



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Let me begin by thanking you all for your kind messages, cards and gifts on behalf of all the staff at St Joseph's. I hope that you had a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break and wish all our families the very best for the new year.

PTFA Updates

Autumn 2024

A huge thank you for your continued support with our fundraising events. During Autumn 2024 we raised £1500 towards PTFA funds. So far this year, some of the funds have been used to subsidise class trips/learning days in school, purchase headphones and microphones, theatre refreshments and Christmas gifts for the Christmas parties.

We are planning potential events for this term including a Valentine's Disco, Someone Special Day in March and possibly an Easter Bingo event. We will be sending a form out next week asking for any further suggestions or ideas.

The Valentine's Disco will be on Thursday 13th February from 5-7pm. Tickets will be £2.50 and will be available from Miss Ayton from Monday.

Couple of reminders

I am meeting with the school uniform provider on Monday. The New Year is a good time to remind all our families to follow the Uniform policy. Can I take this opportunity to remind you that earrings are not permitted to be worn by children in school. At St Joseph's we have a no jewellery policy. The full uniform policy is available on the website here: <https://stjosephs.npcat.org.uk/school-uniform/>

Next Week Headlines:

Thursday 16th January Dog's Trust Special Workshops and Assemblies across school.

Future Date for your Diary:

- Wednesday 22nd January 9.00am SEND coffee Morning for all parents/carers of pupils with SEND.
- Monday 3rd February 2025 School Photograph Day

Christ be our light, in life, love and learning

Executive Head Teacher: Mr Simon Geaves Deputy Head Teacher: Miss Elizabeth Wright
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Rosecroft Lane, Loftus, Redcar and Cleveland, TS13 4PZ
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Attendance and Absence

Unfortunately, a key feature of this time of year are the illnesses which go hand in hand with the season of winter. Can I take this opportunity to remind all our families that they should contact the school every day that a child is not well enough to attend. Ideally this call should be made before 9am so that we can account for all our children.

If you are planning on taking your child on holiday during term time you must complete a form giving at least 20 school days' notice. These are available from the front office. Unfortunately, I am not permitted to authorise any family holidays as that does not meet the criteria for exceptional circumstances.

Our benchmark for attendance

97-100%	<p>Attendance levels are good to excellent Positive encouragement/incentives/rewards systems are used to maintain high levels of attendance.</p>
94-96.9%	<p>Concerns emerging Establish reasons for absence, patterns of absence, analyse data to regularly monitor absence. Letter parent/carer advising of concern, offer support to improve and advise that future absences will not be authorised unless medical evidence is provided.</p>
90-93.9%	<p>Attendance levels causing concern Parents/carers invited to a meeting in school to identify any barriers and complete an attendance support plan. Where issues identified are outside of school offer referral to Local Authority Early Help service. Review date set.</p>
Below 90%	<p>Persistent Absentee despite school intervention Commencement of formal attendance support procedures. Attendance case conference held with parents/carers and school to formulate attendance plan and liaise with Local Authority in regard to issue of education supervision order, parenting order, fixed penalty notice or prosecution.</p>

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PE timetable

Once again children are permitted to arrive at school in their PE uniform on their designated PE days.

- Monday Year 1 & Year 2
- Tuesday Reception, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3
- Wednesday Reception, Year 3 & Year 4 (Swimming)
- Thursday Year 5 & Year 6
- Friday Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

After School Clubs

After school clubs have restarted. Once again, the cost for these clubs is £10 per half-term. This terms clubs are as follows:

- Tuesday MFC Fitness Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
- Wednesday MFC Fitness Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Stars of the Week:

This week certificates have been awarded to children who have worked on the theme of listening in the first school week of 2025 within school

- LJ- Luca H & Alfred S
- FS1- Able R & Ava C
- FS2- Phoebe S & Charlie L
- Y1- Lucas S & Skylah- Rose P-D
- Y2- Harley B & Georgina T
- Y3- Reuben C & Ellis J
- Y4- Matilda J & Ava W
- Y5- Charley B & Darcey J
- Y6- Isla L & Matthew A

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Final Thoughts/Prayers:

Making more time for prayer is something that many of us try to do as part of our new year's resolution. This year is a jubilee year for the Church with a clear message of hope so it seems fitting to use the Pope's Official prayer to conclude the first newsletter of 2025.

The Jubilee prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025, "Pilgrims of hope"

Yours sincerely,

Mr Geaves
Executive Head Teacher

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