



### **Gold book winners**

YR: Reggie  
Y1: Nova  
Y2: Josiah  
Y3: Frankie  
Y4: Whole class  
Y5: Ezra  
Y6: Daniel

### **Last weeks winners**

YR: Olivia  
Y1: Christopher  
Y2: Isabella V  
Y3: Cali-Mai  
Y4: Abel  
Y5: Mason  
Y6: Alfie

### **Polling Station Day**

As you may be aware, our school will be used as a polling station on Thursday 7th May. As a result, there will be some temporary changes to drop-off and pick-up arrangements to ensure the safety of all pupils.

**Nursery** - Children should enter and leave via the main reception (through the school office). Drop-off will be at 9:00am and collection at 12:00pm. **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** - Children should use the Year 2 classroom entrance. Parents and carers are asked to wait in the KS1 playground. Please note that access via the Twitchel path will be closed for the entire day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. We understand that changes to usual routines can be inconvenient, but these arrangements allow the school to remain open while maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

### **Mary Pray in May**

Thank you for the amazing success your charity week brought. In total across the Trust we raised £6,938.00 for Mary's Meals. This money will feed 362 children for a Year.

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/news/pray-in-may-for-hungry-children-around-the-world>

Since its humble beginnings, Mary's Meals – named in honour of Mary, the mother of Jesus – has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love offered by those who believe in its mission.

During May, we're inviting churches, schools and individuals across the country to join us to [Pray In May](#) for the children who eat our life-changing school meals.

*'We really hope you will join us in prayer this month, asking that our work may continue to flourish and grow, so that even more children around the world can have their lives transformed by a daily school meal'.*

*Fran Lawson, Regional Growth Officer at Mary's Meals*

### **Message from FOSJ**

Thanks to everyone who has booked their tickets for the colour run! If you have got your tickets please don't forget to set up your child's individual sponsorship page by following this link and clicking on the red fundraising button: <https://www.goodhub.com/go/stjosephscolourrun2026>

Once you've set it up, send to friends and family to raise as much as possible for our school. The ticket sales cover the cost of the event itself, it's the sponsorship money raised that will help us deliver more great things for our children. If you have not booked your tickets yet, the early bird discount is available until 1<sup>st</sup> May. Thanks again for your continued support and investment in making St Joseph's the best it can be.

### **Please switch off car engines**

As a school we are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for our pupils. Therefore, please **switch off your engines while waiting to drop off or pick up children**. Please support us in keeping our air clean. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Uniform**

We have recently noticed an increase in pupils not wearing the correct school uniform. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of our expectations. Examples we have seen include pupils wearing hooped or dangling earrings, grip socks or patterned socks instead of plain grey or white socks, and trainers being worn on non-PE or non-Forest School days. We have also noticed some skirts and shorts that are shorter than they should be. We kindly ask all parents and carers to refer to the school's uniform policy.

### **Lunch boxes**

A reminder that we are a nut-free school. We currently have a number of pupils with severe nut allergies, and therefore we ask that all nut-based products are not included in children's lunch boxes. This includes items such as Nutella, sesame seed buns, pesto, hummus, and cereal bars that contain nuts. We appreciate your support in helping us keep all of our pupils safe.

### **Free school meals**

You can apply for free school meals for the new school year. To receive meals for the remainder of this current school year, please email [freeschoolmeals@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@hertfordshire.gov.uk), with your name, national insurance number and date of birth. If your child receives free school meals, you don't need to re-apply for 2025/2026 unless your child is moving from Year 2 to Year 3.

### **Message from Hertford County Council**

**Parents and Carers: Talk about mental health within a family and recovery.** Is your child or young person receiving support or on a waiting list for a mental health service? Join us at an information session to learn more about mental health within a family and get practical ideas and strategies to help your child towards recovery.

**When:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm to 9pm over Zoom

**Book online:** [CYPMHS - Mental health within a Family - Support for Parents and Carers - Carers In Herts](#)

## Parents and Carers talk about mental health within a family

### Is your child or young person receiving support or on a waiting list for a mental health service?

Please join us at an information session to learn more about mental health within a family and get practical ideas and strategies to help your child towards recovery

**Where:** Online over Zoom.

**When:** Tuesday 5th May 7pm to 9pm

For more information or to book your place:

Call: 01992 58 69 69

Email: [contact@carersinherts.org.uk](mailto:contact@carersinherts.org.uk)

Go online: [www.carersinherts.org.uk/events](http://www.carersinherts.org.uk/events)



#### About Carers in Hertfordshire

We are a charity that provides information, advice and support to unpaid carers - people looking after a partner, relative or friend, who is ill, elderly, has a physical or learning disability, or misuses substances.

We support carers of all ages - young people and adults - living, working or caring in Hertfordshire. Our services are free to carers and bereaved carers, who can access support for three years after the death of the person they looked after.

We provide services to carers to help them with their caring role or have a break from caring, to improve their health and wellbeing, and to have a voice in shaping health and community services.

We are partly funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS in Hertfordshire. In partnership with them and other local organisations we work to ensure unpaid carers are identified, informed, supported and heard.

#### Carers in Hertfordshire

The Red House, 119 Fore Street, Hertford, Herts, SG14 1AX.

Tel: 01992 58 69 69 Email: [contact@carersinherts.org.uk](mailto:contact@carersinherts.org.uk)

[www.carersinherts.org.uk](http://www.carersinherts.org.uk)

#### Our support for parents and carers.

We have a team of Carer Engagement Workers who can provide advice and information and also support you to speak up. We also:

- Give you a chance to meet and talk to other parents, carers and staff who understand;
- Give you the opportunity to represent your views to the authorities that commission and manage Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) in Hertfordshire;
- Provide free training and learning opportunities; and
- Offer a Carers' Passport Discount Card that gives savings in shops, restaurants and other venues (contact us to apply for one today!)



### School email addresses

Breakfast Club - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

Absences, illness, medical appointments, collection of children, lunches - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

Breakfast Club queries - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

General enquiries not listed above – [admin@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

### Term dates for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027

The new term dates for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 are available on the school website. Please use the following link: [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Term Dates](#)

### Dates

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

#### May

- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> LIFT Reading session 9am - 9:15am
- ❖ 10<sup>th</sup> Park run event 9am
- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Start of Primary SATS week
- ❖ 14<sup>th</sup> May Ascension Mass 2 PM
- ❖ 16<sup>th</sup> FOSJ Colour run at 3pm
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> Year 4 trip to Roald Dahl Museum
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> End of half term pick up at 3:15pm
- ❖ 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> End of term holiday

#### June

- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> LIFT Maths session 9am - 9:15am
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Class and team photos

- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> Science week
- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Year 5 visit to JHN
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> Inset day school closed
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> Sacramental Celebration
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> LIFT Science 3pm - 3:15pm
- ❖ 19<sup>th</sup> Sports day
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> Assessment week

### **July**

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> LIFT Reading session 9am -9:15am
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Chaplaincy retreat (trip)
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> Open evening
- ❖ 14<sup>th</sup> Leavers production (PM)
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> Year 6 leavers Mass and Assembly
- ❖ 21<sup>st</sup> End of term

**Please note that these dates maybe subject to change.**

**Please read your newsletter weekly to be informed of any changes**