

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter 24th January

Within this newsletter:



- A message from our Principal
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Our Lady and All Saints Parish Church
- Sunday Gospel and Children's liturgy
- Gifts from God
- PE and School Sport
- Gardening Club
- Attendance
- Diary dates
- Curriculum
- PTA Updates
- PE timetable
- Clubs
- School lunch menu
- Pupil Premium and Free School Meals
- Safeguarding
- Dudley Early Help Strategy
- National Online Safety
- Contact us

A message from our Principal



Dear parents and families,

Dear parents,

Today has been an exciting day in school as the Jubilee Year 2025 is officially launched. We 'fanned the flame of hope' as we gathered together with Catholic schools across the Arch Diocese of Birmingham to sing, hear messages of hope and Archbishop Bernard Longley's task for us this Jubilee Year to Pray, take part in Social Action and Fundraise.

Pray, Social Action, Fundraise. Three areas that at St Joseph's we are committed to and underpin our mission. This Jubilee Year, we will work even harder to keep fanning the flame of hope and respond to Archbishop Bernard's challenge.

The children have learnt about the logo, the meaning of 'pilgrimage' and made their own promises for this Jubilee Year. The artwork that the children have crated is just wonderful have a look below!

Unfortunately, the high winds caused our Trim Trail launch day to be postponed until next Friday - but, our Head Boy and Girl did brave the weather and managed to show around Mrs Duffy and Mrs Aspley from our PTA who provided funds towards the installation. Take a look below, and thank you PTA! We will share further images during the new 'launch day' next week.

Have a great weekend.

Mr. A Wilkes

Principal

Our school website is regularly updated - spring study plans to be added shortly! Please have a look here - <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Home (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

Catholic Life events PowerPoint - <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Catholic Life Events 2023 - 2024 (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

Updates:

Term dates - Term dates and insets are available on the calendar section of the school website <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar</u>

January TEN:TEN Newsletter The January newsletter from Ten:Ten to support you with prayer at home https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/









Year of Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope



What is a Jubilee?

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

What is the theme for the Jubilee Year?

The theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope'

Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world.

When does the Jubilee Year start and finish?

The 2025 Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026. Pope Francis will open the Holy Door on Christmas Eve 2024 to begin the Jubilee year.

The Jubilee Prayer

The official Prayer allows pilgrims from all over the world to use the same words to express gratitude to God for the Jubilee experience and request the grace of forgiveness. The official prayer of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Holy Year, this can be found in other languages on the website of the Jubilee. The Jubilee is an experience of faith and a profound encounter with the Lord.

Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled

in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us

into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos

in the sure expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth,

when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,

your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee

reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,

a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread

the joy and peace of our Redeemer

throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,

be glory and praise for ever.

Amen













1 - Our new Virtual School Tour - take a look!

Our new trim trail and mega mud kitchen! Launch day for the children in January 2025! Taking place Friday 31st January!









Collective Worship at St Joseph's



















2 - Limited places are available at our school. Please call the school office to find out more. All children are welcome at our school!

Catholic Social Teaching

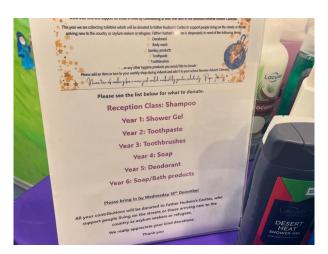




3 - Well done to Flynn (Y6) for designing the winning entry to create our own Catholic Social Teaching mascot for Family and Community! Your design will now be used across the school.













4 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter/X @StJoStourbridge

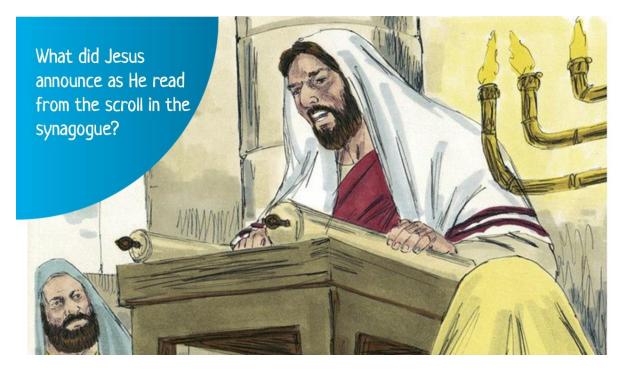
Our Lady and All Saints Church welcomes you! Latest newsletter

OLAS-Bulletin-19th-January-2025.pdf Mass Times - Saturday 5pm,

Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am. Scripture Reflection-Scripturecommentaries-January-2025.pdf



Children's liturgy - 3rd Week of Ordinary Time | Year C Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21



Jesus is teaching in the synagogue. He reads a passage from the Scriptures which is about himself (although the people listening don't know that until he explains it afterwards).

