

St Joseph's School

2nd May 2025 Newsletter



The children all had a wonderful picnic this afternoon with their buddies celebrating the end of the reading challenge. All the children were able to share stories and eat delicious sandwiches and cookies. It was wonderful to see so many children complete the challenge this year!

**Together we grow
in God's love,
learning to be the
best we can be.**

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Dear parents and carers,

It has been a wonderful start to the summer term. We have been blessed with beautiful weather, and it's lovely to see the children enjoying the field at lunchtime.

Following the sad news of the passing of Pope Francis, the children have each taken part in a quiet reflection in class, learning about his life and offering prayers in gratitude for his many years of devoted service.

Unfortunately, we have experienced some issues with the swimming pool, which has understandably been disappointing for the children. However, I'm pleased to share that engineers have been working on the problem this week, and swimming lessons should resume as normal next week. We are currently arranging times for any missed lessons to be rescheduled.

Year 6 are busily preparing for their SATs tests, which take place on the 12th May. They have worked incredibly hard all year, and we are extremely proud of the dedication and effort they have shown in their learning.

Martin Maloney
Headteacher

Upcoming dates for the diary!

May

2nd – Reading picnic
12th– Sats week begins
16th Night Owls in school
20th Taster Cricket day Y1-6
22nd LIFT session -Reading
26th -30th Half term

June

9th Science week
20th Inset day
23rd Spirituality Week
27th LIFT Session- Maths

July

1st Liturgy 9.30 am
18th End of term

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Herford Museum Year 1

Year 1 had a wonderful time at the Hertford Museum. We learnt all about Nelly (the daughter of the creator of Hertford Museum) and the toys she used to play with. We explored lots of different toys and thought about what they were made of. We noticed a lot of older toys were made of wood, then they started being made out of metal and then finally plastic. Year 1 were fantastic ambassadors for St Josephs, asking lots of questions and making sure we were respectful inside the museum- Well done Year 1!



Notes from the SENCO

Welcome back everyone. I hope that you all had a restful Easter and are enjoying the warmer weather.
 Updates

Although the input from PINS has finished for this year in terms of the lovely Elaine coming in for coffee mornings. I am keen to carry on this opportunity for parents to come together. From speaking to parents, the timing of the meetings seems to have been a barrier for many and I wanted to propose an afterschool meeting. The first of these would be on Thursday 22nd May at 5pm in the school hall. Please let me know if you would be interested and also topics that you would like covered, there will be cake!

I can be contacted by phone through the school office or by email on senco@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk
 Have a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend
 Rachel Mayes

This week, the Nursery children have been measuring their hands, arms and feet using cubes.





Reception News

This half term our topic in Reception is all about castles, knights and dragons! The children have been painting pictures for our class display, writing about an imaginary dragon and enjoying the castle role-play area.



Gold Book Winners

Well done to all our Gold book winners this week:

- R: Lois
- Y1: Whole class
- Y2: Eddie
- Y3: Oliver
- Y4: Izzy
- Y5: Daniel
- Y6: Gabriella

Year 4 News Roald Dahl Museum

Year 4 loved their trip to the Roald Dahl Museum in Great Missenden this week. They explored the 'Boy' and 'Solo' galleries and then had an editing workshop in The Story Centre. The children engaged in a wide range of activities to find out more about Dahl and the writing process he went through. Some books took him almost 2 years to edit.





Year 2 Scooterbility

On Tuesday 29th April,
Year 2 took part in Scooterbility.

They learnt about being safe on their scooters, the importance of wearing a helmet and how to use the brake. Sarah (the teacher) complimented the children on their brilliant behaviour and contributions to the session. The children had a great time and as you can see from the pictures, they had a glorious day to Scoot!



Pope Francis



As a school we give thanks for the example given to us by Pope Francis during his lifetime. We ask that God our Father will bless us with the gifts of courage, wisdom, compassion and understanding so that we too may live out our lives in the same dedicated determination as did Pope Francis to the teachings of Jesus.



Prayer

Dear Lord,
We come before you with heavy hearts, remembering, Pope Francis, your faithful servant. We thank you for the many years he dedicated spreading your love and guiding Your church. We pray that you welcome him into your eternal embrace, where he may experience the fullness of your peace and joy.
Lord, we ask you to grant Pope Francis eternal rest and peace in your heavenly kingdom. Comfort all who mourn his passing. Fill their hearts with your love and strength and help them to remember the example of faith and kindness that Pope Francis gave to the world.
We ask that you help us to find the light in the darkness to carry on our pilgrimage of hope and Pope Francis' good work.
AMEN

As part of our reflection upon the life, role model and example of Pope Francis, all members of our school community, both staff and students, have used the enclosed PowerPoint to guide our discussions and prayer. In keeping with the teachings of Pope Francis, our final reflection considered what our commitment to our community (build bridges, not walls), the environment (our common home), and to prayer (prayer opens the door to hope) might be.

Have a great weekend!