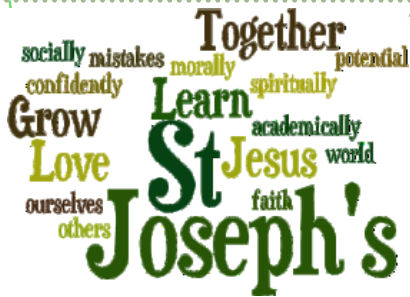


22nd November 2024

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Gospel reading for
Sunday 24th November
Christ the King Solemnity
John 18: 33b-37



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



Our first baby of this academic year has arrived. We are delighted to share with you that Hugo Minoli Marsh arrived safely in the world on 8th November, weighing 7lb 2oz. We are all looking forward to a visit from Miss Minoli and a cuddle with Hugo!

As you may be aware Hugo arrived literally as Miss Minoli began her maternity leave, she began her leave on Wednesday 6th November. Hopefully, Mrs Barugh will have a little time to relax before the birth of baby Barugh. She begins her maternity leave today and we wish her all the very best for the next few weeks.

Thank you so much to everyone who attended the Autumn Festival last weekend. What a fantastic event this was! Special thanks to FOSJS, as ever, for all the hard work and organisation that goes in to making all their events such a success. It is always lovely for us to see the children and families outside of normal school functioning. All the staff who attended thoroughly enjoyed this event.

We are really in the swing of getting ready for Christmas now and everywhere we go in school we can hear wonderful singing. You are in for a real treat in a few weeks time with nativities and carol concerts.

Please have a look at the information in the newsletter about the Rotary Shoe Box Scheme. This is an inexpensive way for us all to make a difference to the lives of others this festive season. Items can be sent in with your child to their class teacher.

Wishing you all a restful weekend and no snow!

Awards

Class Champions this week:

Well done to all our class champions this week, who displayed the qualities of their class saints.

These children will all have VIP privileges next week.

Evie Elawify (RC), Arthur Bowles (RMG), Levi Sweeney (1D), Thomas O'Reilly (1B), Bala Aravind (2E), Kane Hassett (2ME), Miles Whittingham (3S), Mayson Milkowski (3B) Georgina Keens (4FG), Gabriel Perestrelo Correia (4B), Jolin Schwarz (5F), Lacey McCarthy (5D), Amaya Iraola Jones (6O) and Leonardo Phillips (6ST)



Our Rainbow Award Winners this week:

These children all displayed one of the following characteristics:
reflective, bounce-back, teamwork, curiosity, motivation, independence.

Teddy Williams, Millie Cloherty, Teddy-Ray Sheppard, Williams Evans, Sonny McCullagh, Grant Wilkes, Simon Metcalfe, Yazdan Gomroky, Anaiyah-Rose Bailey, Reese Muller, Grace Toms, Leah-Rose Thompson.



HOUSEPOINTS THIS WEEK (RUNNING TOTALS)

St David

78 (603)

St George

92 (478)

St Andrew

85 (624)

St Patrick

87 (595)

Attendance : Week Ending 18th November 2024

CLASS	%	CLASS	%
RC	98.3	RMG	93.3
1D	99.3	1B	96.1
2ME	98.4	2E	95.0
3S	98.3	3B	94.7
4B	98.5	4GF	97.8
5F	97.7	5D	98.4
6O	98.2	6ST	93.7

The highest class attendance last week was
1D with 99.3%.



If in a school year, you are late every day by... 5 Minutes 10 Minutes 15 Minutes 20 Minutes 30 Minutes	You would have lost approximately... 3.5 Days from School 7 Days from School 10 Days from School 14.5 Days from School 22 Days from School	or you would have missed approximately... 18 Lessons 35 Lessons 50 Lessons 73 Lessons 110 Lessons
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Well done to Max Simpson who won our attendance goody bag this week for achieving 100% attendance.

Reminder that children who have 100% attendance for the week are entered into the weekly raffle for the prize bag. Each week all the children are entered into the termly raffle for the £50 Amazon voucher.

School Uniform

Over the past few weeks we have drawn attention to our uniform policy and teachers have followed up with parents. Thank you to all those parents who have made the necessary adjustments where uniform was not correct. Your support in upholding our policy and standards is appreciated.

