St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to REACH through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 6th November 2026

It is great to be back. I really missed everyone over half term, so it has been wonderful to see the children again this week and to reunite with the teaching team that cares so much about them. Your children have returned with such positive attitudes, ready to learn and eager to get stuck into the new half term. They have also looked incredibly smart in their winter uniforms, and I would like to thank you for helping us maintain such high standards.

There is already a real sense of excitement about the term ahead. I have heard my first carol concert rehearsal and even found myself humming along to Christmas music drifting from a piano lesson, so I suspect Christmas will be here before we know it. As this will be my first Christmas at St Joseph's, I am particularly looking forward to learning the traditions that make this time of year so special here, and to seeing the ways in which our children take the lead in our celebrations.

Attendance

Our children have attended an incredible **894 individual sessions** of school this week. Each one represents an opportunity to learn something new, to practise a key skill, to enjoy time with friends, to receive support, to discover a new interest, to build confidence or simply to experience the security of belonging to our school community.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for the effort you make to ensure children are in school and ready to learn. We know that there can sometimes be genuine barriers to attendance, and we will always listen, understand and work with families to offer support. Alongside this, we rigorously track attendance so that concerns are identified early and help can be offered at the right time, before other measures become necessary. By working together, we can give every child the best possible access to their education.

Known staff absences and changes over the next week

Whilst every adult in school cares for every single child here, we know that children form closer bonds with the adults most often in their rooms and can find their absence difficult. We also know some children need to be supported if routines change. Please help your child if they may be affected by any of the following changes: Mrs Barron will cover Year 3 on Monday morning; Dr Johnson will take Year 5/6 PE on Monday; Mrs Hamlin will cover Year 6 on Tuesday morning. There will be a short child-appropriate Remembrance Service on Wednesday, children with particular sensitivities to warfare or bereavement will be supported in attending remotely if they wish.

Disabled Parking at pick up is now between the school gates and Tinkley Lane to allow blue badge holders to park and pick up children. We would ask you to respect this, and will ask non-blue badge holders to move on if parked in this area.

Forest Green Rovers have invited any children and staff to watch their match against Tamworth on 28th November. This is a result of Austin in Year 6 being our School Ambassador for the Club. Parents will need to be responsible for their own children. If you would like to attend, let the office know how many tickets you would need and which age type - Over 65's, Adult, U21, U16, U11. This is a generous and fantastic offer and I am very grateful to the club. Those of you who know my own football affiliations will appreciate how hard I will find it to attend, but I look forward to sharing the matchday experience with you and celebrating how the club's links with St Joseph's enrich our lives.

Grapes– if your child brings grapes into school please ensure they are cut in half for safety. Thank you.

I would like to congratulate **Miss Keightley on her engagement**. We wish her and her fiancé all happiness now and in the future.

NEXT WEEK

TUESDAY

Parents and some Chaplains

Chaplaincy Commissioning Service

Clifton Cathedral

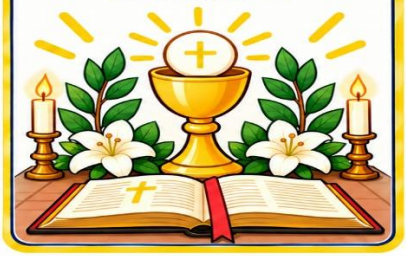


THURSDAY

10am

Year 1

Mass

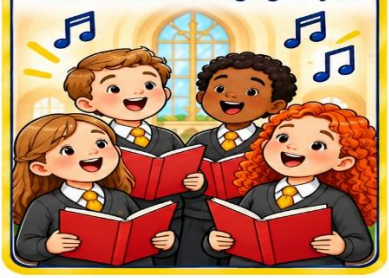


FRIDAY

Years 3 and 4

NSSP

National School Singing Project



CLUBS

DAY	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL YEARS 1 AND 2	AFTER SCHOOL YEARS 3, 4, 5, 6	MUSIC LESSONS
MONDAY	D&D/Warhammer Painting	Cookery (Year 1)	History – How Women Won the Vote (Years 5 and 6 from week 2) and Learning for Peace	Drums
TUESDAY	Boardgames		With the Ball	Piano
WEDNESDAY	Choir	Stop Motion	Cross Country	Violin
THURSDAY	Football and Reading Club			Guitar
FRIDAY	Football or Disco			

PE KIT DAYS

Wear your PE kit on the days shown below.
On other days, wear your school uniform.

YEAR GROUP	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YEAR 6	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 5	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 4	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	PE KIT
YEAR 3	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	PE KIT
YEAR 2	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
YEAR 1	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT
RECEPTION	UNIFORM	UNIFORM	PE KIT	UNIFORM	PE KIT