The Scripture passage talks about what Jesus has been sent to do. What does it say?

It says that he has come to bring good news to people who are poor. What do you think this means?

Can you remember a time when you heard some good news? What was it? Can you tell me about it?

Good news means different things to different people. It can be confidence, peace, enough food, a safe place to live, light in the darkness, doing well at school, getting to spend the day with friends.

We are all God's children. God loves us all. No matter where in the world we are, whether we are rich or poor, and we should all have the chance to live in a world of peace, dignity and fairness. This is the good news of Jesus.

This year is a special Jubilee Year. In the Bible a Jubilee Year was a time of renewal and celebration. Debts were cancelled, people could rest, and because crops weren't planted even the land was able to rest. It was also a time of freedom: prisoners and slaves were freed, and land was given to those who didn't have any. Just like Jesus talks about in today's reading.

Jesus makes it clear that his mission is to bring the justice and freedom of the Jubilee. We can share in this mission to create a world of justice, peace and love. How do you think we can make the world a fairer, more peaceful place for everyone?

We now celebrate a Jubilee Year every 25 years and for this Jubilee, Pope Francis has asked us all to be "Pilgrims of Hope". This hope comes from knowing that God loves each one of us, whoever we are.

How do you think we can try to share Jesus' good news and the hope of the Jubilee with our brothers and sisters around the world today?

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that we may follow the example of Jesus, bring good news to people who are poor and work to help all people live life to the full. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for people who are poor, in prison, or finding life hard: that they may find hope, freedom and strength as we work together to make all things new. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that in this Jubilee Year we may be inspired to be signs of hope in our world by sharing what we have and bringing good news to all. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of life, you call us all to share your good news. May we do all that we can to answer that call. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod Children's liturgy

Gifts from God



Parents have been informed if their child will receive a certificate next week but we will keep it a surprise from the rest of the school and publish their names here next week!

	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Vivienne	Rex
Year 1	Penny R	Orlaith
Year 2	Emily	Joseph
Year 3	Children absent due to illness	
Year 4	Seth	Heidi
Year 5	Luke	Jacob
Year 6	Louis	Joe

PE and School Sport



Year 5 and Year 6 boys football training 3:15-4:15pm Tuesday evenings (club ended for the winter)

Year 5 and Year 6 girls football training - Tuesday lunchtimes (weather permitting)

Girls football fixtures

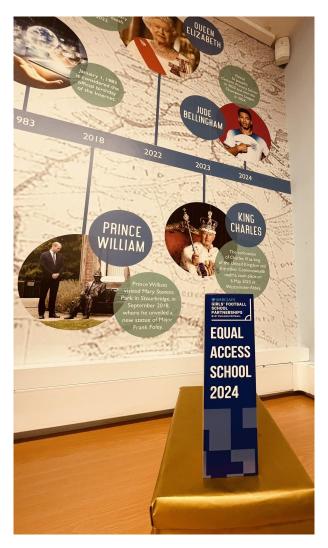
Tuesday 21st January - Girls fixtures (week 1)

Peters Hill 0 v 3 St Joseph's

St Joseph's 0 v 1 Amblecote

St Joseph's 3 v 0 Rufford

Well done girls! Week 2 fixtures take place on February 4th where we will try to finish in the top 2 and qualify for the regional finals. We're currently 3rd in the league and 1 point from the top 2 places.



5 - We have been awarded the FA Fair Access Award 2024 for our commitment to ensuring boys and girls have the same opportunities to take part in competitive football!



6 - The Year 5 and Year 6 boys won the Dudley 7-a-side competition and now qualify for the regional tournament. Well done boys!





7 - Our girls braved the wind and torrential rain to perform brilliantly in the Dudley 7-a-side competition. We were so proud of them! Well done girls!





Dear Parents / Carer/ Young Person

Here at Stourbridge Rugby Club, we are keen to spread our love for Rugby, far and wide. We offer Rugby from the year children start school, through primary & senior school , then Adult rugby right up to OAP's! It really is a sport that you make friends for life!

Our aim is 'everyone playing rugby safely to the level they want to'

We believe we offer a safe inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy what this great sport

Take a look at the remaining fixtures for this season



All Home fixtures are a 2.30pm kick off, with bar opening and food available to purchase from 1pm. We also offer Pre Match dining in the Clubhouse if you would like to sit down for lunch before the match, just call the office on 1384 395000 for further information or check out our website. www.stourbridgerugby.com for the latest menu.

