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Newsletter: 27th September 2024

Dear parents, grandparents and parishioners,

It's been a very exciting week here at St. Joseph's, jam-packed with lots of fun and learning.

Thank you to all of our Reception parents for attending the phonics workshop and our 'Stay and Play' session on Tuesday morning. It was brilliant for you to see how well your children have settled into life at St Joseph's.

On Thursday, we celebrated European Day of Languages. It was wonderful to see all the children dressed up in the colours of their favourite country. Our classrooms were buzzing with excitement! Knowledge of **languages** is the doorway to wisdom.

This week's Celebration of the Word for parents was led by Year 5. The children read and sang so beautifully. We look forward to welcoming Year 4 parents in next Friday!

You will have noticed that we had some trees cut down around school. At first, our children were slightly disappointed about this as they know that we should never cut down trees. This showed me what wonderful, caring children we have in our school. Unfortunately, we did have to cut the trees down as they were dangerous. Thank you for your understanding.

British Value: This week's British Value was 'Rule of Law'. Children learned that we should follow our rules in school and the rules made by the government. We understand that there may be consequences if we don't.

Catholic Life and Mission: Thank you to all our children who applied to be a Mini Vinnie. It was a very difficult decision, but we now have a team of eight Mini Vinnies who will work closely with the SVP team in church. Please continue to bring in any tins for PACT House; your donations are greatly appreciated. Mass continues every Sunday morning at 11am at St. Joseph's.

We also say goodbye to a much loved and valued member of staff today. Mrs Smith leaves St. Joseph's after 15 years here. We thank Mrs Smith for being a wonderful colleague and friend to us all. We also thank her for her commitment and dedication to our children. We know that they will miss her greatly. Good luck in your new role, Mrs Smith!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs. Urwin

After School Clubs

A reminder the following after school clubs will be available on Arbor on Wednesday 25th September from 6pm, costing £1 per session (total £6 per child) from week beginning 4th November to week ending 13th December:

- Reception Fun Club
- KS2 Quiz club
- KS1 Science Club
- KS2 Book club

Reevo Multi sports started this week, there are limited spaces available please contact the school office if you would like to sign your child up. KS2 on Wednesday and KS1 Thursday 3:20 – 4:15pm. (Children can come to school in their PE kits.)

A reminder booking arrangements for Film Club on Friday 18th October are available on Arbor, which is £2.50 per child

Leave of Absence in Term Time

A Polite reminder we are unable to authorise holidays in term time. Absence from school in term time means your child is missing essential elements of the curriculum and it is necessary to note that you could receive a fine (Fixed Penalty Notice). However, if you do intend to take your child out of school a holiday request form must be completed and sent into school at least 2 weeks in advance.

The form can be accessed via the school website [Attendance – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanley \(bwcet.com\)](#) or from the school office.

Try a Free School Meal Day

Thursday 3rd October is 'Try a Free School Meal Day' please complete the attached form using the link, to let us know if your child would like a school meal or not by Tuesday 1st October 9am

<https://forms.office.com/e/Bw0V6vUkJp>



As you know, attendance is hugely important, and we report attendance on a weekly/ monthly/ termly basis. We monitor attendance/lateness very closely in school and will raise any concerns with parents/carers on an individual basis. If you have any concerns with regards to your child's attendance/lateness, please contact us as soon as possible so we can work together to resolve any issues.

This week's attendance is 96.8%. Our target is 97%

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
84.07%	93.7%	98.7%	97.33%	95.9%	100%	97.8%	99.31%

Star of the Week

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



Nursery	Imogen	For being a kind friend and helping others.
Reception	Charlotte	For always being ready to learn and being an excellent role model.
Year 1	Freddie Ca	For such brilliant work during phonics lessons.
Year 2	Mila	For always taking pride in her work.
Year 3	India	For showing resilience and always trying her best.
Year 4	Louie	For some excellent use of alliteration in writing this week.
Year 5	Ella B	For excellent answers with our class reader.
Year 6	Emily H	For some excellent problem solving in maths this week.

Awards of the week

Captain's Table: Alfie, Aurora, Theo, Cleo, Ella, Alice, Zander, David

Mission Statement: Ewan, Harvey, Frankie, Nathan, Ava, Madeline, Martha, Sophia

British Values: Marco, Romee, Grace W, Emily, Aurora-Jasmin, Thomas, Sophie, Noah C

House Points

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

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

EYFS:

Nursery: What a wonderful day we had celebrating European Day of Languages in Nursery this week! We learned all about Finland. We learned how to say hello and goodbye in Finnish, practiced counting in Finnish, made a flag and created amazing northern lights pictures using chalks. We even tried a Finnish dance and listened to some Finnish nursery rhymes!



Reception: In Reception this week, we have celebrated European Day of Languages by learning about Poland.

We looked at where Poland is on the map, listened to some lovely music by Polish composer Chopin and learnt about some animals that can be found in Poland. Children then drew a picture of one of them. I wonder if your child can tell you which animal they drew (a beaver, elk, brown bear or lynx)?



We watched some traditional Polish dancing and made our own flags. It was very exciting when one of our Year 6 pupils, who is Polish, came to teach us some Polish words!



Year 1: Year 1 have had another brilliant week. We have enjoyed looking at the characteristics of different animals in science, learning about Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in history and listening to fairy tales in German on European Day of Languages. Well done for another week of hard work Year 1. Have a lovely weekend.



Year 2: Bonjour from Year 2! They have had another wonderful week. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about France and produced some amazing artwork showcasing the Eiffel Tower. In addition to this wonderful day, Year 2 created letters which explain how people are kind and loving because God made them. Well done Year 2.



Year 3: Year 3 have had a great week! They thoroughly enjoyed learning about the country, Spain, as part of our celebrations on European Day of Languages. They learnt some new words and used these words to perform a song in Spanish. I am sure they would love to share this song with you if you ask them about it at home! Year 3 have also learned about the water cycle as part of their geography studies this week. They were able to use a variety of scientific words to describe the processes and draw their own diagrams.



Year 4: In Year 4 this week we loved European day of languages, we learned to say hello in the 24 different languages spoken in Europe. We also learned lots of facts about our chosen country, Portugal and learned some Portuguese phrases. In Geography we continued our topic about the river Rhine and this week we looked at the city of Cologne which sits on both sides of the river. In Science we enjoyed learning about how the human digestive system works. We planned and took part in a very thoughtful end of topic celebration of the word, where we looked back on what we had learned about the ancestry of Jesus.

Year 5: Year 5 travelled from many European countries on Thursday. It was a great way to celebrate other cultures and languages. We focussed on Italy, so the children learnt to count and greet others. In Maths, they had the chance to convert pounds to euros and calculate the cost of a holiday to Rome!



Year 6: Year 6 have had a busy week. They have been exploring addition and subtraction in maths and have been applying their knowledge to two and three step word problems. They loved learning about the battle of Carthage in history and are continuing to learn about the cities which lie along the banks of the Rhine. They studied Switzerland for 'European Day of Languages' and loved looking at the incredible scenery.