



**ST JOSEPH'S**  
**CATHOLIC PRIMARY**  
**SCHOOL**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
Newsletter 15th November

## Within this newsletter:



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

- A message from our Principal
- Maths Week England
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Our Lady and All Saints Parish Church
- Sunday Gospel and Children's liturgy
- The Wednesday Word
- Gifts from God
- PE and School Sport
- Gardening Club
- Attendance
- Diary dates
- Curriculum
- PTA Updates
- PE timetable
- Clubs
- School lunch menu
- Pupil Premium and Free School Meals
- Safeguarding
- Dudley Early Help Strategy
- National Online Safety

- [Contact us](#)

## A message from our Principal



Dear parents and families,

I hope that you are all well. It has been an extremely busy week in school this week. On Monday, Year 2 led us all in a very poignant and respectful Remembrance assembly. The children were an absolute credit for how they learnt their words, songs and actions throughout the assembly. The 2 minute silence was beautifully observed in school as a reminder of those who have been lost in conflict across the world.

This week we have also celebrated Anti-bullying week - with the annual odd socks day on Tuesday! Throughout the week, the children have focussed on the theme of 'Choose respect' in their lessons. As a reminder, as a school we achieved the Dudley Anti- Bullying Accreditation in 2023.

Maths week England has been great fun in school. The children have taken part in investigations, estimations, stories linked to maths and and Times Tables competitions. It has been a great week! How exciting too for our Year 3 children to dress as Rockstar's as they began using TT Rockstar's. I hope that everyone has had a great week.

Finally, Year 1 have just arrived back from their trip to the Black Country Living Museum. They have enjoyed learning about Toys throughout the ages and had a traditional lesson at the museum too. The children (and grown ups!) looked a little weary getting off the coach, but all have had a wonderful time. Thank you to the parent volunteers for supporting this trip.

### **Important update!**

On Tuesday, Play to Measure will begin work on the trail and mega mud kitchen in our forest area at the back of school. On Tuesday and Wednesday morning, we are asking that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 enter school in the morning through the main entrance, past

the school office and across the hall to their classrooms. Adults will be on hand to greet the children. There should not be any disruption to Reception being collected at the end of either day, and we are hoping that the morning routine will return to normal on Thursday morning. Play to Measure will take around 3 weeks to complete the structure in the Forest Area of School. An exciting few weeks are ahead while the structure is built!

### **New Diary Date! St Joseph's - Carols by Candlelight**

Father Philip has kindly agreed for school to host our very first 'Carols by Candlelight' on Sunday 15th December at 4pm. More information to follow very soon.

Have a great weekend.

**Mr. A Wilkes**

**Principal**

Our school website is regularly updated - including autumn curriculum study plans! Please have a look here - [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Home \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st.dudley.sch.uk)

Catholic Life events PowerPoint - [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Catholic Life Events 2023 - 2024 \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

**Updates:**

**Term dates - Term dates and insets are available on the calendar section of the school website.**

**November TEN:TEN Newsletter** The October newsletter from Ten:Ten to support you with prayer at home <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>



*1 - Next week in school!*

*As the name suggests, Maths Week is a week-long celebration of all things maths. Some perceive maths as being a little bit elitist (that is, being only for extremely clever people)! Maths Week sets out to encourage children to pursue maths by promoting a more positive and inclusive approach. We will have lots of activities planned such as: fun lessons that are a little different to normal, our annual "Estimation Station" (guess the number of sweets in a jar!), KS2 Times tables Rockstars "England Rocks" competition, activities around school and the playground, learning about inspiring mathematicians, linking maths to stories and more. There will be "Maths Menus" sent home for optional extra homework and Mrs Hickman would love to see anything you do by sending a photo into the school office! [info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com) (Please state if you are happy for us to use any photographs on our website or social media platforms)*





# CHOOSE RESPECT

2 - Anti-Bullying week 2024 - Choose Respect!

