



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

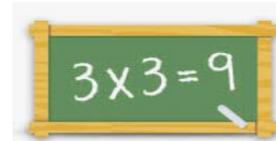
Newsletter – Friday 4th April 2025

To all of our mums, we hope that you had a lovely Mothering Sunday. The message from Fr Philip to our Reception and Year 6 children in Mass was that Mothering Sunday is far greater than Mothers Day...it stretches to all of the people in our lives who love and care for us.

What a difference the sunshine and longer days make, although I am struggling to believe that we won't see more rain and mud before the better weather is here for good! Please remember when sending your child to school that it is always cooler in Nympsfield and there is generally a wind blowing across the school, a coat is still definitely still needed at the moment!

Year 6 SATs meeting

Thank you to all of the parents who bought the CGP 10 minutes practise SATs books. We know how busy a holiday can be but if you can find time for those daily, your child will really reap the benefits when they come back to school after Easter.



Times Tables

I know that times tables were a topic of conversation during the Year 4 parent's evenings this term. As for Year 6 – the Easter Holidays are a great opportunity to practise that times tables fluency. Whilst this is in preparation for the MTC at the beginning of June, this is not only relevant for Year 4 children.....

Why are tables so important?

When children know their times tables, **mental arithmetic becomes easier**. Practising times tables also helps children to understand number and number relationships, and to see patterns in numbers. These skills will help them to master key concepts and move quickly through more complex maths problems with confidence.

What are the benefits of learning multiplication tables?

Key advantages include:

- Application in daily life
- Integral to developing basic mathematical building blocks
- Building confidence with more complex tasks
- Gaining a conceptual understanding of multiplication and deeper thinking process
- Improving problem-solving abilities
- Developing key skills and 'number sense'

Tables are like reading, daily and often support children to learn and remember them. Whilst I started talking about Year 4, by the end of **Year 2** – your child should be fluent in the **2, 5 and 10** times tables. By the end of **Year 3**, they should be fluent in **2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8**.

You cannot underestimate the impact that this has on a child's ability to confidently tackle mathematical problems as they move up through the school. Your support of your child in learning these basic number facts will have a lasting impact on their ability to learn.

Summer Uniform

After Easter we hope the weather continues to warm up and the children are able to come back to school in summer uniform. Just a reminder:

Summer Uniform

Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4

Golden yellow checked dress, grey v-neck pullover or cardigan with school badge, white socks, black shoes (no trainers or sandals).

White polo shirt with school badge, trousers or shorts, grey socks and black school shoes (no trainers).

Year 5 and 6

Golden yellow checked dress or white polo shirt with school badge, grey skirt, trousers or shorts, white socks and black shoes (no trainers or sandals).

White polo shirt with school badge, trousers or shorts, grey socks and black school shoes (no trainers).

A reminder about PE Kit

Sports Uniform

Navy shorts, house coloured t-shirt, white sport socks, black plimsoll/trainers, navy tracksuit bottoms, navy school hoodie.

Alternative sports: Hooded tops NO ZIPS, NO STRIPES OR BRANDING PLEASE.

Any alternative sportswear should not have a zip up the front, have any stripes or branding please.

We have also noticed an increase in interesting hair accessories and nail varnish, so as a reminder:

Jewellery, hair accessories, nail varnish and tattoos are not to be worn at school. Anything that is worn in a child's hair should be in school colours and modest, no big bows, clips or hairbands.

If earrings are being worn, due to health and safety reasons, only one set of small studs are acceptable. They should be removed for PE lessons.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child comes to school dressed in the correct uniform, smart and ready for their day of learning, it also saves staff having to speak to children and adults about school uniform expectations.

Further information can be found on our website

<https://www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com/web/uniform/358029>



Science Evaluation

We know how lucky we are to have Mrs Carr, who is passionate about science and has developed the science teaching and learning at St Joseph's beyond recognition and we are proud of what the children achieve. This was further endorsed last week when the schools in our MAT met with our CEO and the County Science Lead. The high standards and quality of work in our science books was praised as was the curriculum development and design. As a result, Mrs Carr has been asked to Lead a science project across the MAT to speak at the next County Science Networking Forum in the Summer Term, sharing with Science Leads across the county practise at St Joseph's and how this has been achieved and importantly, where we are going next. Congratulations and thank you Mrs Carr - we are so lucky to have you!

