



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Statement to Live By: I know when to ask for help and who to ask for help

Dear parents/carers,

We are fast approaching Easter, with lots of activities still happening in school. We remember on Sunday our lovely Mother's and Grandmother's, we hope you all have a relaxing day with your families.

Celebration of the Word

This week, Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education trust has hosted the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, our patron. Please pray for the success of this momentous event and pray for all pilgrims preparing to visit the relic this week.



*You found joy and strength
In the Eucharist
And used your gifts to
Spread the love of Christ,
We turn to you today asking for your intercession.*

*Pray for us, that we may have
The courage to live our faith
With the same simplicity and
Passion as you did.*

*Help us to embrace the
Beauty of the sacraments
And to use the talents
God has given us
For the good of others
And the glory of His name.*

*Guide us to see Christ
In every moment,
And may your example inspire us
To lead lives rooted in love, service and devotion.*

*Blessed Carlo, patron of the
Internet and youth,
Pray for us, that we may always seek holiness
In our daily lives and walk ever closer to Jesus
Amen*

Mrs Maher and two of our Year 6 children, Abigail and Leon represented our school at mass and veneration of the relic of Blessed Carlo at St. Bede's in Lanchester. This opportunity was a solemn and unique event for everyone involved, we were very proud of Leon and Abigail, who were superb ambassadors for our school.

Year 5 Mass

Year 5 attended mass on Tuesday. The theme of the mass was 'the solemnity of the annunciation'. Thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended mass to support the children.

Reception Class – Celebration of the Word

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended the Reception Class very first Celebration of the Word. The theme was 'Mothering Sunday'. The children were excellent at sharing how special our Mums are to us.

Sporting Events – Year 4

Year 4 have been participating in a variety of sporting events this term. A tennis coach came into school to give tennis tuition and then picked 8 children to represent our school in the Sunderland City School tennis competition. The children came third in their group for the competition. Well done Year 4 there were some super tennis players in the class!



A handball coach has been into school to teach our Year 4 children handball skills for an upcoming event on Tuesday 1st April at Washington Leisure Centre. Well done to everyone in Year 4, the coach commented on how engaged, polite and well-mannered all of the children were during the lessons. We are very proud of our children and we are sure you will do well at the event on Tuesday.

Sportsability

Well done to our KS2 children who represented our school at a Sportsability event at Sunderland Tennis Centre on Wednesday. The children took part in a range of sports games such as, rugby, tennis and fitness. Well done to all of the children who took part, including Mrs Sant who also joined in with all of the games!

Easter Egg Raffle

We will be holding our annual Easter Egg raffle on Friday 11th April. Staff will once again kindly donate the Easter eggs for the raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will go on sale on Monday 31st March, they will be 20p each with a maximum amount of £2. Good luck!

Our friends of St. Joseph's volunteers will be holding an Easter pop up shop on the yard after school from Monday 31st March, (weather permitting). They will be selling a range of Easter treats, please watch out for them and show your support if you can.

Year 5 Gardening Gang



You may have noticed our beautiful purple crocuses on our front lawn of school.

Our Year 5 Gardening Gang planted 4000 crocuses which were donated by the Rotary club in Washington. Each flower represents a polio vaccination which has been donated by the Rotary club for vaccinations in vulnerable places across the world.

Nursery Spring Walk

Our nursery children completed a Spring Walk around Washington Village today, luckily the rain stopped and armed with their clip boards they went looking for signs of Spring. They found, daffodils, crocuses, primroses, Easter decorations and listened to bird song. It was a lovely way to spend our morning. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to come along and help.



Parents Evening

Our Spring term parents evening will take place in the school hall on Wednesday and Thursday, (as well as Monday for Nursery.) Please ensure you have booked an appointment slot to meet with your child's class teacher. Year 2 parent's evening will be rescheduled due to staff absence, thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding. Rebecca from the 'Club House' wraparound care will also be available at parents evening on Wednesday and Thursday.

Year 6

As part of their transition to St. Robert's Year 6 had a visit from Anne-Marie the chaplain at St. Robert's where the children decorated shells which they will take with them as they journey through St. Robert's. Year 6 are working really hard preparing for their SATs, please keep them in your prayers.

Nursery Admissions 2025

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they will be due to start Nursery in September 2025. The closing date for admissions is next week; Tuesday 1st April. If you would like to secure a place please complete an *admissions form* and provided evidence of *address, date of birth and baptism*.

CAFOD Big Lent Walk

On Monday 31st March all children will be participating in the CAFOD Big Lent Walk relay. In school children will be walking around the track on the field throughout the day and they will tag the next class to join in. We hope to keep this relay going throughout the day. Voluntary donations can be made in cash, our Mini Vinnies will have buckets on the yard, or donations can be made through Arbor and school shop.

Staff Shout Out

This weeks staff shout out goes to Mr Wrightson, (Scarlett's Grandad). He is giving his time, energy and expertise every week in school to care for our allotment with the help of a very enthusiastic Gardening Gang! Your support is very much appreciated, thank you so much!

Have a lovely weekend! God bless.

Attendance

As part of our attendance monitoring and in line with the attendance policy, letters of attendance will be sent out to parents every half term, detailing your child's attendance percentage.

We will be continuing our attendance monitoring this term. If attendance has dropped below our Trust target of 97% an attendance letter may be sent out.

Well done to Year 6 this week their attendance was 100% so they get to look after Bingo the Bear, our school mascot.

Keeping Children Safe

Every member of staff in school will act to keep children safe. Our designated staff who have a lead role in keeping them safe are:

Mrs E Maher - Headteacher

Mrs F Lawton – Acting Deputy Headteacher

Mrs J Johnson – Senior Leader

Mrs P Swanston – Business Manager

Mr R Topping Safeguarding Link Governor

Lunch Money

School lunch is £2.85 per day. Payments for school lunches must be made on the Monday for the week ahead. We cannot operate a system which allows arrears to build up for meals taken in previous weeks.

What's on this Term – this may change and new dates maybe added

Monday 31 st March	Raffle Tickets on sale for Easter Raffle
Monday 31 st March	CAFOD Big Lent Relay in school
Monday 31 st March	Nursery Parents Evening
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 1 – attending Mass in Church 10am
Wednesday 2 nd April	Parents Evening
Thursday 3 rd April	Parents Evening
Thursday 3 rd April	Year 6 – Safetyworks Visit – details to follow
Friday 4 th April	Year 3 – Celebration of the Word – school hall 9am
Tuesday 8 th April	Year 6 lead – whole school attending Mass in Church 10am Easter Mass
Friday 11 th April	Easter Egg Raffle
Friday 11 th April	Break up for Easter – Return to school on Monday 28 th April