



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Newsletter – Friday 16th October 2026

It was wonderful to welcome so many of you to Parents' Evenings this week. These conversations are such an important opportunity to celebrate children's successes, talk openly about their learning and to understand the children better. Across school, there has been a real focus on strengthening key skills, including improving the fluency and presentation of our handwriting. Year 5 also enjoyed a particularly memorable STEM Day, combining music, investigation and more than a few explosions! As we approach the last week of the term, it has been encouraging to see how many children continue to hold themselves and each other to the highest standards, both academically and in the way they treat others. I appreciate how tired they must be after a long term, and the extra effort you and they make to maintain the spirit of our community as the days shorten and the nights draw in. Good luck to all the children running the cross country races on Sunday. A huge thank you to Mr Amigoni, Mrs Knight and all parents/carers who let our children have this amazing experience. Go Team St Joe's!

Harvest

Pope Francis reminded us that "You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works". In response to his challenge to compassionate action, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be leading our Harvest Festival on Wednesday starting at 9.15am. All years are invited to donate, and our donations will go to Stroud District Foodbank, who can distribute what we have to others. A shopping list is attached to this letter, and we will receive all items on school for collection. These can then be used to offer comfort and practical help to families when they need it most. Please attend if you can.

Attendance

As we approach the final week of term, every day in school continues to matter. Alongside important learning, these last few days are often when special memories are made with friends and classmates before the holidays begin. We continue to monitor attendance carefully, celebrating strong attendance while working alongside families where there are barriers to being in school. If your child is finding attendance difficult, please talk to us as we will always listen and look for ways to help. We want every child to be here, to belong and to share in these important moments. Please look at the school's website for information and videos on attendance and absence at [Attendance and Absence](#)

Uniform Policy

Thank you to all parents who gave up their time to support in the development of a uniform policy. It was good to be able to facilitate everyone's involvement, having regrettably being forced to make changes without discussion over the summer to conform to the law. As a result of these face-to-face discussions, we are able to put forward a proposal for a uniform policy on which to gather a broader range of views. The policy is attached to this letter, along with a feedback form. If you would prefer a hard copy of the feedback form, one is available in the office. The current uniform policy remains in place until discussions have ended and a new one is approved and any changes will be gradual with transitional periods.

Teachers Out Next Week-Advance notice

Year 6 will be away on Residential next week, accompanied by Mrs Knight, Mrs Pickering, Mrs Hamlin (from Monday to Wednesday) and Mrs Gasan (Thursday and Friday). Thank you to those colleagues for giving time to allow Year 6 to have a great experience. Miss Bennett is out on Thursday to celebrate her graduation, and Mrs Hannon is not in on Friday. All absences will be covered by familiar adults in school, except for Mrs Hannon where a trusted supply will be used. It is likely that routines and adults in classrooms may change slightly as we adjust to these changes. We have kept these changes to a minimum, and used adults who know classes where possible. Even so, I recognise children can become nervous if changes occur unexpectedly. Please speak to your child if these changes may affect them. Explain that an adult from another class may be in their room, that they may get an exciting chance to work with them, and that other familiar staff will be available.



WEEK AHEAD



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am All Classes Parents SEND Information Morning 	10am Year 4 Mass 	Years 3 and 4 NSSSP 	Everyone Half Term Holiday!
9am All Classes Parents welcome Harvest 			
4pm Sophie Wilson Dance Group Parents Dance Show 			

The SEND Information Morning on Wednesday is for parents new to the school, and parents who wish to understand the ways in which we meet SEND need who do not presently have children receiving support co-ordinated by Mrs Ponting (SENDCo).

Please donate and join us for Harvest on Wednesday.

Diary Dates

A full list of confirmed and likely events for the year is available at [Diary Dates 2026 2027](#)



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

Harvest appeal

***This Harvest, please
help local households
put food on the table.***

Your kindness will help provide emergency food and practical support to individuals and families when they need it most.

Donate food



Please support our Harvest collection by donating items from our shopping list.

Donate money



If you would prefer to make a financial donation, every pound helps us buy essential items that are needed most. Please scan the QR code below.



Shopping list

Tinned ham/corned beef

Tinned potatoes

Tinned sweetcorn

Tinned stews/curries

Peanut butter & jam

Marmite & choc spread

Biscuits

Fruit squash

Toilet Roll

Laundry detergent

<https://strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk>

office@strouddistrictfoodbank.org.uk Tel: 01453 367 077
Registered Charity in England & Wales 1176306



≡ School Uniform ≡

1

Grey jumper or cardigan



Branded grey jumper

Standard-cotton/acrylic mix

If wanted-100% cotton available to order with 3 week wait time at extra cost

2

Collared shirt, collared polo shirt, tie or summer dress



Any plain white shirt of any sleeve length or material with a collar that can hold a tie

Elasticated ties to be sourced by school

Ties to be worn except: For break and lunch, when temperature exceeds 20 degrees

3

Trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore



These are unbranded

Boys or girls can both wear any options (no gendered uniform)

These are not seasonal-all options can be worn all year

4

Grey or white socks and black shoes



Sensible school shoes, no branded shoes or trainers

≡ PE Kit ≡

1

Blue hoodie with logo or blue zipped hoodie with logo



New style pull on hoodie with 4cm larger neck opening

Or

Zip hoodie in same material

2

Polo shirt with logo (in house colours)



Branded House top in appropriate colour

3

Navy joggers or shorts



These are unbranded

These are not seasonal-all options can be worn all year

4

Trainers



Any non-obtrusively branded or coloured suitable trainers

Proposed Uniform Policy Response Form

Name of child/children:

Questions on the policy:

From 1(disapprove) -10 (approve) how would you feel about a future move to non-branded grey jumpers or cardigans?

From 1(disapprove) -10 (approve) how do you feel about each family having the option of any plain white shirt with a collar?

From 1(disapprove) -10 (approve) how do you feel about not having seasonal uniform? Would the zipped hoodie option be something you would use?

Question on timing:

What would be a suitable 'transition period' in which older uniform could still be worn: 1 year, 2 years, indefinite

Questions on how we source and supply uniform:

From 1-10 how much do you value being able to visit a physical store for branded items?

From 1-10 how much do you value delivery to school for branded items?

From 1-10 how much do/would you value being able to order alternative branded items with wait for a turnaround (for example a 100% cotton jumper)?

From 1 (price) to 10 (service and choice) what do you think is most important in the school's choice of supplier?

Any other comments: