



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Statement to Live By: I can say one good thing about myself.

Dear parents/carers,

We have all settled back into our school routine and the children are all working hard in their new classrooms with their new teachers. Please see the dates to remember this term and look out for any new dates which may be added throughout the term.

Whole School Celebration of the Word

This week, we have been learning that God's plans can be surprising and that following Jesus involves expecting the unexpected – with the assurance that Jesus is with us every step of the way.

Celebration of the Word

Our Year 6 class led us in our welcome mass on Tuesday. Thank you to all of the families and friends who attended.

Today, Year 5's celebration of the word theme was, 'Ourselves'. Thank you to all of the families and friends who attended, I'm sure those who attended will agree the readings and singing by the children was beautiful.

EYFS

We would like to give a lovely warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined our school community this term. The children in nursery and reception have all settled into their new school routine, getting to know their new teachers and making new friends. We look forward to seeing their development and progress as we go through the year.

Year 6

There will be a meeting for Year 6 parents on Monday 30th September at 3.30pm about our upcoming residential trip to Derwent Hill. This will be an opportunity to get further information and ask any questions about the trip.

Nursery and Reception Open Evening

Our EYFS are hosting an open evening on Tuesday 8th October from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. If you know any families who may be interested in applying for our Nursery or Reception in 2025, please pass this information on as they would be most welcome to our open evening.

Nursery & Reception Open Evening



We are children of God; we achieve, believe and care

We warmly welcome visits from families to attend our open evening for prospective Nursery and Reception

- meet the Headteacher and EYFS team
- tour the EYFS classrooms and garden
- ask any questions you may have

Tuesday 8th October

4:30pm - 5:30pm

T: 0191 917 2484
E: enquiries@wsj.bwcet.com
W: www.washingtonstjosephs.com
Village Lane, Washington, NE38 7HU



Applications for Secondary School

The application portal for secondary school places for 2025 opened on 9th September 2024 until 31st October 2024. Please complete your application on www.sunderland.gov.uk/admissionsonline

Arbor

All personal details, change of address and contact numbers can all be updated through the Arbor parent app.

If parents could check on Arbor that we have correct contact details for you and your family and details about your child.

If an update is made on the app this comes through to the school office who can then authorise the change within our system in the office. This allows us to keep all records up to date.

Earrings

We would like to thank all parents for their co-operation over the wearing of earrings in school.

Whilst we do understand the difficulties with new piercings, we do have a no jewellery policy in school and we are ultimately accountable and responsible for the health and safety of all of the children in school.

As of Monday 23rd September we expect all earrings to be removed before school.

Reading Books

All of our reading books that are sent home to parents are part of a set which the children borrow to take home to read. Unfortunately, if books are misplaced we then lose part of our set which makes it difficult for the children to complete their whole reading level. There will be a charge for books which are sent home and misplaced, please keep them safe and return to school, along with your child's signed reading record once your child has finished reading the book.



We will be supporting MacMillan on Friday 27th September by holding a 'green hamper' raffle in school. We kindly ask for donations of 'green'

packaged items to include in our hamper. If these could be donated to school by Wednesday 24th Raffle tickets will be sold on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in school. Thank you for your support with this worthwhile cause.

Year 5 – Gardening Gang

Our Year 5 gardening gang are once again hard at work and preparing our winter gardens. They have harvested the potatoes, tomatoes and peas and are beginning to prepare the garden for winter.

If anyone would like to donate some spring bulbs that we could plant in our garden, e.g. daffodils, tulips and snowdrops they would be gratefully received.

Staff Shout Out This week's shout out goes to Mrs Hill, Mrs Ward, Miss Hudson, Mrs Sant, Mrs Jacklin, Mrs Tate and Miss Craister, our incredible support staff! They always go over and above and we couldn't do without them!

We are truly blessed, thank you so much!

Attendance

As part of our attendance monitoring and in line with the attendance policy, letters of attendance will be sent out to parents every half term, detailing your child's attendance percentage.

We will be continuing our attendance monitoring this term. If attendance has dropped below our Trust target of 97% an attendance letter may be sent out.

Keeping Children Safe

Every member of staff in school will act to keep children safe. Our designated staff who have a lead role in keeping them safe are:

Mrs E Maher - Headteacher
Mrs F Lawton – Acting Deputy Headteacher
Mrs J Johnson – Senior Leader
Mrs P Swanston – Business Manager

Lunch Money

School lunch is £2.85 per day. Payments for school lunches must be made on the Monday for the week ahead. We cannot operate a system which allows arrears to build up for meals taken in previous weeks.

What's on this Half Term – this may change and new dates maybe added

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| Friday 27 th September | MacMillan 'green hamper' raffle |
| Monday 30 th September 3.30pm | Year 6 – parents meeting for Derwent Hill (further information to follow) |
| Tuesday 1 st October 10am | Year 4 – Harvest Mass – in church |
| Friday 4 th October 9.00am | Year 2 – Celebration of the word – School Hall parents invited |
| Tuesday 15 th October 10am | Year 3 – Mass in church |
| Monday 21 st October - Friday 25 th October | Year 6 residential – Derwent Hill |
| Friday 25 th October 9am | Year 3 – Celebration of the word |
| Tuesday 5 th November | Parents Evening – school hall (letters will follow) |
| Wednesday 6 th November | Parents Evening – school hall (letters will follow) |
| Friday 8 th November 9am | Year 4 – Celebration of the word |
| Monday 11 th November 8.50am | Remembrance Service on the school yard – parents invited |
| Tuesday 19 th November 10am | Year 5 – Mass in church |
| Friday 22 nd November 9am | Year 6 – Celebration of the word |
| Thursday 5 th December 4pm | Year 4 – Reconciliation service - Church |
| Friday 6 th December 9am | Year 3 – Celebration of the word |
| Tuesday 10 th December 10.30am | EYFS Christmas Nativity |
| Wednesday 11 th December 10.30am | EYFS Christmas Nativity |
| Thursday 12 th December 2pm | KS1 Nativity |
| Friday 13 th December 10.30am | KS1 Nativity |
| Monday 16 th December 1.30pm | KS2 Carol Service in church |
| Wednesday 18 th December | Nursery, Reception and Year 6 – Christmas party |
| Thursday 19 th December | Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 and Year 5 – Christmas party |
| Thursday 19 th December | Christmas lunch in school |
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