

Newsletter: Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, what a wintery week we have had, well done to so many of you who have made it in on time each day, the first week back is always the hardest! This week we have been busy celebrating Epiphany, having the three kings visit for the blessing of our doors, as well as trying to remember all the things we need to progress in our learning too! Well done everyone, and I hope you have a good weekend.

Mr Willcox

Blessing of the door

This week Miss Rowe performed the blessing of the doors, along with the GIFT team.



Reception Class Applications

Just a reminder that applications for children to join our Reception class in September closes on Wednesday 15th January. If you are thinking of joining the school but haven't seen it yet, we will be having a tour for any prospective children on Monday 13th January at 10am. If you are interested in coming along please let reception know by 9.30am on Monday, either call 01395 264 875 and leave a message or email admin@stjo.uk.

SENDCo

The first port of call if you have concerns about your child is always to speak to the class teacher. However, there are occasions when other professionals may advise you to speak to the SENDCo.

If you have concerns about your child's development and would like to book a meeting with Miss English, our SENDCo, she is now offering SEND appointments every Wednesday afternoon. Please follow the link to book an appointment.

<https://appt.link/meet-with-hattie-english-PMPQf4m7/send-co-general-appointment>

Attendance

As we have let you know before, it is important that children come to school as much as possible and so this is just a friendly reminder that we cannot authorise holidays that take place during term-time. Please also book medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. If you are struggling getting your children in, please do let us know and we will try to support you too.

Primary Sports after school clubs

Dodgeball – Tuesdays – 14th January to 11th February 2025

Football – Thursdays – 16th January to 13th February 2025

In addition to this, we are also looking at the possibility of Primary Sports taking over our after school club provision, enabling us to offer more sporting opportunities in addition to the cosy games, crafts and fun that we already offer. We hope to confirm a date for a parent consultation with them soon. This will be an opportunity for you to come and ask any questions you may have and find out more as well as filling in a questionnaire to help us better understand how we can meet your needs.

Online Gaming

It has come to our attention that there are several groups of children who enjoy gaming online together in the evenings and weekends. Please can we remind **parents and carers to provide carefully thought through boundaries and safeguards** to enable this to be a fun and exciting time that does not adversely affect your child's sleep; opportunities for in person activities; or lead to children speaking to each other in a way that is disrespectful. If you need support this website is helpful: [A Parent's Guide to Dealing With Fortnite - Child Mind Institute](#)

This Year's academic Attendance

So far this year our attendance is **95.2%** and our aspirational target is **97%**.

At St Joseph's, we think attendance is extremely important! Attending school helps children to prepare themselves for the rest of their lives.

The higher the attendance, the more opportunity for success! The class with the highest attendance this week is **Rowan Class**.

Diary dates: *These, and future events, can be found on the website and downloaded to your Google calendar!*

13th January - National Child Measurement Oaks & Yr6

13th January – Tour for prospective Oaks children 10.30am – info above

14th–16th January - Oaks Class Balance Bikeability – Please complete online form

17th January - Yr1 phonics talk for parents @ 3pm

20th – 24th January – Yr.6 Bikeability – Please complete online form

7th February – Yr3 assembly @ 9.10am

10th-14th February – Parents Evening Week – info to follow

2025-2026 Term Dates are now available on the website https://www.stjosephsprimaryschool.com/web/term_dates__school_day/279773

Stars of the week: Oak – Daisy, Rowan – Cara, Sycamore – Mya, Cherry – Zara, Maple – Adam, Willow – Freddie, Beech – Melissa.

Bronze Awards: Cara, Emily A, Evelyn P-B, Isla, Roman, Rory, Harry, Brooke.