



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

## Newsletter – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful half-term break and enjoyed some quality time together. It has been lovely to see the children return rested, smiling, and ready for another exciting term of learning.

We've been fortunate to enjoy some brighter, nicer weather this week, which has brought an extra spring in everyone's step. It's been a busy start to the term, and the children have settled quickly into their routines with great enthusiasm.

There is so much to look forward to this term. Science Week is just around the corner, Mrs Carr and Mrs Shipton have been busily planning this event and excitement is already building across the school. The children can expect hands-on investigations, inspiring challenges, and plenty of opportunities to explore the amazing world of science. Alongside this, we have a full and enriching term planned, filled with learning, creativity, and shared achievements.

As always, thank you for your continued support. We are excited for the weeks ahead and all the wonderful things the children will accomplish.

### Week of Awe and Wonder

During our *Week of Awe and Wonder* at St Joseph's, the children took part in a rich and engaging exploration of Judaism. Across the school, pupils learned about important Jewish symbols, sacred texts, places of worship, prayer traditions, and key celebrations that shape Jewish faith and culture. As a Catholic school, we believe it is vital for our children to learn about other world religions. This not only deepens their understanding of the wider world but also helps them to grow in respect, empathy, and appreciation for the beliefs and traditions of others. By recognising what we share and celebrating what makes us different, our pupils develop as compassionate, informed, and open-minded members of our diverse global community.



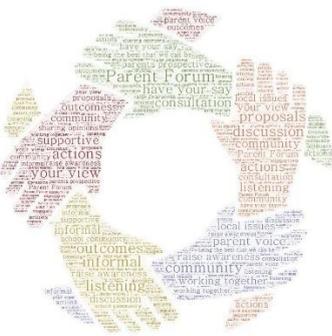
### Parent Forum

It was lovely to see some new faces at the Parent Forum last week, thank you to the parents who were able to come and join us. The topics for discussion on the agenda were the Pupil Premium Strategy and The Writing Framework.

There were helpful discussions as well as ideas shared for possible discussions moving forwards.

For those of you who were unable to attend, please do catch up by visiting the Parent Forum page on the school website where you will find the presentation from the meeting along with the minutes and actions.

As always, if there are any topics that you would like to be discussed at the Forum, please do let us know and we will add them to the list for future meetings.



## Learning for Peace

At the Parent Forum, parents asked if they could watch a Learning for Peace lesson – to which Mrs Carr agreed. This will enable parents to see the language that the children are being taught to support them to manage and deal with conflict independently. The date has been set for **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm**

All parents are welcome to come along **but** we do need to know who will be coming so that we can plan the event accordingly. If you would like to join us that would be great, please book a seat by emailing the Admin Team. Anyone who turns up on the day without booking a place will not be able to attend.

## Look Who's Talking 2026

Mrs Pickering and Mrs Wilkins took our 3 finalists, Una, Sam and Bella to Rodborough last week to take part in the Stroud area competition. They were so incredibly proud of the children. They looked smart, spoke brilliantly and although they didn't make it through to the finals, were super ambassadors for our school. I would like to thank the 3 children for representing our school so well and for **being the best that they could be.**

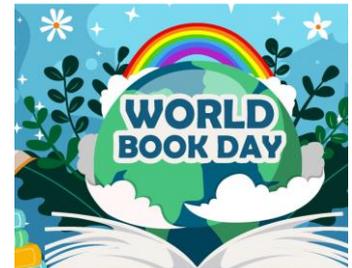
## House Singing Competition 2026



Practice has begun! The much loved House Singing is well under way. The house captains need to organise and run their auditions over the next few weeks to see who will be performing for their House this year. Just a reminder the categories are the group song, solo/duet and playing an instrument. As in previous years, seats will be offered to Reception and Year 6 parents first as well as parents of the children who have been chosen to perform for their House. Once these seats have been allocated, we will open it up on a first come, first served basis. Watch out for the information nearer to the time.

## World Book Day

We had a truly wonderful World Book Day at St Joseph's, and we would like to thank our staff, children, and families for making it such a memorable celebration of reading. From exploring the beautiful story *Bloom* and enjoying cosy reading sessions in pyjamas, to sharing books with families, joining live author sessions, swapping books, and raising

