



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Newsletter – Friday 26th June 2026

It's certainly been a very warm week, and we've all been feeling the heat. Despite this, it's been lovely to see the children enjoying being at school as learning continued.

We're so proud of how well everyone has managed during this hot weather. The children have kept going with their learning, shown great behaviour, and really looked after one another. They've been kind, patient and positive, which has been wonderful to see. A big thank you as well to our staff, who have worked hard to keep everyone cool, safe and happy. Thank you to all of the parents for their kind words of support and emails too – for that we are really grateful.

It's moments like these that really show our school values in action—caring for each other and doing our best, no matter what. Thank you to all our families for your continued support.

First Holy Communion

Some of us were privileged to be able to join our children as they took their First Holy Communion on 13th June.

The service was lovely as was the celebration afterwards at school. The parents did an amazing job of pulling together the party food and decorations in the hall.

Congratulations to Finn, Niall, Luna, Edward and Willow for all of the hard work that led to them taking this special sacrament and to Mrs Gwyer and Mrs Carr, who prepared the children so well. I would also like to thank Miss Drury, Mrs Barron and Mrs Jenkins for coming to share this special event with the children.



New Parents Evening

We had a lovely time at our New Parent's evening last week. Miss Read shared her enthusiasm for the early years and how excited she is to be working in reception in September. The new parents had the opportunity to meet with Dr Johnson during the evening too. It was lovely to see the event so well supported.

Home visits

Mrs Ponting and Miss Read completed their home visits to our new starters for September 2026 this week. They had 2 very busy days but came back to school excited about the new cohort of children that will be joining the school. Having met the children in their homes, they came into school yesterday for their first transition afternoon.

Author Visit



We were delighted to welcome author Struan Murray and Cathy Geary from the Literacy Trust to our school for a truly inspiring afternoon. The KS2 assembly captivated the children, who were fascinated by Struan's insights into how drawing can support writing, spark creativity and bring ideas to life, helping them see that there are many different ways to develop stories and imaginative thinking. The Year 5 and 6 workshop was equally engaging, with pupils thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to help create their own dragon—an experience that filled the room with excitement and creativity and will stay with them for a long time. The impact of the visit was immediate, with children leaving feeling inspired and enthusiastic about reading and writing; in fact, there is already a waiting list for Struan's books in school. We are very grateful to Struan and Cathy, and to the National Literacy Trust, for providing such a memorable experience that has helped nurture our pupils' love of reading, writing and creativity – all for free. I would like to thank Mrs Knight for arranging this exceptional experience for the children.

OOSC

As you are aware, following a consultation period, the OOSC trustees are planning on transferring the management of the club to the school. The club is vital to many of our working families – without which, their children would not be able to come to our school. The reason for this transfer is to secure the future of the club for the families of St Joseph's. **The OOSC AGM has been re-scheduled for 13th July at 6pm. The link in the letter that was sent out on Friday does not work. A working link will be circulated nearer the time.**

Eco- Committee News

Cllr Gill Thomas visited recently she has been working with the Eco-Committee and was supporting of our litter picking hub status. She has managed to secure a grant and has used it to fund high quality texts about the environment (18 books) and additional 20 litter pickers. The lovely books are now in school as are the litter pickers, which are in the playground getting lots of use at break and lunch times. We are really grateful for all of the work that Gill does to support our school and to Mrs Gasan for leading the Eco-Committee. Mr Barron and Mrs Gwyer were in recently too helping the Eco-Committee make bee houses. Please see the lovely photos and further info at the back of this newsletter. Big thanks to Mrs Gwyer and Mr Barron for their continued support in school, we are so lucky to have great adults who come into school to give our children great experiences.



District sports

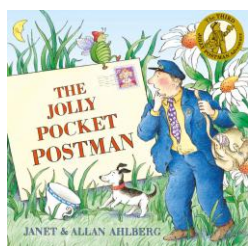
There was much disappointment when District Sports, having been previously postponed was cancelled last week. From too much rain to a heatwave! We are sorry that the children

missed out on the opportunity to wear the new athletic tops at the track events but are pleased for the children who represented the school so well at the field events.