Mock trails



Last Thursday our Year 6 children went to the Magistrate's Court in Stroud to take part in this year's Mock Trials competition.

They have spent this term getting ready for the event and have been so lucky to have Mrs Connolly who has run a club after school, explained and practised their roles to help to prepare them.

The children did so well, they were the prosecuting team, delivered their case confidently, reacted and responded to questions brilliantly and proved reasonable doubt - which led to them winning their round. Thank you to all of the parents for your support in your child's costume - all of the children looked great and for the parents who supported with transport to get the children there. The children came back buzzing from the experience. Their performance will have been judged and scored. There are many other rounds to go, so we will have to wait and see how well they did over all.

This is a great example of the additional opportunities that our children get at St Joseph's and they have been so lucky to have been prepared for the trial by a barrister! Thank you so much Mrs Connolly for the generous amount of time that you gave up to help our children be ready for the case, this additional preparation meant that they benefitted so much more from this experience.

Violin performance

It was lovely that so many of our parents joined us for the Year 4 violin performance last Friday. This term, as part of their music curriculum, the children have had whole class violin lessons. It is amazing what they achieved in such a short space of time! They were so excited before they performed and seeing them listening, following instructions and all working together was really impressive. Well done Year 4, what a great performance, showing us that you were all concentrating and working hard to be the best that you can be.



For those of you who were not able to join us, a snippet of the performance can be seen here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=570936535297915>

House Singing



Miss Gardiner sent out information to the parents who have been initially invited to the House Singing competition - Reception, Year 6 and parents of children who are either performing in the solo/instrumental performances last Friday. Everyone else was informed yesterday that the remaining seats were available on a first come first served basis. All seats have now been allocated. Thank you for your support with this.

Trip opportunities

There are a lot of trips that have been going on over the last few weeks. Year 5 visited Dursley which enhanced their History learning this term and they were offered a last minute opportunity to go and see the dress rehearsal at Rednock of School of Rock which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Year 6 went to see Desperate Journeys, an interactive play about refugees. This unique opportunity was fully funded by the Empathy Action Team the performance was realistic and provoked an emotional response - the children have brought their learning back into school and will be writing poetry which will be shared with the charity in the summer term.

And Year 2 and Year 3 went to Berkeley Castle and Chedworth Roman Villa – both of which supported their History learning this term.

Taking the children off site is such a valuable experience for all of them, I am really grateful to the staff who have planned and organised the trips for the children, it is an additional workload and pressure for them to enable our children to have these extra opportunities. I am equally grateful to all of the parents who support these trips; financially, with transport and by coming along to be part of best practise ratios when taking the children off site. Without your support, these valuable experience would not be achievable – thank you all.

Spring into Wellbeing: Embracing Change and New Beginnings



As the seasons change, it's a great opportunity to focus on simple, positive steps that can support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. From spending more time outdoors to establishing healthy routines and navigating life's changes with confidence, small actions really can make a big difference. Encouraging regular outdoor activities – such as gardening, nature walks, cycling or playing sports – can support both physical and mental wellbeing.

Follow this link for lots more advice: [NHS Gloucestershire - CYPMH Monthly Newsletter - March 2025](#)



Parent Forum

Our first Parent Forum will be held on Wednesday 9th April at 9am. Miss Gardiner has sent out the terms of reference and agenda to you all. It is not too late! If you would like to and are able to join us, then please let the Admin Team know so that we can allocate a suitable space. Minutes will be shared with all parents after the meeting.

Attendance Matters, Moments Count



Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

**You should not take holidays during term time.
Please be punctual to maintain attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity**

You may be aware that we have recently introduced the 'Perfect Punctuality' award along with our attendance award in our celebration assembly. In order to achieve this award, every child in their class has to be in school on time – that means **sat in their place ready for group reading at 8.50am**. When introducing this award the late rates across the school were so high I almost didn't think a class would achieve it.

However, it is amazing the difference that this has made – the recorded lates have hugely reduced across the school. This is enormously positive and will have a great impact on the children and teacher's start to the day. So far – Year 4 have won the award twice and Year 2 won it last week. Thank you so much for your support with this and for getting your child/children to school on time.

PTA News

Thank you so much once again Mrs Wand and Mrs Stevenson (who is in training 😊) for the wonderful Easter Hampers.

If you haven't bought your tickets yet, not to worry there is still time – they will be on sale at the Easter Event this Sunday. The raffle will be drawn at 2.30pm - you have to be in it to win it!