To get free entry to one of our home games please call the office or email info@stourbridgerugby.com, we just need your contact details and the school that your child attends. We will then make sure your name is down on the "Free entry" list for your chosen fixture.

Thanks in advance for coming to watch this fabulous game, we hope you have a fantastic time.

Dr Steve Mann On behalf on the SRFC Committee.



Stourbridge Rugby Club Ltd Stourton Park Bridgnorth Road Stourton DY7 6QZ







Gardening club



Gardening club is supporting the Year groups to make their garden area beautiful for the Springtime! We have planted Bluebells, Daffodils and Alliums to make our school environment colourful and welcoming. Children loved planting them, learning how to care for the bulbs and using their teamwork skills.

- Thank you for your kind donations of the mud kitchen supplies. It is looking well stocked with pots, pans, utensils and cake moulds. Your donation will create awe and wonder for all children to enjoy.
- Thank you for the spring bulbs and seeds that have been donated, hopefully come springtime the school with be full of colourful blooms.

It may have been cold this week in Garden club, but we felt the Spring was on its way.

We planted lots of bulbs ready for the Spring, to brighten up the Key Stage Two playground.

We discussed how filling half a large pot with another pot and leaves helps to save on how much compost is needed.

Lots more Spring blubs to be planted over the coming weeks.

Mrs Bailey and Miss Biniek

Update from Mrs Bailey and Miss Biniek



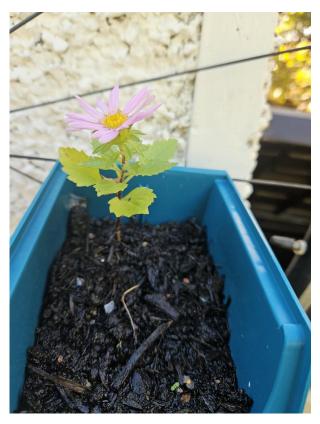














Attendance



Congratulations to **Year 5** who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 93.55%

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 94.8%

Year 1: 96.7%

Year 2: 80.7%

Year 3: 90.3%

Year 4: 98%

Year 5: 99.3%

Year 6: 95.7%

Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a

morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has become unwell throughout the day.

If there is no reason provided for your child's absence an unauthorised code is marked in the register. This will impact your child's overall attendance. Please contact school before 8.55am where possible and leave a message. If we are not aware of why your child is not in school we will try and contact you, if we are unable to contact the parent/carer we may call one of the other contacts on your child's records.

Please try to be as punctual as possible, we have noticed a small number of children are arriving late to school. If your child arrives after the close of the registration period (9.05am) this again is recorded as an unauthorised absence on the register and will affect your child's overall attendance figure. If your child arrives at school after 8.55am they MUST be accompanied by a parent/carer for signing in purposes.

Persistent Absence



Please note: From August 2024, updated Statutory Guidance Working Together To Improve School Attendance and the National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence issued by the Department For Education come in to effect. Early in September we will share the updates Emmaus attendance policy in line with this code.

Please find the link to our updated attendance policy: Emmaus MAC Attendance Policy (1).pdf (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Attendance:

Updated Guidance from Dudley - including the updated penalty fine information <u>School</u> <u>attendance advice | Dudley Council</u>

Please note - Leave of absence requests cannot be authorised by the Principal (except in limited exceptional circumstances) and may lead to a penalty fine payable to the local authority.

We are seeing an increase in a small number of pupils whose attendance is falling below 90%. Once attendance falls below 90% pupils become Persistent Absentees. As part of our duty of care, parents will be written to highlighting their child's attendance has fallen below 90% and that we will be monitoring their attendance monthly. If your child's attendance continues to remain below 90% we will have no alternative but to refer to ESS (Dudley Education Support Service).

if your child arrives at school after the close of registers at 9.05am, an unauthorised late mark is registered and this will count as an absence.

Please see how absences affect children's learning:-

Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost

Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.

95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost

These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.

90%: 19 days absence a year - 95 Hours of Learning Lost

The Government classes pupils in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

Please support your child by ensuring they arrive at school each morning on time.

Diary Dates 2024-25



*Please note all term dates are available on the calendar section of the school website. Please look at the link below for the latest diary date.

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

Dudley term dates - 2024/25 <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Dudley Term</u>
<u>Dates 2023-24 and 2024-25 (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

INSET DAYS 2024/25

Monday 2nd September (1)

Tuesday 3rd September (2)

Friday 4th October (3)

Friday 14th February (4)

Monday 21st July (5)

Curriculum



Have you seen the curriculum area on our school website? It is full of information about the progression of key knowledge and skills that our children learn throughout their time at school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the precise knowledge and skills are learnt

and reinforced so that the children develop a wide schema (web of knowledge) and are able to know more and remember more during their time at school and are prepared for their next stage in education.

