



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter 20th September

Within this newsletter:



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

- A message from our Principal
- Reception admissions
- Catholic Social Teaching and Live Simply Award update
- Our Lady and All Saints Parish Church
- Sunday Gospel and Children's liturgy
- The Wednesday Word
- 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,

I must start by thanking one of our parent governors, Mr Mez Chadry for organising for a charity day to take place at our school today. Mr Chadry and his team have painted, weeded, strimmed and painted some more helping to make our school environment look fantastic. Thank you to Mr Chadry and his team for thinking of us and working so hard today!

Thank you to the parents who have joined us this week for the welcome meetings. I hope that they have been helpful and beneficial. I will ask for some feedback soon to see if they are an initiative that we should continue next year

All of the upcoming dates available so far can be found at the link towards the end of the newsletter which takes you to our diary. I will ensure any news dates added will also be made clear on the newsletter as well as being added to the website. I hope that is supportive for you when planning ahead. *To make you aware, we have needed to move our parents' evening meetings a week in advance to 16th / 17th October. Booking will be available on Arbor from 7th October.

Have a great weekend.

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

Our school website is regularly updated - including autumn curriculum study plans! Please have a look here - [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Home \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Catholic Life events PowerPoint - [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Catholic Life Events 2023 - 2024 \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Updates:

Open morning

Our open morning will take place Tuesday 15th October for prospective Reception parents (September 2025).

Please share this with families who have children who this may concern!

Term dates - Term dates and insets are available on the calendar section of the school website

Attendance:

It is vital that your child is in school and on time every day. Please find the link here to our updated attendance policy [Emmaus MAC Attendance Policy \(1\).pdf \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](#)

Uniform - The children have all returned to school looking extremely smart and in correct uniform - thank you! A polite reminder* in the colder weather, blue or grey jogging bottoms can be worn for PE, but not branded or unbranded leggings. Thank you.

Uniform can now be purchased through the school shop on your Arbor account.

September TEN:TEN Newsletter The September newsletter from Ten:Ten to support you with prayer at home [Parent Newsletter – Ten https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/)



ST. JOSEPHS
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN MORNING
TUE 15TH OCTOBER 2024
9.15am - 10.30am

Children of all faiths & from all nursery settings are welcome at our school, we look forward to welcoming you on a tour.

Meet our Principal, explore our facilities & discover the brilliant education awaiting your child here at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School!

Please contact the school office to book your appointment.

☎ 01384 431980
✉ Info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com





1 - May Procession



2 - Reception class 2024 - places available. All children are welcome at our flourishing school!

Due to the unusually low birth rate in Stourbridge and Dudley, we have spaces available for our Reception class in September 2024.

This directly impacts our level of funding across school. A full school increases our level of funding. As such, it would benefit our whole school to fill the places available.

Please keep letting people know about the small number of places available - it is greatly appreciated and we have increased our numbers in this class this week!

Please do pass this information on to anyone you know of who may wish to come and join our wonderful school this September!

Catholic Social Teaching



3 - The term we are focussing on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of stewardship. Stewardship means to look after the world for God. The Catholic Church teaches that God has created a world in which humans have a special role as stewards of creation. The belief is that this means they should look after the interests of the planet and all life on it.

In Genesis 1:26 and 1:28, God gives people "dominion" over creation. From the beginning, God asked humans to care for one another and for all creation. We are to act as caretakers or stewards of creation.

The basis of all stewardship can be traced back to our creation. A steward takes personal responsibility for something in his or her care. One synonym for steward is keeper. A steward of God's creation is a keeper of the earth.

So how can we help children recognise that God wants us to be good stewards of God's creation?

Congratulations on achieving the LiveSimply Award



4 - We are delighted to confirm that St Joseph's have been awarded the [@CAFOD](#) Live Simply Award in recognition of our commitment to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities.



5 - Instagram [@STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY](#)

Twitter/X [@StJoStourbridge](#)

Our Lady and All Saints Church welcomes you! **Mass Times - Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am.** Latest newsletter

[OLAS-Bulletin-15th-September-2024.pdf](#) July scripture reflection
[OLAS-SEPTEMBER-COMMENTARIES.pdf](#)



Children's liturgy - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) Mark 9:30-37



Jesus says that anyone who welcomes a child, welcomes him. What do you think that means?

Jesus is in all of us. No matter who we are, where we come from, whether we are rich or poor, old or young. Even the youngest person is special and important because they are loved by God.

Children around the world are different. But each one of them is special and important.

What will you do this week to show that all people are important no matter who they are?

