



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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



Newsletter 4th July 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. 16.6.2025	91.7%	92.2%	95.4%	98.1%	92.6%	98.6%	98.5%	95.1%
w.c. 23.6.2025	82.2%	91%	99.1%	99.3%	84.3%	99.7%	91.7%	97.2%
w.c. 30.6.2025	93.1%	92.3%	98.2%	92.8%	94%	97.5%	95.7%	97.5%

Dear Families,

We have had lots happening over the last few weeks and with so much still to do with only 10 school days remaining. With the end of term in sight, in what has been another eventful year at St Joseph's, I have updated the dates section for parents and carers.

I must start by mentioning our wonderful Year 4 class that made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 21st June. It was a wonderful occasion for the school and parish community. Many of the staff in attendance had the pleasure of supporting Mr Hannah's and Miss Carr's class at a packed St Joseph's Church. Fr Adrian was delighted with how the children conducted themselves and it was a wonderful occasion. The service was beautiful, and I would like to thank the children, our church catechist team and staff for preparing the children so well throughout the year. It was a wonderful morning and thank you to all parents and families for making the day so special. Today we re-presented the children with their First Holy Communion certificates and prayer cards in assembly. Well done everyone!

Fr Adrian has also been busy in school with both Year 2 & 4 having their class masses over the last two weeks. Both were lovely occasions for the children and staff involved. We look forward to our final mass of the year on the Thursday 17th July at 10 am. It would be wonderful to see as many parents as possible joining our school community in church as we say farewell to our Year 6 class.

Sports day was a huge success for the children as we battled through challenging weather conditions throughout the day. However, all the children including Nursery completed their events and it was wonderful to see so many parents taking part in tug of war and skipping events. Many thanks to the PTA for keeping parents hydrated with a range of refreshments on offer throughout the day. Congratulations to St Aidan's for winning the key stage 2 sports day trophy and St Oswald's for winning key stage 1.

Last week our KS2 team visited Gateshead Stadium for our annual Athletics festival. The children took part in a huge number of events against other Gateshead School. Congratulations to the whole team and to those that brought home medals on this occasion. Yesterday Year 5 also visited Gateshead Stadium and took part in BWCET Celebration of Sport Day where children from different Trust schools took part in different activities, the day was enjoyed by all.

As our clubs come to an end can I just say a big well done to everyone who has taken part of supported extra-curricular clubs for our children throughout the year. The staff are



already planning clubs for September and parents will be asked to sign up for clubs in the first week back if you wish for your child to take part in a club.

This week pupils met their new teacher for the next academic year as transition arrangements continued throughout the school. Children visited new classrooms and spent some time with their new teacher as we prepare for the next academic year. Please see classes below. We also look forward to welcoming new members of staff to St Joseph's in September including Mrs Taylor who will also act as Deputy Head Teacher from November 2025 when Mrs Parish goes on maternity leave and former pupil Miss Devereux who will cover Mrs Clarke's maternity leave. We wish Mrs Clarke well as she goes on maternity at the end of this term.

Class	Teacher
Nursery/Reception	Miss Graham
Year 1	Mrs Alder
Year 2	Miss Devereux & Mrs Glenton
Year 3	Mrs Taylor
Year 4	Mr Hannah & Mrs Parish
Year 5	Mrs Douglas
Year 6	Mrs Hegarty



This week we had a super turnout for all three end of year Discos. Nursery, KS1 and KS2 danced their way into the early evening with the PTA supplying refreshments, hot dogs and a sweet shop. The children had a wonderful time.

Year 4 have now completed their swimming sessions and on Tuesday 8th July Year 6 will go swimming to do a swimming assessment.

Well done to those children who have helped keep our school grounds tidy by litter picking in their own time.

Clued Up Kids came into school to educate the children about healthy eating. Phil, and an experienced nutritionist and Rose-Marie worked with the children looking at the choices to make for breakfast and packed lunches. We are looking forward to them returning to school before the end of term to work with families in a fun hands-on workshop. Information about this will be out soon!

