



Attendance

At St Joseph's school, we believe in developing good patterns of attendance and set high expectations for the attendance and punctuality for all our pupils.

If your child is unwell and will not be attending school please contact the school on the first day of absence before 9.00 am, when our register closes;

- The school has an answer phone available to leave a message if nobody is available to take your call, or you may call into school personally and speak to the office staff. Please be aware that, if you leave a voicemail to report your child's absence, you may receive a call from the school so that HCC SAPT Statutory Attendance –Attendance Policy September 2024 we may discuss the absence before deciding as to whether the absence is to be recorded as authorised.

Contact the school on every further day of absence, again before 9.00 am.

Unauthorised absence includes, (however this list is not exhaustive):

- parents/carers keeping children off school unnecessarily e.g. because they had a late night or for non-infectious illness or injury that would not affect their ability to learn.
- absences which have never been properly explained.
- children who arrive at school after the close of registration are marked using a 'U'. This indicates that they are in school for safeguarding purposes, however, is counted as an absence for the session.
- shopping trips.
- looking after other children or children accompanying siblings or parents to medical appointments.
- their own or family birthdays.
- holidays taken during term time, not deemed 'for exceptional purposes' by the headteacher, including any arranged by other family members or friends.
- day trips.
- other leave of absence in term time which has not been agreed.

School Library Hub

FOSJ, the governors and I have been working behind the scenes on developing the new library hub. We want this to be a bright, warm, and welcoming space to encourage individual and group reading across the school, throughout the school day. Thank you to everyone involved in all the fundraising activities to date. Ensuring that the hub is safe and fit for purpose is our highest priority. To this end, we have been working closely with our building consultants to evaluate the most effective way forward and are reviewing options. We look forward to providing you with an update before the end of the Spring Term.

Prayer cards

All children have been given a prayer card to take home to mark the beginning of the Jubilee Year, *Pilgrims of Hope*. This prayer, created in collaboration with Missio, serves as a meaningful way to reflect on the Jubilee's message. We encourage you to take time over the next year to share this prayer as a family, keeping the spirit of the Jubilee alive in our hearts and minds.

Dance group

On Monday 10th February a group of children took part in a dance festival at Sele School. Mrs Edwards helped the children create a dance for the theme 'Around the World' and the children then performed brilliantly on the night and again to the rest of the school the following day!



Gold book winners

YR: Alfie

Y1: Sive

Y2: Aila

Y3: Keira

Y4: Libby and Ava

Y5: Whole class

Y6: Sam

Little Blue Van Ofsted Report

Little Blue Van recently had their Ofsted inspection. If you would like to read the report please click on the following link, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/16/2700515>. Throughout the report little Blue Van is referred to as an 'Early Years Setting'. This is because they are registered under the Early Years Ofsted register in addition to the childcare registers.

FOSJ Mother's Day & Someone Special

FOSJ will be hosting a Mother's Day & Someone Special craft session.

KS1 - 19th March 3:15pm - 4:15pm

KS2 – 21st March 3:15pm - 4:15pm

The session will cost £5 per child and you can book your child's place via School gateway. When booking, please include the number of children you are paying for and if it is a Mother's Day or Someone Special craft you would like in the comments box. For further details please refer to the email sent earlier to today and if you have any questions please contact your class rep.

School pick up

We understand that on rare occasions there are reasons that prevent parents from collecting children at 3.15pm. We ask that if this is the case that parents inform the school in a timely fashion. As a school we do not have the ability to book children into afterschool club. This must be done directly with LBV and must be done prior to 3.15pm.

Free slow cooking sessions

Community Alliance are offering free slow cooker sessions on a budget. Please see flyer for more details.

Booking your child's lunch via Swift Kitchen

Please book your child's lunch via swift kitchen if your child is having school lunch. There are a large number of children receiving school lunch with no booking. To help avoid food waste and disappointed children, please book their lunch by 8:30am every morning. You can also book a term in advance.

Afterschool Club – Little Blue Van

As the afterschool club is run by an external company, the school cannot book children into the club. Please contact Little Blue Van directly, on 07770 963701/07790 444704 or by email, martin@littlebluevan.co.uk

New Term dates for 2025/2026

The new term dates for 2025/2026 are now available of the school website. Please us the following link: [Term Dates | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)

Term dates for 2024/2025

These are now available on our website. Please use the following link:

[Term Dates | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School \(stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk\)](#)

School email addresses

Breakfast Club - diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk

Absences, illness, medical appointments, collection of children, lunches - diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk

Breakfast Club queries - diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk

General enquiries not listed above – admin@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk

Slow Cooking ON A BUDGET

Community Alliance
BROXBOURNE & EAST HERTS

Prepare budget-friendly healthy meals with Community Alliance, join us for Slow Cooking on a Budget for **FREE!**

For four weeks, we will show you how to minimise food waste and make the most of your ingredients. **FREE slow cooker is provided.**

Happening on Wednesdays on the dates below:

- 19th February 2025
- 26th February 2025
- 5th March 2025
- 12th March 2025

Morning session: 09:30am - 12:30pm
Afternoon session: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Location: Skills & Learning Centre
67 Fore Street, Hertford,
SG14 1AL

To book email sarah@communityalliancebeh.org.uk
Please state in your email your dietary requirements and whether you are attending the morning or afternoon session

STEP SKILLS
Multiply

Healthy hub
East Herts

Dates

Here are some dates for your diary for the Spring term. You will receive more information for some of the events nearer the time.

February

- ❖ 17th - 21st Half Term
- ❖ 24th Return to school
- ❖ 26th LIFT Maths cancelled

March

- ❖ 5th Ash Wednesday Mass 11am parents and carers welcome
- ❖ 6th World Book Day (more information to follow)
- ❖ W/C 17th Travelling Book Fair (more information to follow)
- ❖ 19th St Joseph's Day Mass 11am parents and carers welcome
- ❖ 26th LIFT Reading

April

- ❖ 4th End of Term collection at 1:15pm
- ❖ 7th - 21st Easter Holidays
- ❖ 22nd Return to school
- ❖ 23rd LIFT Maths

May

- ❖ 22nd LIFT Reading
- ❖ 26th - 30th Half Term

Please note that these dates maybe subject to change.

Please read your newsletter weekly to be informed of any changes