We know that God is always with us and so we pray together:

We know that God loves us all, just because we are who we are, and so we have the confidence to pray together:

We pray for world leaders: that they may see the importance of all their people, especially children. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all children throughout the world: that they may be valued and loved, and have the chance to build a brighter future. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that we may welcome all people, no matter who they are, and do all that we can to help others to move forwards with hope. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer:

God of hope, we know all people are important, because they are loved by you. Show us how to help others to see this too, so that the world can be a fairer place for all your children. Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod Children's liturgy

The Wednesday Word- [Serving - Magazine - Page 1 \(paperturn-view.com\)](http://www.servings-magazine.com)



Gifts from God



The following children have been awarded certificates in our Gifts from God assembly this afternoon and will be invited to 'Brew with Mr W' on Friday afternoon to discuss their achievements. Well done children for your hard work and commitment to our school values.

	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Elsie	Thomas
Year 1	Nell	Marco
Year 2	Joseph	Eli
Year 3	Matilda	Ava
Year 4	Elienne	Lucy
Year 5	Josh	Leonardo
Year 6	Lucas	Seb

PE and School Sport



Year 5 and Year 6 boys football training begins on Tuesday 24th September. Your child will have received a letter if you have expressed interest on Microsoft Forms.

KS2 Cross Country to begin soon on Tuesday lunchtimes





Gardening club



Update from Mrs Bailey and Miss Biniek

Firstly, we would like to say a BIG thank you to the PTA for raising funds to help make the Garden Club a success.

Also, a BIG thank you for all the donations that have been sent in for the St Joseph's community. With the funds raised, we have been able to buy more compost, onion bulbs, potato seeds, and many other seeds. There are plenty of funds left to buy essential items as we go through our gardening journey.

We are sure you will agree that it is all starting to take shape!!!

There are so many exciting ideas that will be happening going forward with the Gardening Club, and we look forward to showing them to you all.

Thank you













Attendance



Congratulations to **Year 3 & Year 4** who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is **98.7%**.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 99.1%

Year 1: 98.1%

Year 2: 97.2%

Year 3: 99.7%

Year 4: 99.7%

Year 5: 98.3%

Year 6: 99%

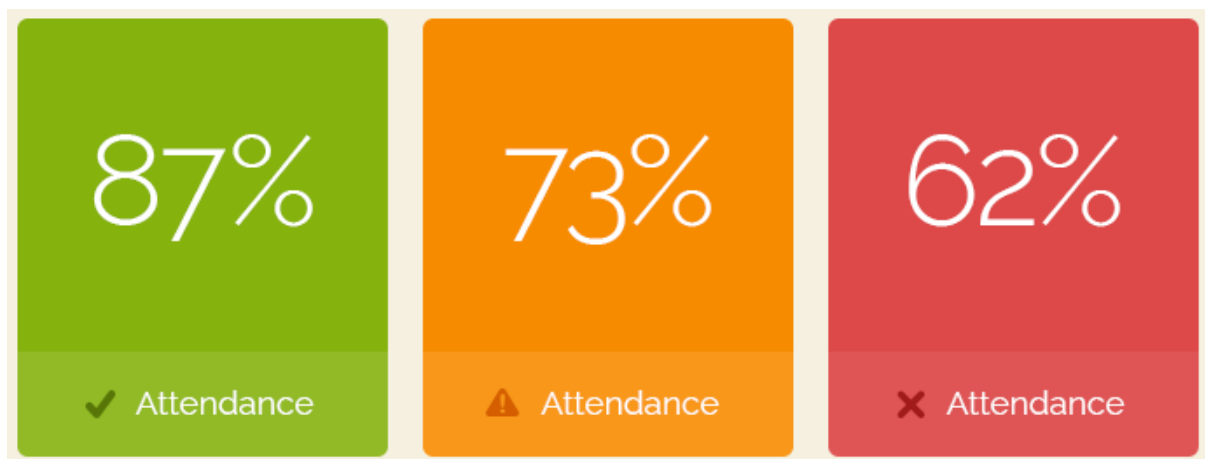
Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has 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.

In line with Government guidance all pupils who test positive for COVID-19 are recorded as ill in the register.

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 \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](#)

We are seeing an increase in 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.

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](https://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Dudley term dates - 2024/25 [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Dudley Term Dates 2023-24 and 2024-25 \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](https://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

INSET DAYS 2024/25

Monday 2nd September (1)

Tuesday 3rd September (2)

Friday 4th October (3)