Finally, on Friday 11th July our wonderful PTA will be holding their annual Summer Fair at St Joseph's at 1:30pm. Please can I ask for as much support as possible with this event. Families are to queue at the side gate (inside the entrance to the car park) which leads onto the school field. Individuals will be asked to sign in on paper on the entrance of the gate. The gate will be locked at 2:00pm, anyone coming after 2:00pm will need to come through the school office. All children must stay on school premises until 3:15pm. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Term Dates 2024/2025

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

Dates for Diary

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



Last week, some of our Year 4 children made their First Holy Communion at St. Joseph's. The children approached this special occasion with great reverence and joy, and it was a truly memorable moment for them and their families.

They looked so smart and proud as they received the sacrament, and it was wonderful to see the school and parish community come together in support.

Congratulations to all the children who made their First Holy Communion - we are very proud of you!

Father Adrian visited school the following week and celebrated a special class Mass with the Year 4 children. This was a lovely opportunity for the children to reflect on their First Holy Communion and to give thanks together in a more personal and intimate setting.

The Mass was a peaceful and meaningful moment, and the children took part with great respect and reverence. Thank you to Father

Adrian for taking the time to celebrate with us and make the occasion so special.



Wraparound Care

Over the last couple of weeks, the children in Kidzzone have enjoyed many craft activities including weaving baskets and some woolly animals. They have also enjoyed playing rounders, football, and playing board games. The children have also been working with Mrs Morgan and Miss Cowell to vote in some of their favourite meals to create their own menu for Kidzzone.



The types of meals they have voted in are:

Chicken Goujons and chips

Hotdogs with crisps and fruit

Beans on toast

Cheese toasties with yoghurt and fruit

Cheese sandwiches with crisps and fruit.



We have decided to run this menu over 5 weeks so that each night is different, and that every child who attends on certain days will have the opportunity to try every meal.

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

20th June 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Danielle - for growing in confidence and independence! Being such a super star in Nursery.
Reception	Dylan	Erin - for trying her very best with all she does and for growing in confidence every day!
Year 1	Esmae	Charlie - for being a kind and caring boy who is always a good friend to his peers and always makes the right choices. Well done Charlie.
Year 2	Declan	Freddie - for showing resilience and courage and doing it with a smile!
Year 3	Lotta	Jodie - for showing care and consideration for others.
Year 4	Luke	Venice - for being caring and considerate while working hard.
Year 5	Leila	Freddie - for his exemplary attitude and kindness to all.
Year 6		Year 6 - for all having a fabulous attitude while on their residential to Emmaus Youth Village.

27th June 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Mabel - for always doing the right thing and trying to be the best she can be!
Reception	Kit	Finn - for showing confidence, enthusiasm and determination during sport's day!
Year 1	Charlie	Deborah - for being a wonderful friend to her peers ensuring that everyone is included and encouraging others to join in. Well done Deborah.
Year 2	Damien	Abbey - for showing that you can succeed when you put your mind to it!
Year 3	Freya	Lacey - for showing enthusiasm in all she does.
Year 4	Ava Bl	Cameron - for trying to show improved behaviour to be more like Jesus.
Year 5	Lilly	Ethan Cd - for being a great friend.
Year 6	Amelia D	William - for much improved focus and concentration across all areas in class.

4th July 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Jackson - for having a fantastic first half term in nursery!
Reception	Harry	Joey A - for trying his best and making fantastic progress!
Year 1	Millie	Frankie B - for being a wonderful friend making sure that everyone is always included and gets a turn. Showing empathy to others and their feelings. Well done Frankie a great example to others.
Year 2	Frazer	Jonathan - for showing determination and making wonderful progress.
Year 3	Annaliese	Frankie - for always showing help and support around the classroom.
Year 4	Lockey	Ethan V - for trying hard in all areas.
Year 5	Max	Charlie - for being a great role model to all.
Year 6	Tom S	Anastasiia - for continuing to make fantastic progress and completing everything with a smile.

Class News

EYFS - Nursery

Nursery class completely impressed their teachers by taking part in their very first sports day with such enthusiasm last week! The children all tried their very best and loved cheering each other on. They especially enjoyed taking part in the dash, throwing activities and the egg and spoon races! Our teachers were beyond proud of our resilience and determination! In class, we've been reading the story 'Blown Away', and have enjoyed making kites in continuous provision. We've also been reading Julia Donaldson's 'Sharing a Shell', and have linked all our maths activities to the text! We've been playing 'hook a fish' while practising our 1:1 correspondence through our counting. Our teachers have been very impressed and can tell some of us are getting ready for Reception Class!



