



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

We will love one another in Christ knowing that Jesus loves us very much



Newsletter 13th June 2025

Our attendance target is 97%. Please strive to make every effort to ensure your child attends school every day.

Attendance	Nursery	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
w.c. 19.5.2025	90.4%	90.6%	99.1%	96.9%	94.8%	99.7%	92.7%	90%
w.c. 2.6.2025	97%	95.2%	99%	96.9%	94.4%	97.2%	91.9%	94.1%
w.c. 9.6.2025	100%	97%	98.2%	94.8%	94.3%	96.2%	100%	96.6%

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy return following our short summer half-term holiday. The weather has been mixed but it hasn't stopped the children having a wonderful time in school. At this busy time, I would like to remind parents of forthcoming dates so please check the dates section which has been updated.

We are now only a week away from our Year 4 class taking their First Holy Communion. The service will be held on Saturday 21st June at 10:00am at St Joseph's Church. The children, parents and catechists have all worked so hard to make this such a special day and I look forward to celebrating the day with families. If anyone would like to support the children on the day you're very welcome to attend this special service.

This week I was delighted to see so many parents supporting events in school with our Year 3 parents and grandparents joining us on Wednesday for Mrs Douglas' Year 3 Liturgy. The children read and sang splendidly. Many thanks to all who attended, especially our Year 3 pupils.



The summer term is always an exciting time of year as we begin transitions for pupils ready for September 2025. Year 6 have already started informal visits, and this week we welcomed Mrs McNeill, Head of Year 7, in school to answer pupil questions and prepare our pupils for their next school. This week and next we start to welcome our new reception pupil transition visits to St Joseph's. Nursery pupils continue to start throughout the year at various points, and I urge parents to make sure pupils are registered early as places are limited.

We have had lots happening in school this week which include visits from Clued-Up Kids completing nutrition workshops in KS2. This will be followed up in July with a family learning afternoon which will include making healthy pancakes and smoothies. Places will be limited for this event. At the end of June we will be completing our Natwest workshops from the 'Money Sense Team'. Children from Years 1 to 6 will have specially tailored workshops which will help with their economic understanding of money and how to manage finances sensibly.

Year 6 will depart on their summer residential on Monday to Allensford. The children are very excited, and I cannot wait to join them at Allensford next week. Year 6 also have a number of events this summer to look forward to including a leavers' assembly and leavers' Mass.

Well done to our brilliant girls' football team for doing so well last week in the area qualifiers. The girls worked so hard and were a credit to themselves and their families. The girls missed qualification to the final by one point. We look forward to future events. If any KS2 girls who are interested in playing football and would like to join our girls' football club, please contact the school office for more details.



Sports day is only two weeks away and we look forward to welcoming everyone to school on Tuesday 24th June (weather permitting). If sports day were to be cancelled for health and safety reasons, we aim to reschedule for Tuesday 15th July. I would appreciate if parents could send their child wearing their House colours wherever possible. Please see house colours below.

- St Aidan's - Yellow
- St Bede's - Red
- St Cuthbert's - Blue
- St Oswald's - Green

The PTA will be supporting this event and, if anyone is able to volunteer, please contact the school office.

Finally, last Friday we held our first inclusion day event which was organised by Miss Graham and parents. The turn out for the cake sale was amazing. Well done everyone.

Term Dates 2024/2025

Friday 18th July - **School will close at 1:15pm**

Dates for Diary

Monday 16th June - Skipping Day, all children to wear trainers

Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th June - Year 6 Residential

Saturday 21st June - Year 4 First Holy Communion, 10:00 am at St Joseph's Church

Tuesday 24th June - Sports Day - Years 3 - 6 at 9:30 am & Nursery, Rec, Years 1 & 2 at 1:30 pm

Monday 30th June - Summer Disco

Thursday 3rd July - Year 5 BWCET Celebration of Sport

Monday 7th July - Staff training day, school will be closed to pupils

Thursday 10th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly, Year 6 parents and families are welcome at 9:00 am in the school hall

Thursday 10th July - Year 3 & 4 Alnwick Garden Visit

Friday 11th July - Summer Fair

Tuesday 15th July - End of Year Celebration Lunch

Wednesday 16th July - Rec, Year 1 & 2 South Shields Visit

Thursday 17th July - Leavers Mass, 10:00 am at St Joseph's Church

Friday 18th July - **School will close at 1:15 pm**

RE

On Monday we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost in school during our Celebration of the Word. We

listened to Sunday's Gospel and considered the strength and courage that the Holy Spirit gave to the disciples to enable them to get up and get on and live without the presence of Jesus. We know that the Holy Spirit also guides us too and gives us strength and encouragement throughout our lives.

