



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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



Newsletter 10th October 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. 22.9.2025	96.6%	99.1%	93.3%	96%	99.3%	92.7%	94.1%	92.2%
w.c. 29.9.2025	96.6%	96.9%	95.9%	97.5%	100%	95.1%	93.6%	94.8%
w.c. 6.10.2025	98.6%	84.4%	96.7%	99%	98.5%	93.1%	93.9%	98.1%

Dear Families,

As we approach the autumn half term, it's been a busy and joyful few weeks at St Joseph's, filled with community spirit, celebration, and achievement. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in school life.

Faith Life in School

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our Welcome Back Mass at St Anne's Church this week. Our Year 6 pupils read beautifully, and the whole school sang with great enthusiasm. A special thank you to Fr Adrian for leading the service.

On Wednesday, our Year 4 Liturgy marked the first of the year, a cherished tradition. At the end of the service, Fr Adrian invited families to sign up for this year's Sacramental Preparation Programme. If you wish to enrol your child, please return the completed forms in a sealed envelope to either St Joseph's or St Anne's Church as soon as possible.

Our next Liturgy will be led by Year 5 on Wednesday 19th November at 9:00 am in school. Please check the diary section for more upcoming dates.



PTA & Community Events

Following a successful PTA meeting, we're excited to host a Coffee Afternoon next Friday in support of St Joseph's Larder. We kindly ask families to bring donations of non-perishable food items such as:

- Tinned goods
- Pasta and rice
- Cereals
- UHT milk
- Biscuits and snacks

On Monday, our PTA will also be running a series of Spooktacular Discos for Nursery, Reception, KS1, and KS2. Thank you to all involved in organising these fun events - we hope families will support and enjoy them!

Parental Consultations

Starting the week of 20th September, we look forward to welcoming families for our Autumn Parental Consultations. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss how pupils are settling into their new year groups.

- Over 90% of parents have already booked appointments.
- If you haven't yet booked, please do so soon to avoid disappointment.
- Telephone appointments are available for those unable to attend in person.

Please help us keep to time slots so that waiting times are minimised.

Sporting Success

We've had a fantastic few weeks of sport across Key Stage 2: Our Cross Country Team performed brilliantly at the Gateshead Championships, with all teams finishing just outside the medals. A special congratulations to Charlie Gardner, who placed 3rd in the Year 5/6 boys event!



Our KS2 Boys Football Teams have played two fixtures at West Lane. Well done to all players, especially those making their U11 debut for St Joseph's. Huge thanks to Mrs Callaghan and Mr Cavanagh for their coaching.

Football Club continues to be popular every Thursday. Children need school PE kit, warm clothes, and shin pads. After half term, please ensure children bring:

- Football boots or spare shoes
- A spare pair of socks for wet weather

We have a super referee on Thursdays now with cards at the ready, well done Freddie.

To sign up for clubs, simply call the school office to give permission.



Special Events & Achievements

Year 5 had a wonderful time at the Little Sticks Golf Tournament in Sunderland, with former World No. 1 Lee Westwood in attendance - a truly memorable experience!

Year 6 enjoyed participating in a Tag Rugby Event in Winlaton this week - well done to all!

Year 2 celebrated their summer class attendance win with a free trip to Saltwell Park. The weather was perfect, and the children had a fantastic day.

Reception Admissions - September 2026

There is still time to apply for Reception places for next September. Please note that late applications cannot be guaranteed a place. Visit our Facebook page for details of upcoming open days throughout October and November. All visits are by appointment only.

Coat Policy Reminder

As the weather turns colder, please remember that from October half term to the end of March, all children must come to school in a warm coat. Please ensure all coats and clothing are clearly labelled to avoid loss.

Charity Support for Christmas

At St Joseph's, we have a proud tradition of supporting charities and giving back to both our local community and those further afield.

As we quickly approach the festive season, we are turning our focus to those in our own community who need extra support.

This year, instead of our traditional support for the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, we have decided to direct our efforts closer to home. We will be collecting donations for SVP Christmas Parcels and The

Missionaries of Charity, who create hampers for local children and families facing hardship. Both organisations work tirelessly to bring comfort, food, and festive cheer to families and children who might otherwise go without.

Please keep an eye out for our upcoming email with more details on how you can get involved and make a difference.

Internet Safety

A gentle reminder to parents about the importance of internet safety and monitoring the content their children are viewing online.

We have recently become aware that some children may have been accessing videos that are not suitable for their age group. While the internet offers many educational and entertaining opportunities, it also presents risks—especially when children are exposed to inappropriate or harmful content.

We encourage all parents and carers to regularly check the platforms and apps their children are using, talk openly about what they're watching, and make use of parental controls where possible. Watching content together and discussing it can also help children develop critical thinking and understand what is appropriate.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep children safe both in school and online.