Reception



Reception Class are busy enjoying their final week in Early Years before they move into KS1! We've enjoyed our first ever St Joseph's sports day this year and especially enjoyed taking part in the team games and representing our houses for the first time! In class, we've been working especially hard on our maths. We've been listening to songs and using the number blocks '10 again!' activities to help us with our number bonds to 10. We've blown our teachers away with our knowledge of addition and subtraction facts within 10! We have been enjoying the sunshine in our outdoor area and on the windier days enjoyed joining Nursery in making kites in provision. We practised flying them high in our outdoor area! We've also been busy in our PE lessons with Mr Morris, enjoying our final few weeks of athletics before we move up into KS1!



Year 1



We had a wonderful time at the school summer disco this week! The children had so much fun dancing with their friends, enjoying treats from the tuck shop, and joining in with the party games. Despite the hot weather, spirits were high, and everyone had a fantastic time.

A huge thank you to the *Friends of St. Joseph's* for all the time and effort they put into organising such a fun and memorable event. We truly appreciate everything you do for our school community!



We all thoroughly enjoyed Sports Day - it was a fantastic afternoon filled with fun, energy, and team spirit! Despite a brief rain shower, everyone took part enthusiastically in the various races and activities.

It was lovely to welcome our families into school to cheer us on and share in the excitement. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special!

In science, we've been learning all about materials and their properties.



We've learned new vocabulary and used these words to describe what we observed.

We began by making predictions about whether different materials would float or sink. Then, through hands-on investigation, we tested our ideas and recorded our observations together. It was a great way to learn through practical discovery—and lots of fun too!

What a wonderful year we have had in Year 1! The children have grown and matured into hardworking, sensible individuals who are always eager to learn and explore new things.

They have made fantastic progress across all areas of the curriculum and have shown great curiosity, creativity, and resilience along the way. From exciting science investigations and engaging stories in English, to hands-on maths challenges and memorable school events, it's been a truly special year.

We are so proud of everything they have achieved and know they are more than ready for the next step in their learning journey. Well done, Year 1!



Year 2

What a wonderful summer term Year 2 have had. They enjoyed a super Sports Day full of fun. All the children tried their best and enjoyed themselves.

This week, we were lucky to have Father Adrian join us for a liturgy celebrating the feast of St Peter and St Paul. The children led this beautifully and took part in a beautiful worship together. The summer disco was a success. We all dance four socks off, had lots of yummy treats and enjoyed playing games. The children looked amazing in their party clothes.

I am so proud of the children this term and all year. Their hard work and amazing attitudes has been a joy to see and it has been a delight to teach them again this year!



Year 3

These last 2 weeks, we've been very busy!

Gail from Skipping School came in to teach up new skipping skills, including long rope games. She was very impressed with our class!

We took part in Sports Day where we really enjoyed taking part. Well done to everyone, especially the winning teams!

Nicola and Kate came into school from Natwest to teach us about Finance. We planned a party, looking at costings and the price per person. It was really good fun, and we learnt a lot.

For World Rainforest Day, we watched a live lesson from Chester Zoo. It taught us all about the different layers in the rainforest and animals who lived there. We played a game to help us remember them.

We have had some lovely liturgies led by the children.

Our last disco this year was great. Thank you to the Friends of St Joseph's for organising this for us.

For Silly Hair Day on July 4th, we had some wild and wonderful hair designs. It was brilliant!





Year 4

A lovely and very busy couple of weeks for year 4. Some of us received their first Holy Communion



and we had a beautiful class mass delivered by Father. We also lots of fun at our disco and had an amazing sports day.

In maths we have been looking at time. We began the topic with a re-cap of our previous knowledge



working in pairs to show the correct times on the clock. We have then looked at the digital clocks and converting to the 12-hour clock to the 24 hour and back again.

In science we have been studying states of matter and have carried out a range of experiments, including melting points. We prepared three different solids, including chocolate, ice and butter in bowls and went outside to observe which one would be the first to begin to melt in the sun. We have also looked at evaporation and condensation, using cups of water in two different conditions.

