



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Have a lovely weekend when it comes. It really does feel like business as usual now after all the fun and festivities of the Christmas season.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we return to the beginning of Jesus' mission. The humble witness of John the Baptist gave people a sense that something exciting was about to happen. John the Baptist is one of the best known saints. He never pushed himself forward. He encouraged his own followers to leave him and become followers of Jesus. His life (and death) witnessed to the truth about Jesus and, because of him, many people came to know and follow Jesus.

We are already starting to plan ahead for the various events of Lent and Easter and are looking forward to sharing these in more detail soon. Just to let you all know that we will be holding our second Parents evening on Monday and Tuesday 16th and 17th February after school as published on our calendar and website.

PTA Reminders

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

The Valentine's Disco will be on Wednesday 11th 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.

Attendance and Absence A general Reminder

This week's attendance has been hugely improved at 96% across the school. Thank you to everyone for your efforts.

However, 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 | Website: stjosephs.npcat.org.uk

Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our benchmark for attendance

97-100%	Attendance levels are good to excellent Positive encouragement/incentives/rewards systems are used to maintain high levels of attendance.
94-96.9%	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.
90-93.9%	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.
Below 90%	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.

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 3 & 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 | Website: 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 speaking in the second school week of 2026 within school

- LJ- Florence E & George R
- FS1- Alfie S & Erin H-G
- FS2- Aliza F & Kenny B
- Y1- Lilly G & Dorothy B
- Y2- Tyler-Jack P & Layla W
- Y3- Hannah V & Amelia R
- Y4- Harry T & Freddie H
- Y5- Cimmera B & Matilda J
- Y6- Bella T & Kasmitha R

Final Thoughts/Prayers:

With this week's assembly focussing on Jesus being baptised and the Holy Spirit coming upon him, this week's prayer is a prayer for the Help of the Holy Spirit

O God, send forth your Holy Spirit into my heart that I may perceive, into my mind that I may remember, and into my soul that I may meditate. Inspire me to speak with piety, holiness, tenderness and mercy. Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses from beginning to end. May your grace ever help and correct me, and may I be strengthened now with wisdom from on high, for the sake of your infinite mercy. Amen.

Saint Anthony of Padua

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