*Next week the children will be taking part in Anti-Bullying week 2024. The theme this year is 'choose Respect' which ties in well with our focus on Dignity of the Human Person. The children will take part in a range of activities throughout the week to demonstrate a strong understanding of why bullying is wrong and how we can continue to promote Anti-Bullying!*





*3 - The Year 2 Remembrance assembly on Monday this week was absolutely beautiful. Well done to all of the children for learning their lines and parts so well. It was an extremely reflective assembly and focussed our minds on remembering those who have been lost to conflict across the world.*

**We will remember them.**





4 - Our poppy wreath laid at the Cenotaph Mary Steven's Park



5 - Our new Virtual School Tour - take a look!









**ST. JOSEPHS**  
Catholic Primary School

WE HAVE SPACES TO  
WELCOME RECEPTION  
CHILDREN TO OUR  
FLUSSING SCHOOL  
IN SEPTEMBER 2020!

Customer of all services to be used in agreement  
with our terms and conditions.

Please get in touch with our Sales  
Team for more information.

01293 531100  
info@stjosephsprimaryschool.com



**Ofsted**  
Good  
Provider

6 - Limited places are available at our school. Please call the school office to find out more. All children are welcome at our school!

## Catholic Social Teaching









7 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

Twitter/X @StJoStourbridge

Our Lady and All Saints Church welcomes you! **Mass Times - Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am.** Latest newsletter [OLAS-Bulletin-10th-November-2024.pdf](#) Scripture Reflection- [OLAS-SCRIPTURE-REFLECTIONS-NOVEMBER-2024.pdf](#)





## Children's liturgy - 33rd Week in Ordinary Time | Year B Mark 13:24-32



We get ready to welcome visitors. We prepare when there is going to be a new baby in the family. We prepare for a party or a meal. We get ready for the school play.

All around the world, children get ready to go to school in the morning. They get up, get washed and dressed, have breakfast and make their way to school ready to learn. When they get home, many children help their parents get dinner ready, so that the family can have something to eat. By doing their homework each night, children everywhere are also learning and preparing for their future.

Do you get ready in any of these ways during your day? Which ones? Can you think of any other ways that you get ready or prepare for things?

In today's gospel Jesus talks about the time when he will come again. Do you remember what he says about when that will be?

Jesus says that nobody except God knows when Jesus will come again. But as his followers we should still try to be ready to greet him when he comes. How do you think we can be ready for Jesus? What kind of people should we be so that we are ready for Jesus?

We can try to be ready by doing all that Jesus asks of us. By loving God and one another and by helping other people. By living in peace with each other and by sharing what we have so that all people have enough.

What will you do so that you can try to be ready when Jesus comes again in glory?

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be an example of generous and welcoming love for all people, leading the way for when Jesus comes again. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all children around the world: that they may have the chance to go to school, to learn and prepare for the future. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, our family and friends: that we may always try to be kind, loving and generous to others, so that we may be ready when Jesus comes again. Lord, in your mercy...

**Closing prayer:**

God of power, show us how to live in peace and harmony with each other, so that we may be ready to welcome your Son Jesus when he comes again in glory. Amen

Reflection adapted from Cafod Children's liturgy

[The Wednesday Word- Faithfulness - Magazine - Page 1](#)



## Gifts from God



Parents have been informed if their child will receive a certificate next week but we will keep it a surprise from the rest of the school and publish their names here next week!

The children below received their certificate in the Gifts from God assembly today. Well done children!

	Gospel values	Good work
Reception	Willow	India & Noah
Year 1	On trip	On trip
Year 2	Loic	Finley
Year 3	Anne-Marie	Florence
Year 4	Zara	Elisa
Year 5	Orlaith	Isla L
Year 6	Elissar	Alfie



Year 5 and Year 6 boys football training 3:15-4:15pm Tuesday evenings.