We thank Jesus for this wonderful gift of The Holy Spirit.

Wraparound Care

In Kidzzone the children have been enjoying using the bikes and scooters to race each other and see who is the fastest. They have also enjoyed some mindful colouring and challenging Mrs Morgan on Super Mario.



Some children have even enjoyed playing with bubbles and trying to blow the biggest bubble which was won by Layne.



Next week, we plan on making mini yarn baskets and encourage the children to be creative and develop their fine motor skills.

School Uniform Ordering

Salto UK have advised us that the deadline for ordering school uniform is Saturday 19th July. All orders that are placed before the deadline date will have an extended returns and exchange policy until the 1st September 2025. Any orders after this date will have the usual 28 days exchange/returns policy. They are confident that all orders placed before the deadline date will be delivered or available for collection before returning to school in September.

Awards

23rd May 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Patrick - for being a sensible and independent learner in the classroom.
Reception	Sullivan	Elsie - for being a kind friend who always looks out for others.
Year 1	Daisy	Harriet - for being a hard working member of Year 1 who always gives her best. She is kind and caring with wonderful manners. Well done Harriet.
Year 2	Albert	Abbey - for working hard to improve in all areas.
Year 3	Noah	Faith - for great effort and success in maths.
Year 4	Toby	Logan - for working hard at developing tables skills and supporting others.
Year 5	Ethan Cl	Lauren - for being a kind and caring member of our class.
Year 6	Sophie	Juan - for being an excellent peer and supportive friend.

6th June 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Zoe - for always doing the right thing and setting a good example to all.

Reception	Alice	Lydia - for going above and beyond with her learning and making some fantastic progress as a result.
Year 1	Lincoln	Zach - for great work with phonics, retaining the special friends and able to segment and blend the words. Well done Zach super effort and a great support to others.
Year 2	Zara	Feso - for producing beautiful writing in her English lessons.
Year 3	Alexis	Daisey - for trying very hard in all lessons.
Year 4	Jack	Jacques & Lockey - for both showing huge amounts of effort in learning their times tables.
Year 5	Amelia	Harper - for showing faith and commitment and having great success in her learning.
Year 6	Lewis	Ellie - for working really hard in all lessons.

13th June 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Charlie - for having a fantastic week in Nursery, trying his best with all he does!
Reception	Marcel	Charlie - for being a sensible, helpful member of the class setting a good example to all!
Year 1	Ezra	Annie for - maturing into a hard working and sensible little girl who is a good example to her peers. I am very proud of the progress she has made. Well done Annie and Keep it up!
Year 2	Savannah	Albert - for always trying his best and never giving up!
Year 3	Brooke	Blake - for applying great effort in English writing a story.
Year 4	Charlotte	Ava Br - for working hard and supporting others in their work.
Year 5	Oraiya	Ethan Cl - for golden for using his God-given gifts to inspire others.
Year 6	Thomas L	Sean - for working hard in English and acting on feedback.

Class News

EYFS - Nursery

Nursery have been busy bees this week, playing, exploring and learning during what will be the final half term in Nursery for some! We have been busy practising our fantastic maths skills by singing songs like '1, 2, 3, 4, 5, once I caught a fish alive' and using our knowledge and understanding of cardinality and counting to subitise different amounts of fish in the pond!

In our English lessons, we've been working hard perfecting our rhyming skills. We love listening to rhyming stories, joining in with the repeated refrains and anticipating the rhyming words. We've even been playing games of 'silly soup', where we each took in in turns to add the rhyming pairs into the cauldron!



We've also enjoyed joining in with our special 'Celebrating Differences' day! We listened to lots of lovely stories which encouraged us to think about our own uniqueness before we made delicious crispy cakes to sell as part of our school's cake sale!



Reception



This week, Reception Class discovered a mystery parcel had arrived into our class. The parcel was littered with posters which explained it had come from the South Pole and if found, we must return it! After making some predictions, we discovered a tiny, fluffy penguin inside and a new story called 'Lost and Found'. Since then, the children have been busy creating banks of adjectives and creating their own 'Found' posters in hopes of finding the penguins rightful owner!



In our RE lessons, we've been hearing about the coming of the Holy Spirit! We've enjoyed listening to stories, asking questions about what we wonder about the Holy Spirit, and thinking about how we can spread the good news just like Jesus' disciples. In our RE lessons, we've been using bubbles, we watched as the bubbles floated around, spreading far and wide and thought about how this was similar to sharing the good news - how far can our message be heard?