House treat

We had one of the Kestrels house treats last Friday - the children made smores! I would like to thank the house captain's parents for supplying the ingredients and Lucy and Leah – our great cooks who cooked them for the children. The children thoroughly enjoyed them and are looking forward to part 2 – a game of capture the flag - when the weather is cooler!

Story Time at the Convent



What a lovely surprise for the children when Hebe and Marmaduke read the stories at the convent last week. They did such a good job. It was lovely too to see so many parents supporting.

The final one for this year will be on Friday 10th July. Hope to see you there.



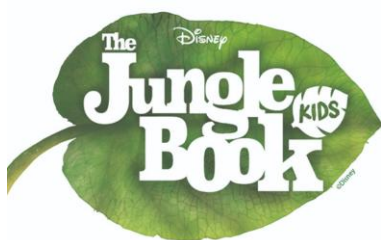
Attendance

I am delighted that 2 children have come off the PA tracker – their attendance is now above 90%. However, we have 5 children who are red on the tracker – moving in the wrong direction and some attendance is even below 85%. When a child is ill, they need to stay at home. However, we need to be aware of the impact that absence has on a child.

Persistently absent attendance can have a significant impact on a child's education and future prospects. The evidence is clear - even a few days of missed school can have a significant impact on a child's education and future prospects. Recent research by the Department for Education shows just how closely attendance and attainment are linked.

At primary school, children who attend nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90–95% of the time. Children who are on the tracker have attendance below 90%.

Jungle Book



The Year 6 children have been working hard on their production of Jungle Book. This year, the Year 5 children have been lucky enough to have been offered the opportunity to join in the production too. I say that because this is the last time that Sarah will be working with the children at St Joseph's. Today tickets have been opened up to the rest of the school. Please let the Admin Team know if you would like tickets - it will definitely be worth it!

PTA News

♥ thank you ♥
for all you do

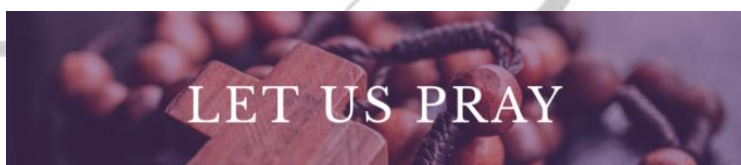
I would like to thank the PTA for very kindly buying the staff ice creams this week – it was very much appreciated!

As the end of term is fast approaching, just a reminder of the final PTA events of the year:

Monday – 6th July - Quiz at the Old Fox pub in Coaley

Ice cream sales after school on a Friday – thank you so much to all of the parents who have been helping by being on the selling rotas.

Refreshments at the school picnic and sports day.



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.

2 nd July	Year 3
9 th July	Year 2
16 th July	Whole School Leaver's Mass (9.30am)



[June 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 Reception:

Dear God

Thank you for making the plants (Charles)

Thank you for making people with lots of love (Rosie)

Thank you for making the world (Novie)

Thank you for green grass (Niamh)

Thank you for making bees because they make honey (Fearne)

Amen

Dates
for your



Summer Term 2 - June 2026

WB 29th - Show week Y6 (Monday 29th dress rehearsal,
Tuesday 30th 2pm, Wednesday 1st July 6.30pm)

WB 29th - Last week of teacher led clubs

July 2026

Thursday 2nd - Transition afternoon (EYFS)

WB 6th - Health Week

Tuesday 7th - Sports Day

Friday 10th - Reports out to parents

WB 13th - Week of Awe and Wonder

Tuesday 14th - Whole School picnic - Y6 Make £5 Grow stalls

Wednesday 15th - Music concert PM

Thursday 16th - Leavers' mass 9.30am

Friday 17th - Schools out for summer

SCHOOL FINISHES AT 1.30PM

The Eco-Committee made Bee Rafts with Mr Barron to sell at the whole school picnic on the afternoon of Tuesday 14th July. All sale profits will be going to Water Aid. Please support this vital charity.

There were 4 stages to making the Bee Rafts:

- Mark and make holes with a screwdriver
- Drill holes through wood
- Counter sink holes with drill
- Rub down rough edges on raft with sander and sandpaper

Big thanks you to Mrs Barron and Mrs Gwyer. It was great fun!

Come and buy a bee raft at our sale.

Mrs Gasan and the Eco-Committee