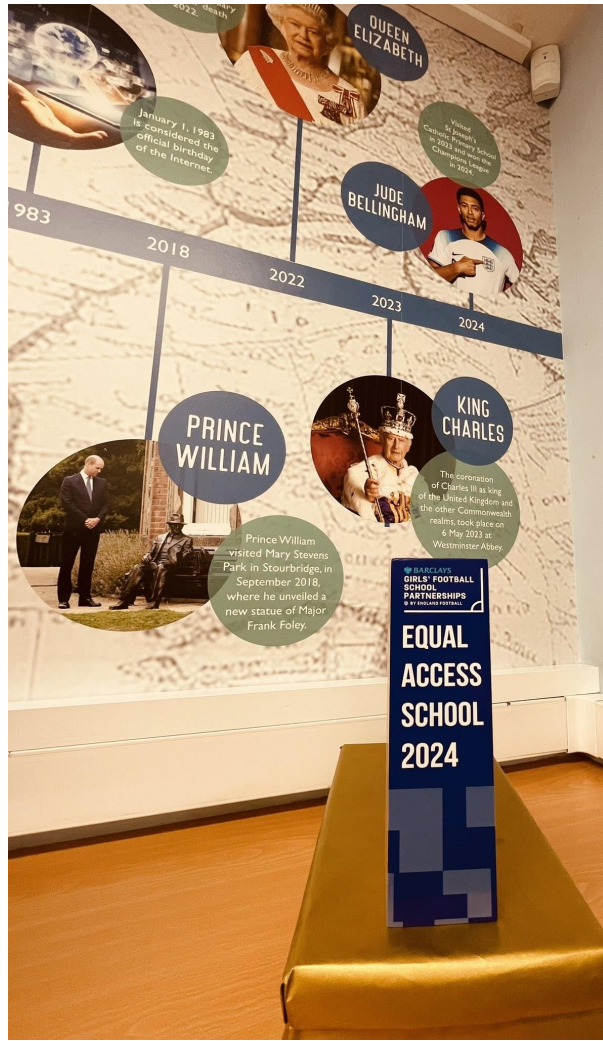
Thursday 28th November - Year 5/6 boys 7-a-side tournament. Details to follow.

Thursday 5th December - Year 5 /6 girls 7-a-side tournament. Details to follow.

Fixture: December 3rd 3:15pm vs Greenfield (h) Team to play to be announced soon.

KS2 Cross Country is on Tuesday lunchtimes for Year 5 and Year 6.









## Gardening club



### **Update from Mrs Bailey and Miss Biniek**

Garden club is back and we are so pleased with our little garden and how it is changing and growing into a fabulous project for everyone to enjoy.

We have recently had a wellie wall fitted ready for those wet weather days. It looks amazing.

On the garden club return after the schools holidays the children focused on tidying the garden with pruning and de-weeding. This week we have been planting seeds to germinate in the greenhouse over the autumnal months. We planted basil, butterfly flower mix and beetroot seeds. As Christmas is just around the corner, we planted some brussels sprouts seeds too.

The garden club are always in need of donations please, these could be large flower pots, cut offs of weed control fabric, blubs/seeds, wool for birds nests etc. Thank you for all your donations, they are very much appreciated.













## Attendance

**100% Attendance Certificate**

Awarded to \_\_\_\_\_

**for Perfect Attendance!**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

www.CreativeCertificates.com

Congratulations to **Year 1 & Year 5** who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