Quiz Night at the Fox

The popular quiz at the Fox is taking place on 19th May. If you'd like to get a team together and book a table, please let Jo Smee know asap – they sell out very quickly!

Ice cream Sales



Thank you so much for the parents who have volunteered to sell ice creams for the last few weeks – what a lovely way for the children to end their week on a nice day. There are still plenty of slots, so if you are able to help, do speak to Lex and she will sign you up.

Logo Competition

The PTA are asking children to design a new Logo for their letterhead. This is a great opportunity for children to show off their talents – the entry is free and there are prizes to be won! Closing date is the 2nd May - a nice Easter Holiday activity, possibly.

OOSC News

The Easter Holiday Club is available to book now.
 When - Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th April
 From - 08:30 to 17:00
 Cost - £29 per child per day (5% discount for children booking all days - 3-day price £82.65).



Easter holiday club 2025

Time	Magic day! Tuesday 15th April	Be the scientist day! Wednesday 16th April	Easter day! Thursday 17th April
8.30am – 9.00am	Free play	Free play	Free play
9.00am – 10.00am	Wand	Explosive cupcakes	Easter bonnets
10.00am – 11.00am	Magic Marie show (outside organisation)	Free play	Free play
11.00am – 12.00pm	Free play	You be the scientist (science experiments)	Easter nests
12.00pm – 1.00pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Rabbit cupcake	Messy play	Wooden ornament craft
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Rabbit cup	Windmills	Egg hunt
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Magic rainbow bookmarks	Kites	Rabbit pencil topper
4.00pm – 5.00pm	free play	free play	free play
5.00pm	Home time	Home time	Home time

LET US PRAY



Mass Schedule

Mass begins at 10am

Thursday 10th April – Year
4

Friday 11th April – Stations
of the Cross – 9.30am all
welcome.



[April 2025](#)

Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

This week's prayer is written by Year 2:

Dear God

We love you and everyone that shows us mothering love. We love our family, thank you for the people we love. Thank you for the help from our mothers.

Amen



St Joseph's Primary School, Nympsfield



**BRAND
NEW**

EASTER HUNT

★ APRIL 6TH 1-4pm

**CAKES,
HOT CROSS BUNS,
HOT AND COLD
DRINKS**

**TOMBOLA
REFRESHMENTS
CRAFTS & GAMES**



- GAMES AND TOMBOLA RUN BY PRESCHOOL
- COLOURING COMPETITION • FIND THE GOLDREN CARROT GAME
- EASTER RAFFLE WITH SEVEN FANTASTIC EASTER HAMPERS
WHICH WILL BE DRAWN AT 2.30PM ON THE DAY



If We Followed Jesus

If we Followed Jesus
If we followed Jesus,
The world would be,
A place of wonders,
For all to see.

There would be no famine,
No hate, no shame,
We'd rejoice,
That Jesus came.

Guns would shoot flowers,
But knives we'd still make,
But for only two reasons,
To butter bread and cut cake!

Kings and Queens would bow down,
And wash peoples feet,
And at dinner,
They'd offer you a seat.

If we follwed Jesus,
The world would be,
A place of wonders,
For all to see.

There would be no famine,
No hate, no shame,
We'd rejoice,
That Jesus came.

Jesus forgave,
Everyone who he saw,
We could give money,
To the homeless and poor, .

The world's people would love
They would love and adore,
Everything God gave us,
Everything and more!

If we Followed Jesus
If we followed Jesus,
The world would be,
A place of wonders,
For all to see.

There would be no famine,
No hate, no shame,
We'd rejoice,
That Jesus came.

Written By Samuel in Year 6



Saw this and thought that some of you might be interested ...



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.



REJOICE! HE IS RISEN

May the promise of the
Easter season bring you
great joy and abundant
peace in the love and
promise of the Lord.

*Happy
Easter*



Dates
for your



April

Sunday 6th - PTA Easter event 1-4pm

Wednesday 9th - Parent Forum 9am

Thursday 10th - House singing

Competition - 1.30pm

Friday 11th - Stations of the Cross

9.30am

Friday 11th - End of Term 1.30pm

Summer Term 1 - April

Monday 28th - Term 5 begins for all

Monday 28th - Clubs begin

Tuesday 29th - Y6 PCSO drugs and peer
pressure talk

May

WB 12th May - KS2 SATs

Friday 23rd May - Half Term