



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back after half term. We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful break. We now have a short half term leading up to Easter, but a busy one!

Celebration of the Word

In the Transfiguration, Jesus chose to reveal His glory to those who were closest to Him. Our children are invited to be Jesus' closest friends and see His glory too. This Lent, we can say 'Yes!' to glorifying Jesus for who He is and the amazing love He has for us.

Prayer

O God, who have commanded us
to listen to your beloved Son,
be pleased, we pray,
to nourish us inwardly by your Word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God,
for ever and ever.
Amen

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the Year 1 Celebration of the Word. The theme was 'Lent'. We are sure that you all agree that Year 1 were fantastic. Thank you for the lovely comments made afterwards, especially about our closing hymn, 'Here I am to Worship', it was great to hear that so many children request this to be played at home to share with their parents.

Year 2 attended Mass in church this week and were wonderful ambassadors for our school. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who came along to support the children.

Catholic Life in School:

Parish Bingo and Biscuits

Our Reception and Year 6 class hosted a Bingo morning for our Church parishioners. It was a fun, social morning with tea, juice, biscuits and Bingo prizes to be won! Thank you to all of the parishioners for attending, our children thoroughly enjoyed playing bingo and chatting to you all.



Year 1 Special Meal

To end their Year 1 R.E. topic of 'Eucharist - Meals' Year 1 invited a parent to join them to share a special meal in the hall. The children shared a special breakfast with their grown up and were treated to pancakes with a variety of toppings, tea, coffee and juice and biscuits. Thank you to all parents who came along to support their children, it was an enjoyable morning for both children, staff and parents.

Boogie Bounce

Year 3 and Year 4 participated in a Boogie Bounce session. This was a very high energy bounce lesson on mini trampolines. The children all had great fun and experienced a different type of fitness session.



Infantasia



Our Year 2 children participated in a singing event called 'Infantasia' at Rickleton Primary school. They had been practicing with our music teacher Mrs Ingram before attending the event. They sang two songs, 'Count on me' and 'Mamma Mia', they were superb! Well done everyone in Year 2, you made us super proud!

Football Team

The football team have started their training and matches again. Well done to our girls team who were all fantastic in their recent matches. They secured a win against Biddick, a draw against Rickleton and a loss against Usworth Colliery.

Our mixed football team, were brilliant on Thursday evening, they won two of their matches against Blackfell and Fatfield but lost to St. John's. Well done to everyone, we are super proud.

Gardener Volunteer

We have two small gardens in school, one is our vegetable garden, with a greenhouse and the other is our prayer garden. We are looking for a volunteer (with knowledge of gardening and growing) who could come into school to help, plant, grow and harvest with our children in Year 5 'Gardening Gang.' The volunteer role would need a DBS which we can process. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

World Book Day

We had a great day in school on World Book Day. The children's love of reading really shines through on this day. To name a few, we had Harry Potter, Hermione Grainger, the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland, Little Red Riding Hood, dinosaurs, princess's, footballers, pyjama's, the Cat in the Hat and even our own Mrs Trunchbull! There was our annual World Book Day parade in the hall, the older children read to the younger ones and we had some live story events from different authors. It was a wonderful day in school and great to see the children's engagement and enthusiasm for their reading.



Year 6 Booster Class

Our Year 6 children are working extremely hard in the lead up to their SAT's tests. On a Monday evening after school Mrs Kelly and Mrs Maher provide a SAT's booster class until 4.20pm. As a reward to those children who attend, the children will receive a raffle ticket which will be entered into a prize draw. This will be drawn every 3 weeks during SAT's booster for the children to win a small prize as a reward for their effort, hard work and attendance at booster class. The SATs booster class is relaxed and informal, it boosts the children's confidence and attainment in the lead up to their SATs, we would encourage all parents to motivate your child to attend if possible.

Staff Shout Out

This week's staff shout out goes to Mrs Kelly in Year 6 for all of her brilliant hard work. Thank you so much Mrs Kelly, you're amazing!

Attendance

We will continue to monitor attendance this term. Attendance letters will be sent out to parents if there are any concerns. On Thursday our whole school attendance was 99.2% which was excellent and a great achievement, although it was World Book Day which we know children love in school. Our Year 3 class won Bingo the Bear this week with 97.91% attendance, congratulations Year 3.

SHOW YOU CARE – PARK ELSEWHERE!

A letter was sent from Mrs Maher this week regarding Parking. This is always a concern and we do fear that one day there will be a serious accident outside of school.

Sunderland Parking Control have agreed to randomly pass our school in the coming weeks and any cars parked illegally on the roadside are at risk of a fine.

All of our families should be able to cross the roads safely around school and unfortunately, they cannot do so due to the amount of cars parked on the road outside of school.

As you know, there are two car parks next to school, the Church car park always has an abundance of spaces left on an afternoon that are not utilized. Please do not block garages and driveways next to houses or park in the bus stops, on the paths or the grass verges.

Please help to keep children safe when coming to school by parking considerately.

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 – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs J Johnson – Senior Leader

Mrs P Swanston – Business Manager

Mrs R Topping – Safeguarding Link Governor

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

(Refreshments will be available in the School Hall after our Celebration of the Word)

Friday 6 th March 2026	Year 1 – Celebration of the Word – 9am School Hall
Tuesday 10 th March 2026	Mass in Church 10am – Year 5
Thursday 12 th March	Choir singing at Washington Arts Centre – 9am
Friday 13 th March 2026	Reception Class – Celebration of the Word – 9am School Hall
Friday 13 th March 2026	Boccia Event – Finals – Gateshead Leisure Centre (selected children from KS2)
Tuesday 17 th March 2026	Parents Evening – School Hall (Further Details to follow)
Wednesday 18 th March 2026	Parents Evening – School Hall (Further Details to follow)
Thursday 19 th March 2026	Mass in Church 10am – Whole School (Reception to Year 6 attending) St. Joseph's Day
Friday 20 th March 2026	Year 4 – Celebration of the Word – 9am School Hall
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Mass in Church 10am – Year 1 attending
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Year 5 – Dodgeball Event – Sunderland Tennis Centre
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Year 4 – Sports Event – Washington Leisure Centre
Friday 27 th March 2026	Year 3 – Celebration of the Word – 9am School Hall
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	School Breaks up for Easter
Friday 3 rd April 2026 – Friday 17 th April 2026	School Closed for Easter Holiday