**Attendance for the whole school for this week is 98.75%**

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 97.8%

Year 1: 100%

Year 2: 99.3%

Year 3: 99.7%

Year 4: 99%

Year 5: 100%

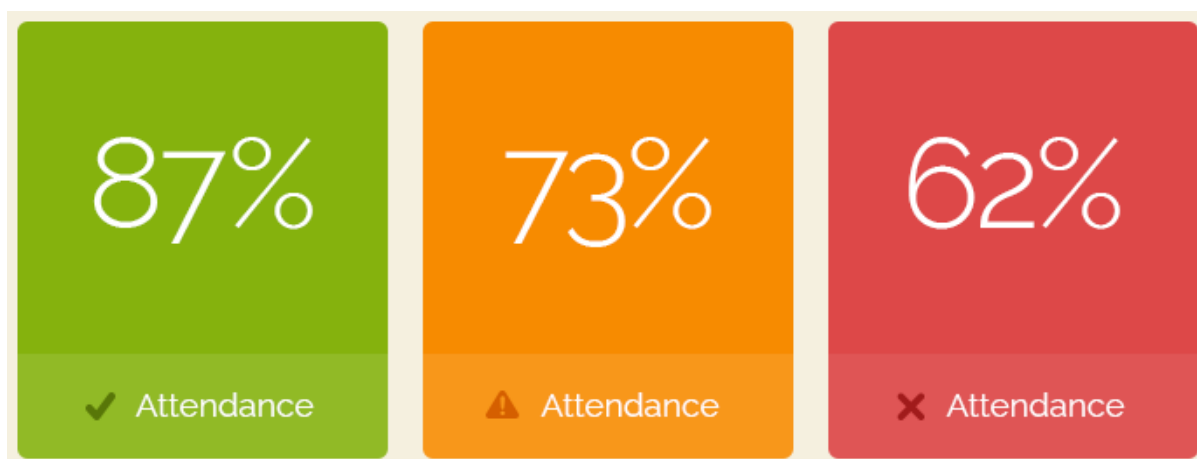
Year 6: 95.3%

Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has become unwell throughout the day.

If there is no reason provided for your child's absence an unauthorised code is marked in the register. This will impact your child's overall attendance. Please contact school before 8.55am where possible and leave a message . If we are not aware of why your child is not in school we will try and contact you, if we are unable to contact the parent/carer we may call one of the other contacts on your child's records.

Please try to be as punctual as possible, we have noticed a small number of children are arriving late to school. If your child arrives after the close of the registration period (9.05am) this again is recorded as an unauthorised absence on the register and will affect your child's overall attendance figure. If your child arrives at school after 8.55am they **MUST** be accompanied by a parent/carer for signing in purposes.

## Persistent Absence



**Please note:** From August 2024, updated Statutory Guidance Working Together To Improve School Attendance and the National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence issued by the Department For Education come in to effect. Early in September we will share the updates Emmaus attendance policy in line with this code.

**Please find the link to our updated attendance policy:** [Emmaus MAC Attendance Policy \(1\).pdf \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](#)

**Attendance:**

**Updated Guidance from Dudley - including the updated penalty fine information** [School attendance advice | Dudley Council](#)

**Please note - Leave of absence requests cannot be authorised by the Principal (except in limited exceptional circumstances) and may lead to a penalty fine payable to the local authority.**

We are seeing an increase in a small number of pupils whose attendance is falling below 90%. Once attendance falls below 90% pupils become Persistent Absentees. As part of our duty of care, parents will be written to highlighting their child's attendance has fallen below 90% and that we will be monitoring their attendance monthly. If your child's attendance continues to remain below 90% we will have no alternative but to refer to ESS (Dudley Education Support Service).

if your child arrives at school after the close of registers at 9.05am, an unauthorised late mark is registered and this will count as an absence.

Please see how absences affect children's learning:-

Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost

Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.

95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost

These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.

90%: 19 days absence a year – 95 Hours of Learning Lost

The Government classes pupils in this group as “Persistent Absentees”, and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades. **Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.**

Please support your child by ensuring they arrive at school each morning on time.

## Diary Dates 2024-25



**\*Please note all term dates are available on the calendar section of the school website. Please look at the link below for the latest diary date.**

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Dudley term dates - 2024/25 [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Dudley Term Dates 2023-24 and 2024-25 \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

**INSET DAYS 2024/25**

**Monday 2nd September (1)**

**Tuesday 3rd September (2)**

**Friday 4th October (3)**

**Friday 14th February (4)**

**Monday 21st July (5)**



## Curriculum



Have you seen the curriculum area on our school website? It is full of information about the progression of key knowledge and skills that our children learn throughout their time at school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the precise knowledge and skills are learnt



and reinforced so that the children develop a wide schema (web of knowledge) and are able to know more and remember more during their time at school and are prepared for their next stage in education.