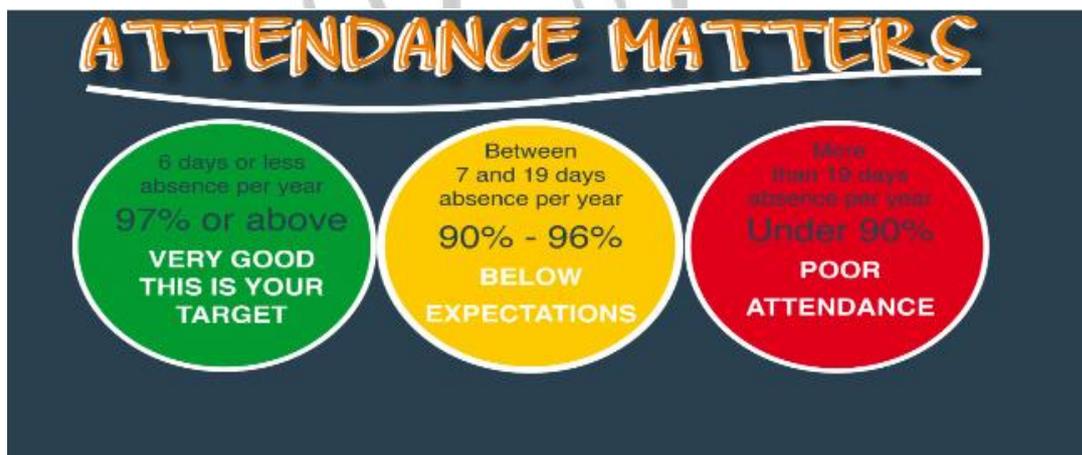


money with our ever-popular hot chocolate sale – the whole school was filled with excitement and a real love of reading. The children took part enthusiastically in every activity, especially our bookmark competition and the much-loved Book Swap, which helped many pupils discover new stories to enjoy at home. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed books, joined us for reading sessions, helped with activities, or supported behind the scenes, especially Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Knight. It was a fantastic day that truly showed how “Reading Gives You Wings...”



## Attendance

We have 18 children at St Joseph's on the Persistently Absent (PA) register. As you know, when a child's attendance falls below 90% they are considered to be persistently absent from school. This will lead to gaps in their learning which will make it more challenging for them to make the best progress that they are able to make. Just as a reminder:



## Sporting News



We have Rugby tournaments coming up for Key Stage 2. As always with these events, there are specifications for the structure of the teams. As is always the case, we do our best but there is always a limit of the amount of children that we can take.

I would like to thank Mr Partridge, who has come in to support the coaching of rugby for the last few Friday lunch times. He has engaged the children and supported their game play brilliantly. The children have loved it, I certainly enjoyed last week, what a pleasure to spend my lunch time with such enthusiasm from all!

## Staffing News

I would like to congratulate Mrs Knight, who once again passed the rigorous assessments to be a writing moderator for the Local Authority again this year. This will mean that in the summer term she will be visiting other local school and assessing their Year 6 writing against the standards. In order to pass this test, you have to have a really clear understanding of the framework – they never present the candidates with easy pieces to assess! Well done Mrs Knight and thank you for all of the work that you put into leading writing at St Josephs!

♥ thank you ♥  
for all you do

## PTA News

Thank you all for remembering the non-uniform in exchange for a gift for the Easter Hampers. Mrs Wand as always has turned a pile of donations into magnificent hampers. Tickets are on sale now. There is a rota of volunteers who are in the playground at the end of the school day, waiting to sell you a ticket – equally Our Year 6's will be on duty on Friday after school - they can't wait!

The Easter event is in the process of being planned Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2-4pm and we need your help. If you are able to come along to support this event, we would be most grateful. Please sign up here following this link: [Easter 2026: Easter Event](#)

Also, as usual, the PTA are asking for yummy cakes to sell along with tea and coffee. If you are able to help with this too, please do. As always, thank you for your support - all of the money raised goes to enhancing the learning experiences of all the children at St Joseph's.





## St Carlo Relics

Next Tuesday 10th March at the Immaculate Conception Church, Stroud Mrs Carr, Mrs Barron and Miss Gardiner will be accompanying KS2 catholic children and members of the Chaplaincy Team to see St Carlo Relics. This is a very special event which will include a talk by the Relics Team, Mass and an opportunity for children to approach the relics with prayer cards. If anyone else would like to visit and take their families there is Benediction at 4.30pm at the church. Please click on this link for more information about this momentous occasion: [St Carlo Relics](#)



## Mass Schedule

**Mass begins at 10am**

**Parents are warmly welcome to join their child's class when it is their turn to go to Mass. Please let the Admin Team know if you are able to come.**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March – St Joseph's Feast Day – Whole school mass at **9.30am**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Reception

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Stations of the Cross – time TBC



### March 2026

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 from Year 2:

Dear God,

We are thankful for Jesus because he is our saviour. We are also thankful for John the Baptist because he made a prophecy about the coming of Jesus Christ, just like the prophet Isaiah. John the Baptist lived in the wilderness and wore camel fur!

When Jesus was older, John the Baptist baptised Jesus in the River Jordan. Heaven opened up and the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove. It was wonderful!

We are thankful for all the amazing things on our planet and thank you for making us.

Help us to inspire everyone to REACH through Faith, Hope and Love.

Amen.

Year 2



# Dates for your



## March 2026

WB 9<sup>th</sup> - Science Week

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - St Carlo Relics visit to Stroud -  
12.40pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Y5/6 Tag Rugby tournament  
at Dursley RFC - 1.00pm-3.30pm

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Mock Trial event AM

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - last week of teacher led clubs

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - NO COOKERY CLUB (staff  
training)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Y3/4 Tag Rugby tournament  
at Dursley Academy - 1.15pm-3.00pm

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> - St Joseph's Feast Day Mass  
9.30am

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - Story time at the Convent 8.40am

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> - PTA Easter event 2.00-4.00pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Skillzone trip PM

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> - House Singing Competition PM

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Stations of the Cross AM

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - End of Term 1.30pm ☺**

## April 2026

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Term 5 - staff and children to  
attend

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Convent Story Time AM

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Swimming begins (more details to  
follow soon)

WB Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Teacher led clubs begin

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Y5 trip to Holst Museum

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> - Y2 trip to Berkeley Castle

## May 2026

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - EYFS trip to Slimbridge Wetlands  
Centre

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Y3 trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

WB Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - KS2 SATs

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Convent Story Time - AM

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - PTA Colour Run after school