



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## NEWSLETTER: 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024

Dear Families,

### **Year Nursery/Rec Trip**

Our Early Years had a fantastic (but chilly) day at Hall Hill Farm this week!

Let's hear directly from them...

"It was an amazing opportunity to learn all about the farm animals and we were lucky enough to feed and/or hold goats, sheep, lambs, chicks, guinea pigs and rabbits! We all enjoyed a tractor ride and ended our day with some time to play at the park! The children all behaved brilliantly, were brave when feeding and stroking the animals and listened so carefully to our farm guides, Lisa, Megan and Farmer Richard. The guides all commented many times across the day about how amazing pupils were, making us all very proud! We would also like to say a huge thank you to the Nursery grown-ups who came along, helping to make the visit such a success."

### **Cricket Road Show**

On Monday (29<sup>th</sup> April), **Years 1, 2, 3 and 4** will be taking part in an Allstars Cricket taster session run by coaches from Durham County Cricket Club. This session will be a chance for them to experience some of the activities which are used in the Allstars Cricket programme and information will be given about how they can get involved in cricket at local clubs. A coach from Durham County Cricket Club will be available in the yard after school to give information to any parents/carers who are interested in their child being involved in local cricket sessions/programmes.

**Children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will need to wear their PE kits for these sessions on Monday (29<sup>th</sup> April). They should come to school wearing their PE kits as they would do on their normal PE days.**

### **Y4 Theatre**

As part of their class studies, children in Year 4 will be going on a visit to Newcastle Theatre Royal on Thursday 2nd May to see The Boy at the Back of the Class. The bus will leave school at 1pm and the children will be back in school at approx. 5:00 pm, traffic dependent. All children must bring a water bottle to school, which we can fill up before they go, they can also bring a small packet of sweets to have at the theatre. School uniform as usual please.

### **Parliamentary Speaker Assembly**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, pupils will have the opportunity to meet with Gillian Bell, Parliament's Senior Education Officer for the Northeast, Yorkshire, and the Humber She will visit our school to deliver an **Introduction to Parliament** assembly to our **Key Stage 2** children.

The assembly will be fun and interactive and covers the work of Parliament: the role of MPs, the House of Lords, and how laws are made. The session will support our work on British Values and our PSHE curriculum. This assembly also links with the animation Year 4 are currently creating with The Forge Art Team in conjunction with local MP, Kevan Jones. We hope we are creating a love of youth politics....and a future Prime Minister.

### **Catholic Life and RE Survey**

Thank you, to everyone who very kindly completed our recent survey. We will share the results with you in due course. It has been very encouraging to see how positively this fundamental area of school life is viewed.

### **Year of Prayer**

In preparation for the [2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope"](#), 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. He asks us all to join in a great "symphony" of prayer, "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him."

As part of this, as a school we are exploring different themes and prayers throughout the year, and we want you to feel fully involved.

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honour Mary, the mother of God and we wish to continue that devotion. When it is your child's turn, we will send home a prayer pack containing all you need to spend a few prayerful moments with your child. Please take the opportunity to pray for any particular intentions you may have.

### **World Faith Week**

As part of our RE curriculum, we look at other faiths, which our pupils very much enjoy.

We believe it is essential for all our children to learn from, and about religions, to understand our community and the world around them. The RE curriculum provides opportunities for children to become global citizens and to have the confidence and vocabulary to interact with people from different cultures and backgrounds.

This week, as you know, we concentrated on Islam, with classes focusing on different aspects, such as, place of worship (Mosque), Prayer and Home, Stories of Muhammed, Holy Book (Quran), Pillars of Islam and Festivals and Holy Days.

### **School Photos**

A reminder that orders for school photographs need to be returned to school no later than Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

### **After School Clubs**

After school clubs will resume from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April and run until Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. If you have not booked your child into a club, there are still some spaces available on some clubs. Please contact Miss Greenwell in the office and she will let you know if a space is available.

### **Dogs on the yard**

A gentle reminder to everyone that, although we all love our pets, the school yard is not an appropriate place for them to be. Please refer to the parent code of conduct available on our website that states parents/carers are not to bring dogs (except assistance dogs) on to school premises.

<https://stjosephsstanley.bwcet.com/statutory-information/policies-related-documents/>

Please contact the school office if you have any queries and we will make every effort to address these in a timely manner.

### Star of the Week

The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this week:



Nursery	Alfie	For sharing wonderful ideas during carpet time sessions.
Reception	Hugo	For showing he is ready to learn, every single carpet session, and putting so much effort into all that he does!
Year 1	Eadie	For some excellent work when learning about Islam.
Year 2	Aurora-Jasmin	For trying hard with her presentation and handwriting.
Year 3	Will	For excellent knowledge and participation during our Greek topic in history.
Year 4	Zander	For some excellent behaviour choices this week and having a mature attitude to his learning.
Year 5	Lenny	For excellent work with statistics in maths.
Year 6	Finnlay	For some excellent work in maths this week.

### Times Table Rock Star

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is **William!** Well done for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! Children can see all our TTRS winners on our 'Times Table Rockstars' display board in school.

This is the second week of the KS2 TTRS tournament. **Year 3** have made a great start to the term, they are currently on 796 points. This is 500 points clear of the class in second place! Well done, Year 3!

St Joseph's are currently 11<sup>th</sup> on the leaderboard for schools in our area. Let's make a big effort this week to get back into the top 10!

## **House Points**

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week.

Congratulations to St Oswald who have earned the most house points this week.

## **Attendance**

**This week's attendance is 94.5%.**

**Our target is 97%.**

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Reception</b>	<b>Year1</b>	<b>Year2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>91.4%</b>	<b>96.3%</b>	<b>93.0%</b>	<b>92.6%</b>	<b>94.4%</b>	<b>94.0%</b>	<b>98.2%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>