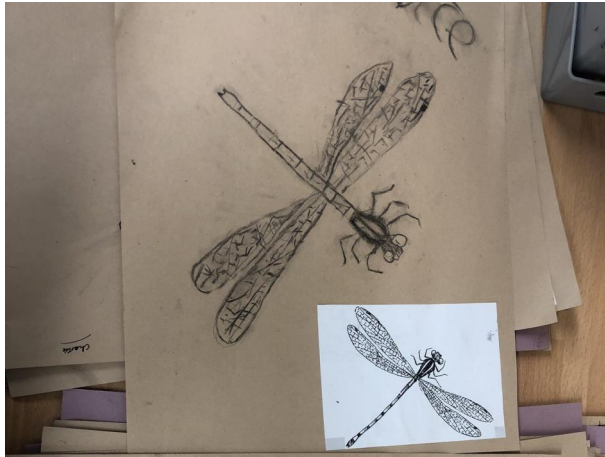
Ofsted agreed that we are continuing to develop an ambitious curriculum so that in all areas the children are able to achieve well and use the techniques that they have been taught to tackle a variety of challenges. Our curriculum is rooted in the teachings of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings so we make links with the children's learning to areas such as caring for our world, the dignity of workers, developments for the common good and more.

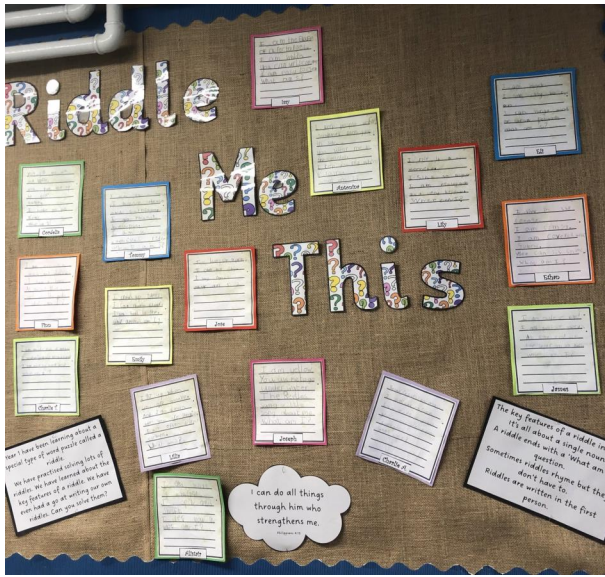
To bring the curriculum to life, we also plan for educational visits and visitors that enrich learning further.

You can view your child's learning in all areas at the link below.

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)













*8 - St George's Day!*









PTA updates- Please scroll through the images below for a host of updates from our wonderful PTA.





**CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING**  
WORKSHOP DELIVERED BY LOCAL PROFESSIONAL FLORIST

**SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER**  
AT 1PM  
ST JOSEPHS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

£35 including a glass of fizz,  
nibbles and carol singing  
and all you need for your festive wreath

TICKETS-PLEASE EMAIL [STJOSEPHSPTASTOURBRIDGE@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:STJOSEPHSPTASTOURBRIDGE@HOTMAIL.COM)  
THE FIRST 30 REQUESTS WILL RECEIVE TICKETS



## PE Timetable - Autumn 2nd half term (note\* new days)



Please take note of your child's PE days for this half term.

(Please remember Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that PE kits remain in school and are sent home at half term)

Reception Class - Tuesday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 2 - Monday & Thursday

