



ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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.

### **PTA Updates**

We are planning events for this term including a Valentine's Disco, Someone Special Day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and an Easter Bingo event on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

The Valentine's Disco will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 4.30-7pm.

We have listened to feedback following the Christmas Disco and have decided to split the disco into two halves. Therefore from 4.30-5.30pm the disco will be for Little Joeys, Nursery and reception children only and parents can stay if they wish to. Then from 5.45-7pm we will have a second disco for Y1-Y6 children only with no parents accompanying children.

### **Uniform reminder**

I have a meeting in the next few weeks with the school uniform provider. 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/>

### **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.

*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  
Tel: 01287 640613 | Email: [enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk) | Website: [stjosephs.npcat.org.uk](http://stjosephs.npcat.org.uk)

*Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust*



ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Our benchmark for attendance

97-100%	<b>Attendance levels are good to excellent</b> Positive encouragement/incentives/rewards systems are used to maintain high levels of attendance.
94-96.9%	<b>Concerns emerging</b> 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.
90-93.9%	<b>Attendance levels causing concern</b> 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.
Below 90%	<b>Persistent Absentee despite school intervention</b> 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.

### PE timetable

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

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

Please can we make sure that the full PE uniform is worn. At this time of year plain black, grey or navy jogging bottoms and top should be worn for outdoor sessions along with yellow T-shirts and trainers. Branded sportswear is not part of school uniform.

*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  
Tel: 01287 640613 | Email: [enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk) | Website: [stjosephs.npcat.org.uk](http://stjosephs.npcat.org.uk)

*Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust*



### **Stars of the Week:**

This week certificates have been awarded to children who have worked on the theme of aiming high in the first school week of 2026 within school

- LJ- Etta R & Erin H-G
- FS1- Luca H & Calvin M
- FS2- Raegan B & Aarran W
- Y1- Leo F & Phoebe S
- Y2- Nasmithan R & Lucas S
- Y3- Lily R & Macy F
- Y4- Jinny P & Annie D
- Y5- Gabby S & Martha H
- Y6- Vinnie R-W & George B

### **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. At the start of the New Year it seems only right to pray for peace in our world with everything that is currently going on.

God of all, as we walk together.  
Open our hearts to your tenderness.  
Open our minds to your understanding.  
Open our lives to your challenge.

We are one people, many nations, building hope through steps for peace.  
One world with many barriers, breaking chains so we dance free.  
One voice that shouts for justice shatters hatred, calls for change.  
One God, one world, one people, turning tables, share the feast.

Amen.

Prayer: Linda Jones/CAFOD

Yours sincerely,

*S Geaves*

Mr Geaves  
Executive Head Teacher

*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  
Tel: 01287 640613 | Email: enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk | Website: stjosephs.npcat.org.uk

*Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust*