

Newsletter 12th September 2025

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Work hard, love tenderly, walk humbly: trusting in God

Dear parents, grandparents and parishioners,


Welcome to this week's newsletter! We began the week with a beautiful whole school Celebration of the Word. The children reflected on the message that God's dream for us is to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him by sharing His love with others. This is what we are made for — without God, we are missing a foundational element of what it means to live life to the full.


"This man began to build and was not able to finish." – Luke 14:30


A reminder that our lives need a strong foundation in faith to flourish.

This week has been filled with joy and activity:

🌟 Our Reception children met their new Year 6 Buddies during a special assembly — a new tradition that will build friendship, confidence and responsibility across the year groups.

 We held a Phonics Meeting for Year 1 parents, helping families support early reading at home.

 We launched our fresh new House Point system, encouraging positive behaviour and teamwork across the school.

 And of course, there has been lots of wonderful learning happening in every classroom!

Key Dates for Next Week:

- **Monday 15th** – Multiplication Check Parent Meeting, 3:20pm
- **Monday 15th** - Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents, 9am
- **Tuesday 16th** – SATS & Residential Information Meeting, 3:20pm
- **Thursday 18th** – Year 6 Celebration of the Word, 2:45pm
- **Friday 19th** – Flu Immunisations for all eligible children

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2025/26. We will shortly beginning the Sacramental programme for 2025/26. We invite parents of children in year 4 or above, who are baptised Catholic, from our family of parishes to an information evening on Monday 15th September at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church meeting room, where information will be given for the process this coming year and how you can register your child.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate the building works around school. Your patience and understanding mean so much to us.

Mass continues this Sunday at 11am.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Urwin

Reminders

Consents

If you want your child's photograph on our newsletter or website then you need to go onto ARBOR and give your consent. Please note that this must be carried out each year and we are therefore unable to use your child's photograph unless you have consented this

academic year. As well as the photo consent you will need to access Arbor and update all of your child's consent forms. Any concerns please contact the school office.

After school clubs

Our after school clubs started this week and there are still a few spaces left, if your child would like to attend please book a space on Arbor.

Outstanding Payments

Any outstanding payments on ARBOR (school meals/ breakfast club/ wrap around care) **must be cleared and kept in credit.** If anyone has any problems with making payments, please contact the school office to discuss further. The Trust are looking very closely at all outstanding payments and non-payment of outstanding debt may result in your child having to bring a packed lunch to school and being unable to access breakfast club/wraparound care.



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 95.73%. Our target is 97%

Nursery: 97.17%

Reception: 93.33%

Year 1: 95%

Year 2: 98%

Year 3: 89.29%

Year 4: 98.4%

Year 5: 96.43%

Year 6: 98.93%

Well done to Year 6 who won this week's attendance award!

Head Teachers Award

The following children have received a Head Teachers Award this week:

Nursery: Rudy for being a superstar in Nursery

Reception: Cora for always following the St Joseph's Way

Year 4: Hayden for being so sensible and responsible!

Year 4: For settling in Year 4 so well

Year 6: Ivy for being a super role-model to everyone

Star of the Week

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

Nursery: Isaac for being so kind and caring towards others

Reception: Emmie for being such a kind friend and always being helpful around the classroom

Year 1: Beau for excellent reading during phonics

Year 2: Freddie Ca for his excellent answers in class

Year 3: Ruby for excellent contributions in history lessons this week

Year 4: Hayden for excellent place value knowledge in maths

Year 5: Aidan for excellent Geography and History knowledge

Year 6: Ivy for her fantastic contributions to lessons this week

Awards of the week

Captain's Table: Ella, Keela, Ruby, Maddison, Arabella, Freddie R, Jude, Olly

Mission Statement: Isabella, Eftobore, Desmond, Jack, Emelia, Clementine, Isla, Poppy

British Values: Charlie, Freddy, Arabella, Jesse, Brody, India, John, Freya

Writer of the week: Ada, Edith, Francesca, Freddie S, Tega, Coby

House Points

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week. Congratulations to St Cuthbert's who have earned the most house points this week.

Please see below what our children have been getting up to this week in school

Mrs McCartney came to see us in **Early Years**

on Tuesday to deliver a 'Little Fingers' music session. The boys and girls had great fun singing, dancing and using her instruments! She will be back each week for this term and we can't wait to learn lots of new songs and actions!



Year 1 have had a busy week. We have started lots of new topics, such as Living in a City in Geography and The Life of Elizabeth II in History. The class have shown such enthusiasm and interest in the subjects they explore in Year 1. We have been thinking about the love and care we see in our families in RE and how we can show this love to everyone in our family. We loved our first music lesson of Year 1 with Little Fingers, and we showed our amazing singing voices. We also did brilliantly in PE when we were 'walking the plank' although some of us found even better ways to travel and jump into the 'sea'. Well done for an amazing week Year 1.



Year 2 have worked very hard again this week! In English, they were introduced to their new text 'The Bridges', exploring pronouns as well as what makes up a sentence. In maths, they revised the place value of numbers to 20 and beyond. In history, they discovered what London was like before the Great Fire and discussed how the fire may have spread. During computing, they explored different IT devices used in school. Finally, in geography, they learned about the town of Keswick and wrote their own sentences about it. Well done, Year 2– another fantastic week of learning!

Year 3 have had another exciting week of learning! In maths, they have been busy partitioning numbers up to 100 and counting confidently in hundreds. In English, the children have enjoyed diving into their new class reader, *The Railway Children*, and are already showing an interest in the characters and story. They have also thoroughly enjoyed

beginning their new history topic on the Ancient Egyptians, where they have learned all about Howard Carter and his incredible discovery of an ancient tomb. In Art, they explored a range of photographs and paintings and made thoughtful observations about the people and the relationships between them.



In **Year 4** this week, we have started to read our class novel 'The Wind in the Willows' we have looked at the words and phrases used in the description of the river which help to paint a picture in our heads. In Maths we have worked on place value and have partitioned numbers into hundreds, tens and ones. In Geography, we started to look at the River Rhine, where the source is, where the mouth is and which countries it flows through. In History, we looked at the legend of Romulus and Remus and how the Roman Republic was formed. In PE we began to create our own gymnastic sequences which included different ways of travelling and jumping.

Year 5 have had a very productive week! Eduard and The Forge worked with us to create street art images linked to Stanley. They created designs based on things they enjoy and also shared their hopes and dreams for the future. They had the opportunity to use stencils and spray paints to finalise their art. They loved it! Their design will feature on Stanley Front Street - more of this to come! We started our fitness sessions in PE and it was a huge success - they were possibly very tired on Thursday night as they had a great work-out! We also had a specialist IT teacher visit to deliver a robotics session with iPads. We had to programme a robotic ball to move around the classroom. They thoroughly enjoyed changing colours, images and controls. What a busy and exciting week!



Year 6 have had another busy week as they get to grips with being the oldest children in the school! They've worked hard across the curriculum, enjoying reading the new class book in English and exploring the circulatory system in science. They had a lovely morning spent with their new reception buddies, acting as brilliant role models. They are looking forward to working closely with their buddies over the course of the year. On Thursday, they worked with Steve from Royal Grammar School. He showed them how to programme Sphero Bolt robots, changing the colours of their displays and navigating through obstacles throughout the classroom. They will be working with Steve again later this month; this time focussing on LEGO robots. They finished the week with a special assembly in which they shared their visions as prospective head boys and girls. These were a real joy to listen to and showed once again how lucky we are to have such talented children in school.