In English we have been looking at the features of writing a non-chronological report, in preparation of completing our own about a Yeti from our book The Abominables. We worked in pairs to look at a variety of reports and label the features that they used to inform the reader. We then looked at a wide range of paragraphs and came up with appropriate subheadings.

Year 4 had a fantastic afternoon learning about finance from the kind people of NatWest Bank.

The children learned how to budget for a party. Working in groups they managed to set a budget, identify their expenditure and judge who would deliver the best party based on a number of criteria. All in all, a great afternoon.



Year 5

In Year 5, we recently finished writing poetry based on Lewis Carroll's 'Jabberwocky'. We had such fun with portmanteau and rhythm.

We had a very interesting and useful 'MoneySense' workshop kindly provided by NatWest Bank. The children looked at potential scam scenarios and learning about fraud. The end of the session was particularly exciting when we looked at fake bank notes!

This week culminated in a trust-wide 'Celebration of Sport' at Gateshead International Stadium. The children took part in athletics, multi sports and a dance session. Well done everybody!



Year 6

Year 6 had an amazing time away for our residential at Allensford YMT. On the first evening, we ate together, settled into our rooms and completed an activity while we got to know the staff and pupils from other schools.

The second day began with a lovely start to our day as Y6 had a fabulous morning starting with breakfast, playing in the sunshine and completing a carousel of activities!

In the afternoon, Y6 completed a range of activities including a STEM activity which involved working together to create a vessel to protect a water balloon when dropped. This was followed by a beautiful walk through the countryside where we connected with nature by utilising our senses. Y6 have finished their second amazing day with a movie night! Before then they'd completed an escape room challenge and spend time playing in the sunshine!

For our last activity, Y6 were designing planets. We either worked on our own planet or worked in groups if we wanted to. We then presented our planets with pupils from other schools and staff voted on what they thought was best. Every did so well and we thoroughly enjoyed applying our creative skills to the activity!



It has been a lovely opportunity to work together and spend time as a cohort, working and playing with each other in the beautiful sunshine. We all have fabulous memories and have thoroughly enjoyed our time away together!

Since returning, we have enjoyed a DT day where we designed and create our own keyrings using sewing techniques. We were excellent at learning different stitching techniques and applying our learning to our own creation.



Jubilee Year 2025

Does the following piece of writing by Pope Leo (written before he became the pope) strike a cord with you?

" Brothers, sisters...

I speak to you, especially to those who no longer believe, no longer hope, no longer pray, because they think God has left.

To those who are fed up with scandals, with misused power, with the silence of a Church that sometimes seems more like a palace than a home.

I, too, was angry with God.

I, too, saw good people die, children suffer, grandparents cry without medicine.

And yes... there were days when I prayed and only felt an echo.

But then I discovered something:

God doesn't shout. God whispers.

And sometimes He whispers from the mud, from pain, from a grandmother who feeds you without having anything.

I don't come to offer you perfect faith.

I come to tell you that faith is a walk with stones, puddles, and unexpected hugs.

I'm not asking you to believe in everything.

I'm asking you not to close the door. Give a chance to the God who waits for you without judgment.

I'm just a priest who saw God in the smile of a woman who lost her son... and yet she cooked for others.

That changed me.

So if you're broken, if you don't believe, if you're tired of the lies...

come anyway. With your anger, your doubt, your dirty backpack.

No one here will ask you for a VIP card.

Because this Church, as long as I breathe, will be a home for the homeless, and a rest for the weary.

God doesn't need soldiers.
He needs brothers.

And you, yes, you...
are one of them."

If so, in this jubilee of hope, why not give faith another go. Open up to God with your frustrations and fears and give him a little chance to whisper his words of hope to you.

Gospel

Sunday 6th July 2025 - The Mission in Action

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, 'Peace to this house!' And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, 'The kingdom of God is very near to you'."



Taken from Luke 10:1-12. 17-20 The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

God Bless, Paul Naughton

Tuesday 15th July - Celebration Lunch

End of Year Celebration

CLASS OF 2025

**CHICKEN OR VEGGIE NUGGETS
WITH A SELECTION OF DIPS
(MAYO, TOMATO KETCHUP, BBQ,
SWEET CHILLI)
CURLY FRIES
MINI CORN ON THE COB
MIXED SALAD**

**CHOCOLATE BROWNIE TRAY
BAKE
ROCKET LOLLIES**



Prudhoe Youth Project presents.....