A reminder that children must have **black shoes only (boots and trainers are not part of our uniform)**

Outdoor **coats must be black, navy or dark green.**

If you have not made the necessary adaptations to adhere to this policy (which all parents agree to as part of initial admission to school) we would ask that you please rectify this over the weekend.

If you are unable to do so for financial reasons—we are happy to support from our second hand uniform shop. Please let us know if you need assistance.

Parenting Support



Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parent Line). If you require emotional support, information, advice or guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life—call 0808 800 222.

Parent Reminders



Please remember to login to your ParentPay account to make a payment or give permission for your child to attend the Pantomime in December.

Advent Calendar 2024



Please remember to check the Advent Calendar that has been sent to all parents. The Calendar contains the link to all relevant letters containing details of event. The letters are loaded separately to the School Newsletter under the News / Events Tab—Newsletters.

Packs of Christmas Cards, designed by Harper in Y6, will be on sale from next week via the School stationery shop. These cards are sold in support of the [Alistair Roberts Memorial Fund](#)

School Information

PUNCTUALITY & SAFEGUARDING

Please do not drive onto school grounds once the designated adult supervising the gate has left. Please do not attempt to drive through the gates if they have been opened by an exiting car. Parents must park outside of the school grounds and walk to the school office to sign their child in. Do not leave your child unaccompanied at the school gates.

Thank you for helping us to keep your children safe.

Please can parents not exit the cars on the turning circle and have children ready (with bags, coats etc) to exit the car speedily, so that we can keep the traffic moving and not block the roads.

We have been made aware of an issue with the **SchoolComms/ Gateway App**, and concern that some parents are not receiving text messages, even though the App has been downloaded.

Advice from School Comms is to delete and re-install the App to ensure that the most up to date version is loaded to your phone. This link will share some [troubleshooting](#) tips....

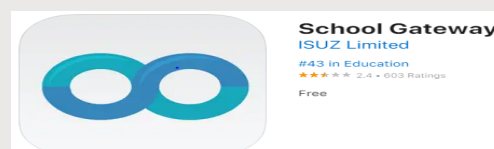
It is important for you to check that your **SchoolComms/Gateway App** is receiving text messages. Relying on other parents or WhatsApp groups may result in missed, or incorrect messages.

Thank you for your support.

Email communications are sent to you via

Schoolcomms

To ensure **text messages** are received, please visit the [App Store](#) to download



Enter your email address and mobile phone number that you have shared as your contact information for school

A PIN number will be sent to you and text messages will appear via this App.

WITHOUT THE APP YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES

Shoebox Appeal

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

"Spreading a Little Happiness"

Supported by
Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland

A reminder to bring in an item from the list below for The Rotary Club of Amersham, Chesham, Great Missenden and Wendover's Christmas shoeboxes.

UKS2 – Baby up to 12 months



Please **DO NOT** include food, sweets, chocolate, drinks, battery operated items, matches, flammable liquids or any conflict related items (toy guns etc).

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

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Great Britain & Ireland

A reminder to bring in an item from the list below for The Rotary Club of Amersham, Chesham, Great Missenden and Wendover's Christmas shoeboxes.

LKS2 – Teenagers up to 18



Please **DO NOT** include food, sweets, chocolate, drinks, battery operated items, matches, flammable liquids or any conflict related items (toy guns etc).

Shoebox Appeal

The School are supporting the Rotary Shoebox Appeal. Children have been asked to bring in any of the items shown above (or similar) to add to their key stage boxes.

Shoebbox Appeal

Rotary Shoebbox Scheme

"Spreading a Little Happiness"

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A reminder to bring in an item from the list below for The Rotary Club of Amersham, Chesham, Great Missenden and Wendover's Christmas shoeboxes.



EYFS – Toys for boys and girls

Please **DO NOT** include food, sweets, chocolate, drinks, battery operated items, matches, flammable liquids or any conflict related items (toy guns etc).

Rotary Shoebbox Scheme

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A reminder to bring in an item from the list below for The Rotary Club of Amersham, Chesham, Great Missenden and Wendover's Christmas shoeboxes.