Our curriculum is rooted in the teachings of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings so we make links with the children's learning to areas such as caring for our world, the dignity of workers, developments for the common good and more.

To bring the curriculum to life, we also plan for educational visits and visitors that enrich learning further.

You can view your child's learning in all areas at the link below.

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>



















8 - St George's Day!





















PTA updates - Please scroll through the images below for a host of updates from our wonderful PTA.



https://www.canva.com/design/DAGX5qiwrhU/3KWIxXl93ah9t DahTSvIw/edit?utm content=DAGX5qiwrhU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton

Our PTA Newsletter link



 $9- The\ Wonderdome\ Planetarium\ has\ visited\ school\ today!\ What\ an\ incredible\ experience\ for\ our\ children\ .$



10 - Over £230 raised at the Reindeer dash!





PE Timetable - Spring first half term



Please take note of your child's PE days for this half term.

(Please remember Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that PE kits remain in school and are sent home at half term)

Reception Class - Tuesday

Year 1 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3 - Monday & Friday (swimming)

Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday(09.01 & 16.01). From 20.01.25 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Friday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday-

Tuesday - Year 5 and 6 girls football

Thursday- Mass band Y4/5/6 (Mrs Cangiano)

Friday - Bible group (KS1) Youth Play Leaders training sessions (KS2)

If your child is interested in joining any of our Before & After school clubs, please contact the school office for more details.

Monday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 1-3

Monday 3:15-4.15pn - Netball Club - Years 3-6 - spaces available

Monday 3:15-4:15pm - The Lion King theatre club (Full)

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics (R&B) -spaces available

Tuesday 3.15-4.30 - Irish Dancing (Full)

Tuesday 3:15-4:30pm - Year 5 and Year 6 boys football (Date to restart TBC)

Wednesday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 4-6 (Mark Bennett)

Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing (Full)

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics (RB) - spaces available

Friday 8am - Archery Club - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football (Your sport)

Our school lunch menu



Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on Monday 27th February. Please remember to order before

8am.Pupils in Reception & KS1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Dinners for KS2 pupils are £2.30 per day.

New school menu for autumn 2 and spring term

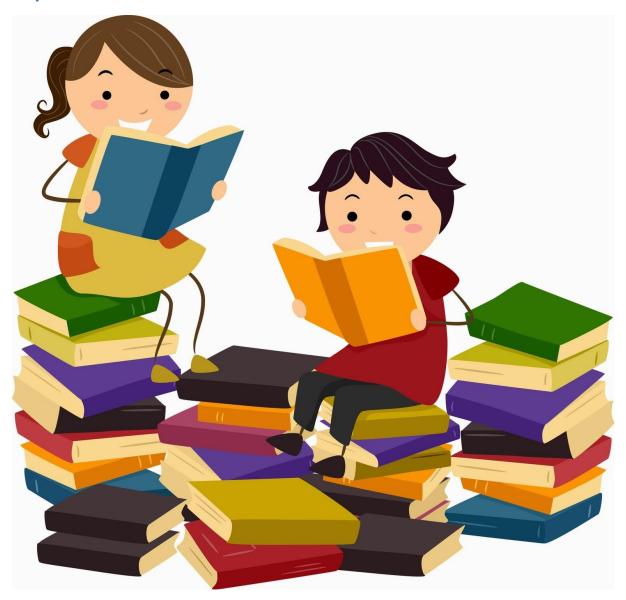








Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care

• Have parents in the armed forces at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

We get an extra [£1,385 (for primary schools) / £985 (for secondary schools) – these figures are for the 2022/2023 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please go to www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Teams by:

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Safeguarding



The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for this school are: Mr A Wilkes (DSL), Mrs R Mitchell (DDSL) and Mrs M Riley (DDSL)







Dudley Early Help Strategy

EARLY HELP STRATEGY | healthandwellebing (dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)

St Joseph's Early Help Strategy

St Joseph's Early Help.pdf (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)



11 - National Online Safety

Please do sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children. I have resent the sign up letter to all parents today.

Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up. https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school-8. There are lots of resources, guides and webinars to support you to keep your child safe online.



12 - Please scan for our Instagram page.

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

Contact us



Mr Wilkes and Mrs Mitchell are available at the start and the end of the school day and can usually be contacted by telephone throughout the school day or a meeting arranged with a senior member of staff.

You will always receive a warm welcome at St Joseph's!

If you have any concerns or worries, no matter how small, please let us know so we can do everything we can to make things better and resolve your concerns. Never hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Telephone-01384 431980

Email - info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com