Water Safety Day at Prudhoe Riverside

Postcode NE42 6NP
Saturday 5th July 2025
11:00am - 3:00pm

FREE EVENT!
Free packed lunch for children 10 and under.

- Tyne Valley Canoe Club Free Taster Day! Get out on the water with instructors in a kayak, canoe or on a SUP board.
- Demonstrations and a chance to test safety equipment thanks to... Northumberland Fire and Rescue, Mountain Rescue and the Police Marine Unit.
- Take part in activities provided by PYP and don't forget about the Free Lunch!

Let's keep everyone safe around water!!

Also attending.... Prudhoe Water World, Prudhoe Community Partnership and more to be confirmed

Event funded by: 

Please note: This is a family event and Prudhoe Youth Project is not responsible for children and young people. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Supported by: 

GATESHEAD WEST UNIFORM SCHEME

Who are we?
We are a registered charity, operating in Gateshead West since 2021.

We provide good-quality preloved and brand new school uniforms to our community from our site in Blaydon NE21 5PT

We operate on a pay-what-you-feel basis.

We are located in St Cuthbert's Community Hall (our door is round the back), NE21 5PT next to the big blue building behind Morrisons.

July/August 2025 Markets... ALL AT BLAYDON

Friday 4th July 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 12th July 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 19th July 9:30am - 11am
Monday 28th July 6pm - 7pm
Friday 1st Aug 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 9th Aug 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 16th Aug 9:30am - 11am
Monday 25th Aug 6pm - 7pm

We sell surplus stock on **Vinted** as **gwusne**.

Please check our Facebook page for any changes to market days, including additional summer markets and potentially cancelled markets*.

*We are all volunteers and even volunteers need holidays - sometimes this means there is no one to run a market.

 www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
[contactsGatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk](https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk)
and find us as **gwusne** on Vinted

CALLING ALL PARENTS HAVING A CLEAR OUT!

GATESHEAD WEST UNIFORM SCHEME

We would love any unwanted school uniform!

We accept branded & unbranded school uniform donations at...
Whickham Library, or Ryton Coop, or Chopwell Coop, or Nai's Nails Crawcrook, or Rowlands Gill Strathmore Road Methodist Church, or INSIDE the Winlaton Centre,

AND in our 24/7 donation bin behind our Blaydon site NE21 5PT.

We hold **FOUR** pay-as-you-feel pre-loved school uniform markets each month at our Blaydon site NE21 5PT.

Check out social media for upcoming markets...

 www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
[contactsGatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk](https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk)
and find us as **gwusne** on Vinted

GRASS ROOTS

SUMMER SPORT & ACTIVITY WEEKS

OPTION 1: Mon 21st July - Fri 25th July 2025

(St Joseph's Catholic Primary School) £75

OPTION 2: Mon 28th July - Fri 1st August 2025

(St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas Primary School) £75

OPTION 3: Tues 26th August - Fri 29th August 2024

(St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas Primary School) £60

TIME: 9:30am – 3:30pm



COURSE DETAILS:

The week will involve various sports; including football, cricket, gymnastics, rounders, tennis, hockey etc and will involve fun based activities such as water games/fights, crash mat tournaments and tug of war competitions.

The course will be taken by qualified coaches/teachers.

All of our coaching staff have been through a recent police clearance.

Children should be between the ages of 5 (4 is fine if in reception) and 11 (Yr 6).

YOU WILL NEED:

- A Packed lunch
- Change for the tuck shop
- A change of clothes in case we play water games!
- To be collected promptly at 3:30pm



BOOKING INFORMATION:

To book onto this course, please visit www.grassrootssports.co.uk where you can pay by debit/credit card.

Individual days are priced at £25 per day and can be booked via email (indivdays@grassrootssports.co.uk).

If you are unable to pay online, please contact us directly on **07703 533 556** (Keith) or **07725 128 717** (Sarah).



ESTABLISHED 1994



www.grassrootssports.co.uk



Grass Roots UK