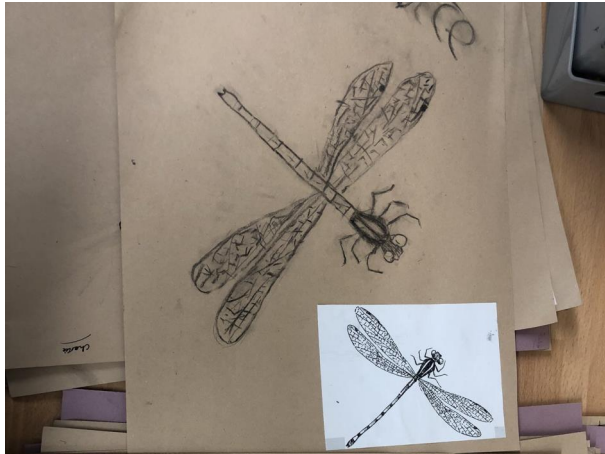
Friday 14th February (4)

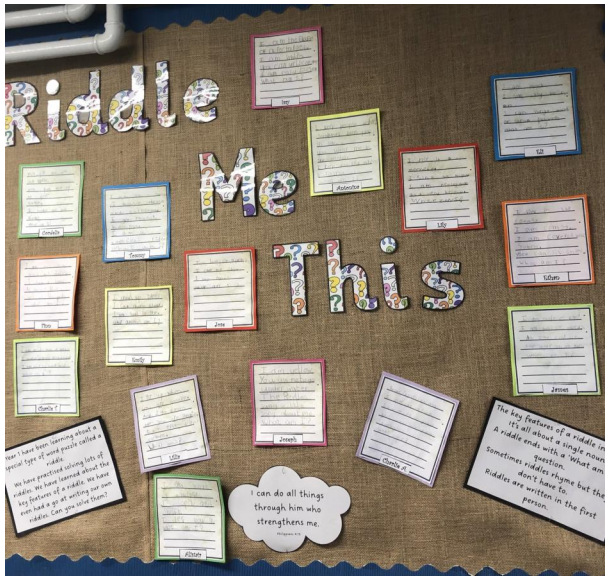
Monday 21st July (5)

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









6 - St George's Day!







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





PE Timetable - Autumn 1st 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 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 2 - Tuesday & Thursday

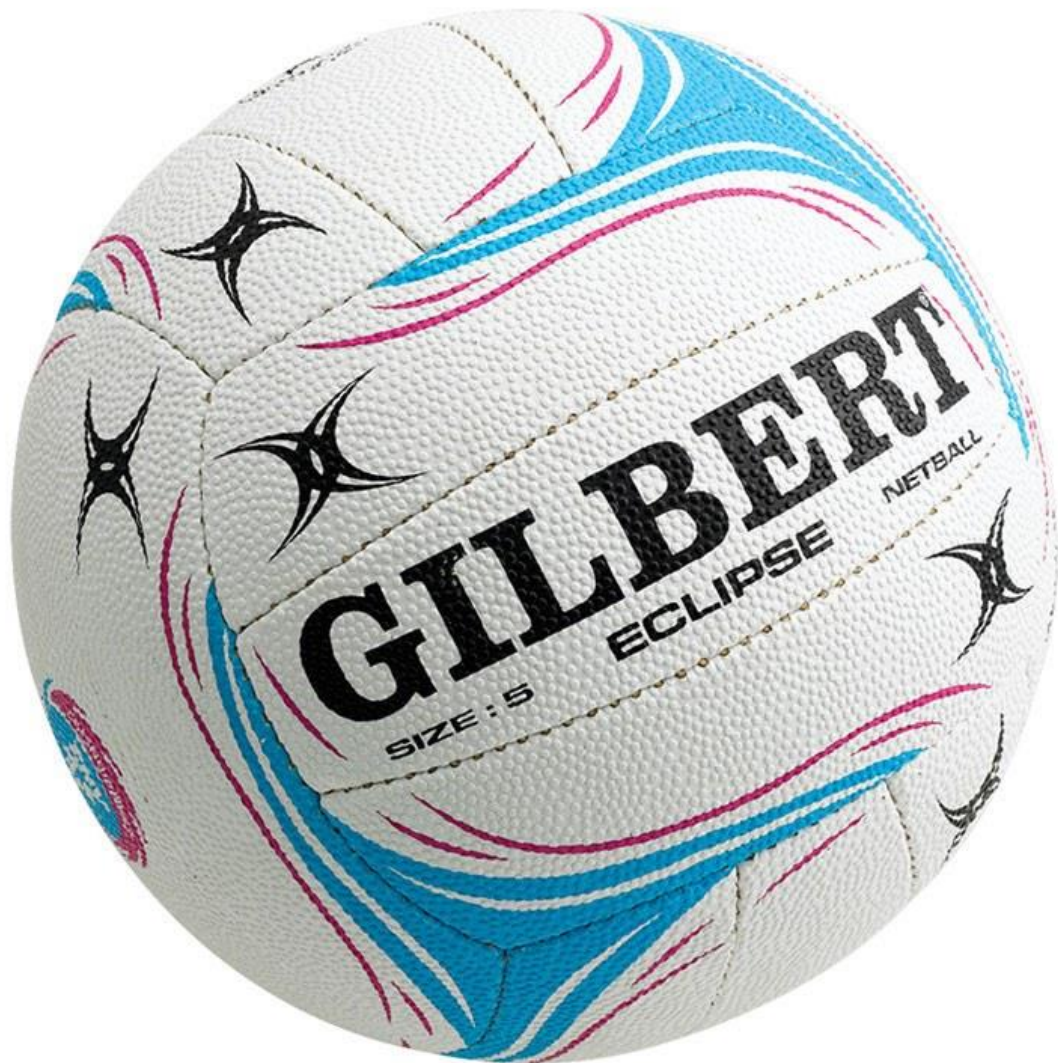
Year 3 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Friday (swimming)