KS1 – Household goods

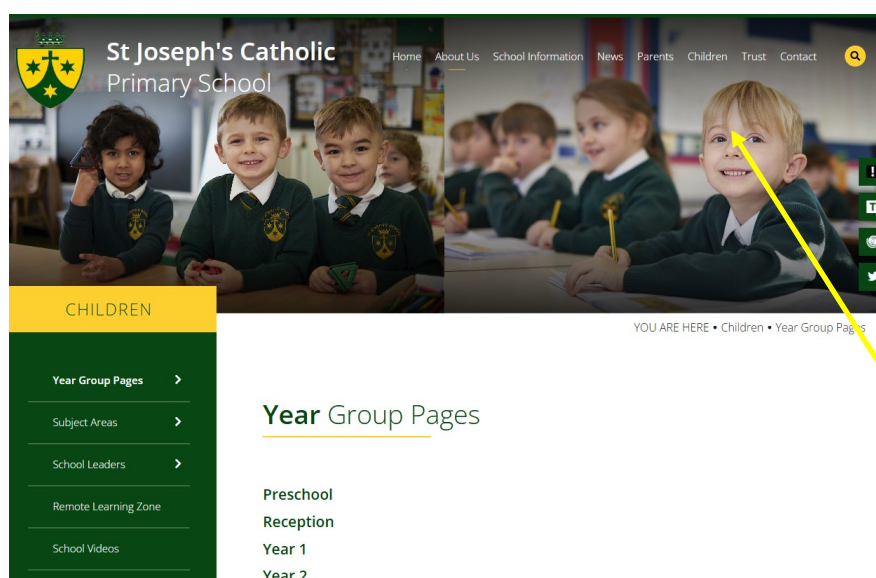
Please **DO NOT** include food, sweets, chocolate, drinks, battery operated items, matches, flammable liquids or any conflict related items (toy guns etc).

Shoebbox Appeal

This advert, we will be supporting the Rotary Shoebbox Appeal. Children have been asked to bring in any of the items shown above (or similar) to add to their key stage boxes.

School Information

We were surprised to see the snowflakes falling on Tuesday morning, not enough for sledging or a fun day out, much to the disappointment of all the children. If the school had to close due to snow, the children will continue their learning at home. You will find information about your child's learning on the website in their Year Group page. We will send a text message to parents to inform them of the closure and put a message on the school website .



Welcome to our new Governors

I am delighted to inform you of two new additions to our Governing Body.

Mr Matthew Talks—MTalks@stjosephschalfont.school

And Mrs Malgorzata (Gosia) Dec-Leventis—MDec@stjosephschalfont.school

Key dates and events for the next fortnight

Thursday 28th November	Year 1 Science Museum Trip
Thursday 28th November	4FG Class Assembly 9.00am
Friday 29th November	Dress the Tree assembly—children wear own clothes and Christmas jumper

Problems with Attendance & Punctuality

Are you having problems with:

- *Getting your child to bed at night or out of bed in the morning?*
- *Finding uniform, school books or bags?*
- *Your child eating breakfast slowly?*
- *Your child not having done their homework?*
- *Your child watching too much TV or spending too much time on electronic gadgets?*
- *Your child getting anxious about school work or tests?*
- *Your child asking for a day off because of birthdays or other family events?*

Have you tried:

- Establishing set times and routines for bedtime?
- Asking your child to prepare their school bag and uniform the night before?
- Establishing a set time for breakfast where the family eat together?
- Having a daily homework slot?
- Limiting TV viewing or screen time on other devices to a set period each evening and morning?
- Talking about school in a positive way and speaking to your child's Class Teacher about any concerns / anxieties?

St Joseph's does not authorise term-time holidays. Whenever the need arises to take a child out of school during term time, parents must complete a Leave of Absence Request Form (available on the school website under "Parents" "Useful forms"). The Headteacher will consider each application individually and consider whether the reason for absence constitutes exceptional circumstances. At St Joseph's, exceptional circumstances are emergency or unavoidable events which relate directly to the child or immediate parents/carers, i.e.. mother/father. In each leave of absence request, the Headteacher's decision is final.

Absence will **NOT** be authorised for the following:

- Illness of a parent
- Holidays
- Day Trips / Long Weekends
- Birthday, weddings or other family celebrations
- Visits to family abroad or families working abroad
- Surprise visits or trips booked without knowledge

Absence may be authorised for the following:

- Illness
- Medical or Dental appointments* (which should be made to ensure the least disruption to your child's learning and, where possible, after 3.30pm or during school holidays)
- Performing Rights e.g. Theatre Productions
- Examinations of dance, music or school entrance tests
- Family Bereavement
- Religious Observances

*Proof of appointments will be required before any absence is authorised. Leave during term-time for appointments will not be authorised without proof.