass	Thursday 6th July at 1.30pm
Year 6 Leavers' Play	Thursday 13th July, 1.30pm and 6pm
Year 6 Leavers' Party	Friday 14th July, 6-8pm
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (for parents)	Tuesday 18th July at 2pm

INSET Days 2023

Monday 8th May 2023 - Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation; Friday 21st July 2023; Friday 1st September 2023

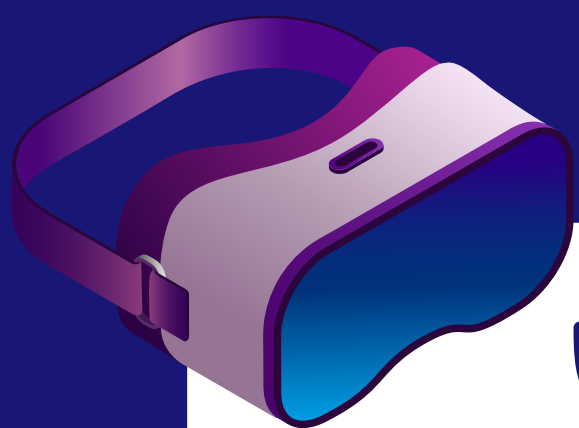
PTA Update - fundraising success and Summer Fayre

RACE NIGHT: We had an amazing turnout at our Race Night fundraiser on 17th March! Thank you to everyone who attended. After a night filled with racing, pizza and much laughter the Year 6 fundraising team raised a fantastic £1,000 for the Year 6 leavers! Thank you to Dee and the Year 6 team for organising.

CLOTHING COLLECTION: Thank you to everyone who donated clothes for our recycling project with Rags 2 Riches 4 Schools. Thanks to everyone's efforts we raised a fantastic £107!

GET INVOLVED: If you would like to help with our fabulous fundraising events, please feel free to come along to our meetings. Our next PTA meeting is being held on Tuesday April 18th at 6pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

DATE FOR THE DIARY: Our Summer Fayre this year is going to be held on Friday 23rd June, 4-7pm. This is a fantastic event with an amazing family atmosphere. Please do come along and experience the fun of the fair with our St Joseph's school family.



LEARNING

Virtual reality

What an amazing day KS2 children at St Joseph's had on Friday 3rd March. Keith Cox, from Bloc Digital, visited school and introduced the children to a whole new world of technology that they had never heard of, or experienced, before.

They were able to wander through a newly designed house and swim under the ocean with turtles and jellyfish using VR technology. They drew all over the hall in 3D with augmented reality and explored the planets in a mixed reality world. The awe and wonder the tech created that you could see on their faces was joyful to see.

- "I have never had so much fun at school." Ted, Year 3
- "It was an amazing opportunity to experience all the things we did. I never in a million years through I would be under the sea swimming with turtles and huge jellyfish." Niamh, Year 4.
- "It was a really fun day and inspired me to be the best I can be because of Keith's journey to developing technological solutions." Logan, Year 6.

Science Fair



Our annual Science Fair was a huge success with children from Years 3-5 amazing us again with their fantastic investigations. We had everything from static electricity, pollution and environmental investigations, food technology and studies of living things and their habitats. The children all spoke enthusiastically about their investigations and their scientific vocabulary impressed the visiting classes and governors.

Space Camp

On Wednesday 8th February, Year 2 took part in Space Camp! The children stayed overnight in school, sleeping in sleeping bags and tents, and everyone was so well behaved! The children all got to sleep quickly and enjoyed listening to space stories, watching a space movie and even had hot chocolate and popcorn before bed! Year 2 were absolutely incredible and we wish we could do it all again with them all! Well done Space Campers!

Our library makeover



Reading is so important to us at St. Joseph's and we want to foster a love of reading in the children. We are very fortunate having a library in school. For the past few months, it has been undergoing a complete makeover, with new furniture and lots of new books. Our Year 6 librarians have been busy scanning all of the books into our new software, Libresoft.

We hope to have the library open to the children again after Easter and hope it will be a place where they will want to come and read books. I know that lots of children are very excited to start using it. Thank you to the PTA for funding the books and Libresoft. Thank you also to the Clingan Trust for funding £1,000 of new books for our library and classes.

Measuring

Year 1 has been busy learning about measurement and mass in our maths lessons. We have learned lots more about scales and used language 'lightest' and 'heaviest' with more confidence. Here are some of our boys using cubes to find classroom items of the same length during a session where we focused upon measuring length.



Longdown Dairy Farm



The Ducklings had a wonderful time at Longdown Dairy Farm and were so beautifully behaved. They fed calves, goat kids and held chicks and guinea pigs. All of the children had so much fun and one child even found a goose egg!

Stormbreak

Children (and some adults) may find it useful to "scale" any problems that may arise over the holidays. We all face challenges from time-to-time. Deciding where that challenge sits within a 5 point scale can be useful. Some Stormbreak activities, that you may find helpful are available on Youtube.

How Big is My Problem?

5	Emergency	
You need help from an adult e.g. fire, someone needs to go to the hospital, danger etc.		
4	Gigantic problem	
You can change this with a lot of help e.g. someone hurting you, hitting, bullying etc.		
3	Medium problem	
You can change with some help e.g. having to work with someone you don't like, someone takes something of yours, you have to do something you don't want to do etc.		
2	Little problem	
You can change with a little reminder e.g. not being first in line, not taking turns, not winning a game etc.		
1	Glitch	
You can fix this yourself e.g. getting changed for PE, forgetting a favourite toy, cleaning up etc.		

twinkl

Walk of Fame - Top 10!

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	
1.	Canford Heath Junior School
2.	Mudford Community Infants' School
3.	Mudford Junior School
4.	Avonwood Primary School
5.	Courthill Infant School
6.	St Walburga's Catholic Primary School
7.	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Christchurch
8.	Winton Primary School
9.	St Luke's Church of England Primary School
10.	Christchurch Junior School

WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge
WALK OF FAME TOP 10
SPRING 2023 #WOWWalkOfFame

We are pleased to announce that we finished in the top 10 in the local leaderboard for the Walk to School Challenge throughout February. What a fantastic achievement. Well done to all the children (and parents!) for their extra efforts walking, cycling, scootering or park and striding to school!

Parish updates

At A Glance

- 2 April Palm Sunday, Craft Session After Mass
- 6 April Maundy Thursday Service 8pm
- 7 April Children's Stations of the Cross,
- 8 April Easter Vigil
- 9 April Easter Sunday Mass 9am
- 16 April No Children's or Youth Liturgy
- 21 April Youth Club Juniors, Youth Club

EASTER CRAFT SESSION, 2nd April: After Mass on Palm Sunday, there will be a special family craft session in the Parish Centre from 10am. There will be card making, stone painting, Easter basket making, and lots more, including hot cross buns! This session is suitable for everyone so stay on and join in!

CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 7th April: On Good Friday, at 10:30am, there will be a very special Stations of the Cross aimed at the younger members of our congregation, which is always very powerful and moving. It will start at 10:30am in the Church and all are welcome.

PARISH YOUTH CLUB/JUNIORS, 21st April: Due to the Easter break there is only one session for our seniors this month so make sure you come along and join in. The senior youth club is for young people in years 7 and above and is in the Parish Centre from 7pm until 9pm. You don't need to book, but if you have not joined in before then please contact email Emma on familiesandyouth@icsj.org.uk to complete a registration form.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Friday 5th May, 6pm - 8pm
Family Coronation Party - all welcome.
More details to follow soon!



Dorset Road, Somerford,
Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 3DA
admin@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk
01202 485976