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Friday

Clubs



Lunchtime Clubs:

Monday- Choir KS2 (Miss Gibbons)

Tuesday - Cross Country coming soon

Wednesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Wednesday - Y5/Y6 boys and girls football

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

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 3:15-4.15pm - 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

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.

School Menu - autumn 1st half term



WEEK 1

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Cheesy Potato Hash	Meat Feast Pizza <small>PLANT</small>	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Curry with Rice	Oven Baked Fish Fingers
Vegetarian				
Spiced Vegetable Curry with Rice <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Margherita Pizza <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Roasted Vegetable Quesadilla with Roast Potatoes <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Mexican Loaded Beans with Rice <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Veggie Nuggets with Tomato and Sweetcorn Salsa and Chips <small>Ve</small>
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert				
Berry Crumble Traybake	Fruit Jelly	Apple and Cinnamon Slice	Coconut and Lime Cake	Cheesecake
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Ve Vegetarian Ve Vegan PLANT

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

8th Apr, 29th Apr, 20th May, 10th Jun, 1st Jul, 22nd Jul, 2nd Sept, 23rd Sept, 14th Oct



WEEK 2

Allergy information available on request

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Cheese & Tomato Pizza <small>Ve</small>	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Asian Chicken Noodles or Rice	Crispy Baked Fish with Chips
Vegetarian				
Pasta Primavera <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Veggie Sausage Traybake with Mash <small>Ve PLANT</small>	Spiced Quorn with Roast Potatoes or Wedges <small>Ve</small>	Thai Veggie Fried Rice <small>Ve</small>	Onion Bhaji and Chutney Wrap with Chips <small>Ve</small>
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert				
Chocolate and Orange Cookie	Carrot Cake	Fruity Jelly Crunch Pot	Coconut Berry Vegan Cake	Crispy Cake
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Ve Vegetarian Ve Vegan PLANT







Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

15th Apr, 6th May, 27th May, 17th Jun, 8th Jul, 9th Sept, 30th Sept, 21st Oct



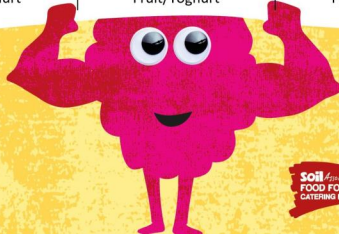
Allergy information available on request

22nd Apr, 13th May, 3rd Jun, 24th Jun, 15th Jul, 16th Sept, 7th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Margherita Pizza 	Jerk Chicken with Rice and Peas	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese with Pasta	Oven Baked Fish Fingers with Chips
Vegetarian				
Crispy Noodles 	BBQ Baked Beans and Cheese Pastry Pocket with New Potatoes 	Vegan Sausage with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 	Vegetable Lasagne  PLANT	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Pinwheel with Chips 
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert				
Pear Sponge with Chocolate Custard	Fruit Shortbread	Oat Fruit Slice	Garden Brownie	Easiyo Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

 Vegetarian  Vegan **PLANT**

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.



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)



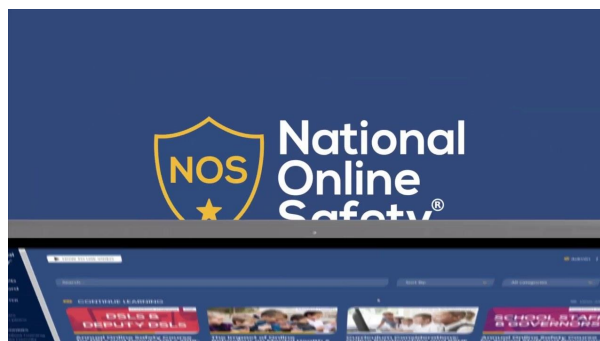


Dudley Early Help Strategy

[EARLY HELP STRATEGY | healthandwellbeing \(dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk\)](http://healthandwellbeing.dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)

St Joseph's Early Help Strategy

[St Joseph's Early Help.pdf \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)



7 - 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.



8 - 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