Year 1

During the last couple of weeks, the children in Year 1 have been working very hard in preparation for their phonics screening check that they completed this week. The children have been exploring both real words and alien words. To do this, they've identified special friends, they then read and finally read the words. Despite some challenges the children have persevered and worked very hard. Well done Year 1.



In English the children are reading the text 'Billy and the Beast' by Nadia Shireen with Miss Parry. The children have worked together with a partner to consider what type of character Billy is. They consider her thoughts and feelings as well as her actions. The lesson was very active and the children enjoyed writing their ideas on a post-it notes and then sticking it on a large picture of the character. Once they had explored lots of ideas with their partner, they then had the opportunity to share their ideas and explain their thinking to the rest of the class.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a fabulous couple of weeks. We loved going on our trip to celebrate winning the spring term attendance award. We got the coach to exhibition park and played in the sunshine, and then made our way to the Great North Museum for lunch and an afternoon session. We learnt so much about animals and food chains.

What a wonderful day we had for celebrating difference day. The children enjoyed creating bunting flags for each other and asking questions to find out about their personalities.



We had a music session learning all about the bagpipes and created some music together.



We're looking forward to the next few weeks of the summer term.



Year 3

We've had a lovely couple of weeks, especially with the weather turning nicer.

We celebrated 'Difference Day' where we looked at diversity using the book, Mixed. We thought carefully about equality, discrimination and what makes us special



In science, we've been carrying out our topic based on plants. We've been looking at the conditions needed for plants to grow and growing our own plants. We've looked at the parts of a flower and

their job. We enjoyed using clay to make models of these.

We completed our Pentecost RE topic, and we had a beautiful liturgy looking at new life and spreading the Good News.

The Design Technology days were great, where we learnt about seasonal foods and then we designed and made our own seasonal tarts. They were delicious!

Clued Up Kids came into school to teach us about healthy eating. We looked at having a balanced diet and what would be good to have in our packed lunch.



Year 4



A massive well done to year 4. You have all worked so hard over the last weeks on your times tables and you all did a fantastic job. You all remained focused and enthusiastic about them, and we want to say how proud we are of you all. We enjoyed having an extra 20-minute playtime for all our hard work.



We all enjoyed a healthy eating session this week. Some of selected what we would have in our pack lunch boxes from a wide range of food and we learned what happens to our bodies when we have too much sugar. We then answered questions on the keypad about what foods are good for us.



Our child led liturgy's have begun again, and last week we were celebrating how people see Jesus in our actions.



Year 5

Last Friday, Year 5 had a wonderful day looking at diversity and celebrating difference. The children looked fabulous in their favourite clothes and enjoyed treats from our cake sale.

We have been exploring faith and trust in relationships education. Thank you to our lovely volunteers who certainly demonstrated great faith and trust!

This week, we had a focus on healthy eating, with a fun interactive survey to complete. We learned about the importance of eating different coloured fruits and vegetables for optimum nutrition. We also found out about how, when we eat high sugar foods, our blood sugar can spike and crash and impact our feelings and learning. Thank you, Phil and Rose Marie, the nutritionist, who visited us - we loved pressing the buttons to answer the questions and seeing the results instantly on screen.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a fabulous time since returning to school following half term.

In English, we have been looking at our whole class text - Cogheart. We have been writing a piece of non-fiction report writing focusing on the description of our very own mechnimal. We were all given the task of designing our own mechnimal which involved creating an automaton which the purpose of aiding humans in some way or another. We were very creative and considered many roles which would be useful, some of us designed robotic soliders, carers, companions etc. We then applied our fabulous ideas to a great piece of writing explaining all the features in fantastic detail. We then tested our IT skills and wrote our reports up on Word.



This week, we have had a visit from the Head of Year from St Thomas More. It was exciting to get to meet some of the staff we will be seeing next year.

Thank you to all who attended the residential information evening on Thursday. We are all looking forward to an exciting time in Allensford. A letter including all details about what to pack has been sent home with pupils.

Gospel

Sunday 15th June 2025 - Father, Son and Spirit

Jesus said to his disciples: "I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: 'All he tells



you will be taken from what is mine’.”

Taken from John 16:12-15 Trinity Sunday, Year C

On behalf of Fr. Adrian, Governors and Staff, we hope you have a lovely weekend.

God Bless, Paul Naughton



Tuesday 15th July
Celebration Lunch