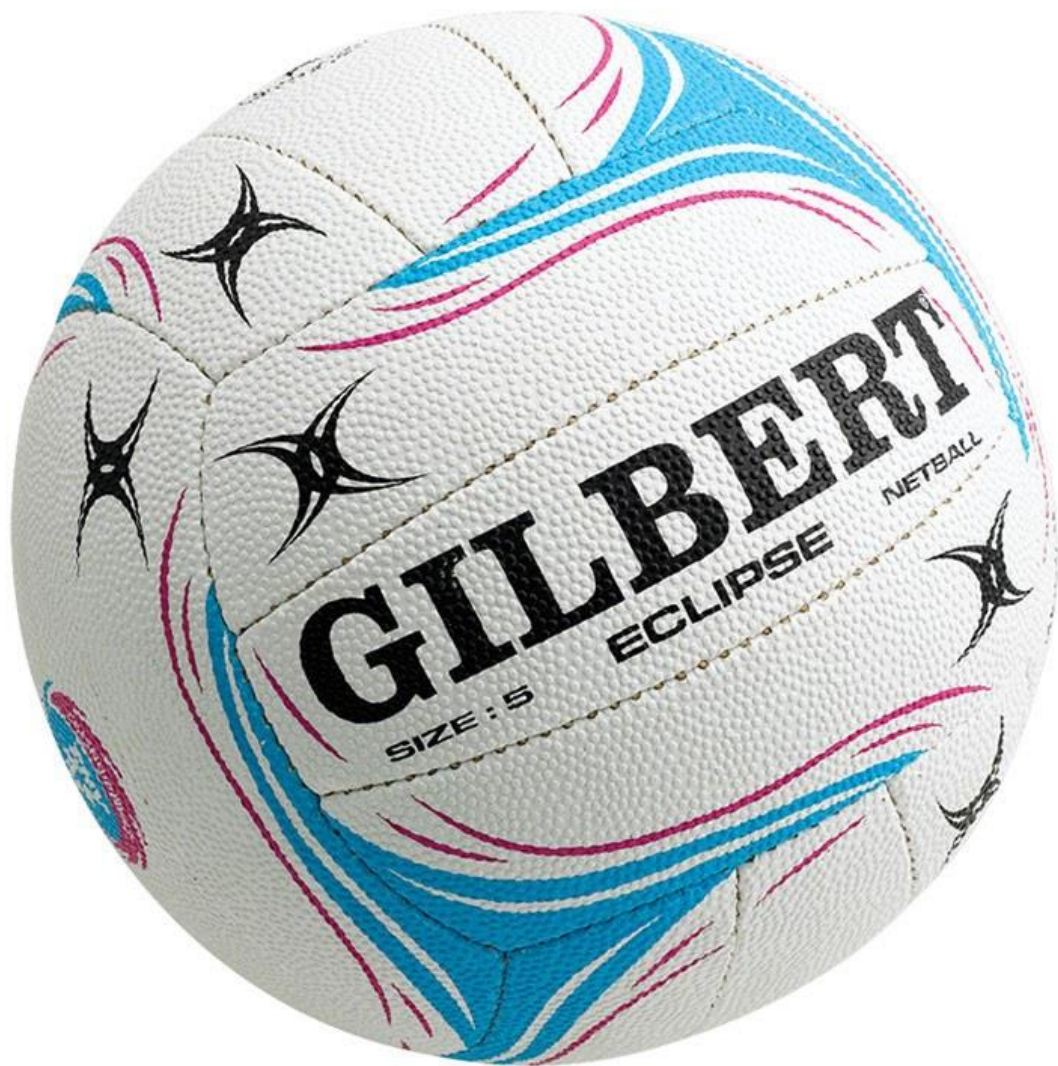
Year 3 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 4 - Monday & Friday (swimming)

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Friday

## Clubs



### **Lunchtime Clubs:**

Monday- Choir KS2 (Miss Gibbons)

Tuesday - Cross Country

Wednesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Wednesday - Y5/Y6 boys and girls football

Thursday- Mass band Y4/5/6 (Mrs Cangiano)

**If your child is interested in joining any of our Before & After school clubs, please contact the school office for more details.**

Monday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 1-3



Monday 3:15-4.15pn - Netball Club - Years 3-6 - spaces available

Monday 3:15-4:15pm - The Lion King theatre club (Full)

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics (R&B) -spaces available

Tuesday 3.15-4.30 - Irish Dancing (Full)

Tuesday 3:15-4:30pm - Year 5 and Year 6 boys football

Wednesday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 4-6 (Mark Bennett)

Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing (Full)

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics (RB) - spaces available

Friday 8am - Archery Club - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football (Your sport)

## Our school lunch menu





Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on Monday 27th February. Please remember to order before 8am. Pupils in Reception & KS1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Dinners for KS2 pupils are £2.30 per day.

## New school menu for autumn 2 and spring term- beginning on the first week after half term on week 1.



		LUNCH Week 1				
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN 1	SAUSAGE PASTA Bake	Quorn Loaded Mashed & Rice	Broccoli & Cauliflower Cheese with Roast Potatoes	Roasted Gnocchi in Tomato Sauce	Chicken & Tomato Pizza & Oven Baked Chips	
	Pasta Bolognese	BBQ Chicken with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne	Friday Fish Bar & Oven Baked Chips	
VEG	Daily vegetables served					
DESSERTS	Berry Crumble Muffin	Fruity Crunch Pot	Autumn Fruit Shortbread	Spiced Ginger Cake	Oil & Lemon Cookies	
	Fruit & Yoghurt					

**AVAILABLE DAILY**  
Jacket potatoes, pasta & deli are available to order via your payment system.

**MENU KEY**

# LUNCH Week 2



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>MAIN 1</b>	Veggie Sausage with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Chinese Noodle Stir Fry	Slicky Tomato Tart & Roast Potatoes	Chicken & Sweet Potato Curry & Rice	Cheese & Tomato Pizza & Oven Baked Chips
<b>MAIN 2</b>	Pork Sausage with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Roasted Tomato Pasta	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	BBQ Baked Chicken with Rice	Friday Fish Bar & Oven Baked Chips
<b>VEG</b>	Daily vegetables served				
<b>DESSERTS</b>	Fruity Sponge Out Crumble	Fruit Jelly Pot	Apple Yoghurt Cake	Pear Upside Down Pudding	Chocolate Cookie
	Fruit & Yoghurt				

**AVAILABLE DAILY**  
Jacket potatoes, pasta & deli are available to order via your payment system.

**MENU KEY**       



# LUNCH Week 3



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>MAIN 1</b>	No Meatballs with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato & Red Onion Salad	Quorn Loaf Roast & Roast Potatoes	Vegetable Tray Bake	Filled Hummus Pita Bread with Oven Baked Chips
<b>MAIN 2</b>	Potato Topped Beef & Onion Pie	Meat Free Pizza with Potato & Red Onion Salad	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Mac n Cheese	Friday Fish Bar & Oven Baked Chips
<b>VEG</b>	Daily vegetables served				
<b>DESSERTS</b>	Easiyo Fruit Mousse	Autumn Fruit Traybake	Apple & Rhubarb Crumble with Custard	Pear & Vanilla Slice	Gingerbread Selection
	Fruit & Yoghurt				

**AVAILABLE DAILY**  
Jacket potatoes, pasta & deli are available to order via your payment system. Retail options are available.

**MENU KEY**       



## Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care



- Have parents in the armed forces at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

We get an extra [£1,385 (for primary schools) / £985 (for secondary schools) – these figures are for the 2022/2023 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please go to [www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals)

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Teams by:

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - [freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk)

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

## Safeguarding



The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for this school are: Mr A Wilkes (DSL), Mrs R Mitchell (DDSL) and Mrs M Riley (DDSL)



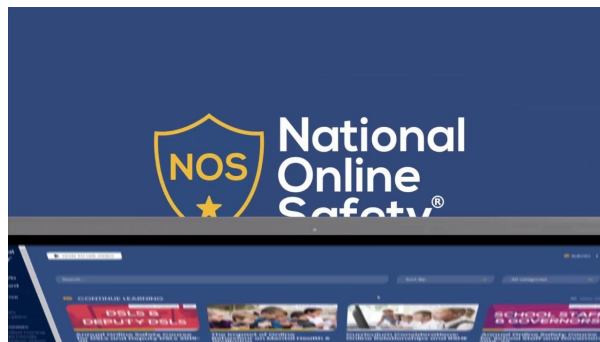


Dudley Early Help Strategy

[EARLY HELP STRATEGY | healthandwellbeing \(dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk\)](http://healthandwellbeing.dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)

St Joseph's Early Help Strategy

[St Joseph's Early Help.pdf \(st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk\)](http://st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)



#### 9 - National Online Safety

*Please do sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children. I have resent the sign up letter to all parents today.*



Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up. <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school-8> There are lots of resources, guides and webinars to support you to keep your child safe online.



10 - Please scan for our Instagram page.

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

## Contact us



Mr Wilkes and Mrs Mitchell are available at the start and the end of the school day and can usually be contacted by telephone throughout the school day or a meeting arranged with a senior member of staff.

You will always receive a warm welcome at St Joseph's!

If you have any concerns or worries, no matter how small, please let us know so we can do everything we can to make things better and resolve your concerns. Never hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Telephone-01384 431980

Email - [info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com)