Staffing

Mrs Parish will be starting her maternity leave on Monday 3rd November 2025. We send her our very best wishes as she begins this exciting new chapter.

We are pleased to share that Mrs Wallace, a very experienced member of staff, will be joining the Year 4 teaching team during Mrs Parish's absence. She will be working alongside Mr Hannah to ensure continuity and high-quality learning for the children

Thank you once again for your continued support. We are proud of all our pupils and grateful for the strong partnership we share with our families.

Term Dates 2025/2026

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - Half Term

Friday 19th December - **School will close at 1:15pm**

Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January - Christmas Holidays

Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th February - Half Term

Friday 3rd April - Friday 17th April - Easter Holidays

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May - Half Term

Friday 17th July - **School will close at 1:15pm**

Dates for Diary

Monday 13th October - Spooktacular Disco

Friday 17th October - Coffee Afternoon 2:30 pm in school, please bring a tin or store cupboard item

W/C 20th October - Parent Consultations, please book via Arbor

Friday 24th October - Tuck shop after school on KS1 yard

Friday 14th Nov - Children in Need, non-uniform day for a small donation

Tuesday 18th November - Rec and KS1 Cinema Visit

Wednesday 19th November - Year 5 Liturgy, Year 5 parents & families welcome at 9:00 am in the school hall

Thursday 20th November- KS2 Cinema Visit

Thursday 27th November - Flu Immunisation

Wraparound Care

Over the last few weeks, the children have been enjoying a variety of activities and crafts. They have been very creative in making some autumn pictures using leaves, sticks and berries that we have collected whilst out on an autumn walk around the school grounds.

They have also enjoyed playing some games like bench ball, football, and various board games, trying to beat Mrs Morgan and Mrs Cowell.

We have recently added a reading area where children go and enjoy some relaxing and quiet time if they wish to, as well as lots of role play toys such as a builder's station, doll and pushchairs, and dinosaurs which all seem to be a firm favourite at the moment amongst the children.

We have also been enjoying some delicious meals after school including hotdogs, chicken nuggets and chips, noodles, and toasties.

We will always endeavour to ensure the children enjoy themselves whilst attending Kidzzzone, and most importantly have lots of fun before and after school with their friends.

Kidzzzone is available to everyone from Nursery through to Year 6 and is open from 7:30 am - 8:40 am, and 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm Monday to Friday during term time.



Spooktacular Disco

The Friends of St Joseph's are having a Spooktacular Disco on Monday 13th October in school.

- Nursery 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm
- Rec & key stage one children 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
- Key stage two children 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Entry costs £2.50 (payable on the day) which will include a hotdog. Children may bring extra money where they will be able to purchase sweets, crisps and drinks. Nursery, Reception and key stage one children can come to school wearing non-uniform on this day. No costumes are to be worn for school, but they may bring their costume (no masks or toy weapons) to school and change for the disco. Key stage two children are to wear school uniform as normal.

Children's Achievements out of School

Well done to Lennie and Tommy who recently took part in a National Wrestling competition, and they both came away with silver medals.



Awards

26th September 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Danielle for being very kind and helpful to all of her friends.
Reception	Louie S	Hope for growing in confidence and being resilient even when she finds things tricky. What a superstar!
Year 1	Lydia	Lucas for a wonderful start to Year 1 with great effort and work at home with your reading Lucas. Well done. Keep up the good work.
Year 2	Frankie B	Millie for thinking of everyone, been a very kind friend and has helped others in her class with their work.
Year 3	Feso	Amelia for always participating well in lessons. She is always keen to share her thoughts and contribute to class discussions.
Year 4	Freya	Lotta for supporting others and being caring to everybody.
Year 5	Lillie	Cameron for fantastic contributions to whole class discussions.
Year 6	Lucy D	Charlie for consistent excellent effort and being a role model to all.

3rd October 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Harriet for her fabulous listening skills and showing a good example to her peers.
Reception	Jax	Arthur for being a kind and hardworking member of our class. We feel lucky to have Arthur in Reception!
Year 1	Charlie	Rocco for considerate and kind member of our class who always helps others and has a wonderful week of helping in the classroom. Well done Rocco.
Year 2	Charlie	James for always being patient, persevering and being a superstar on our school trip to Saltwell Park.
Year 3	Mia	Thomas for always being kind and caring to everybody.
Year 4	Frankie	Deacon for working so hard in his maths lessons and doing very well!
Year 5	Caitlin	Amelia for always working hard, with a positive attitude and a smile on her face.
Year 6	Danielle	Amelia for enthusiasm in her learning and her sunny disposition making us all smile.

10th October 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Saylor for being a lovely, kind friend.
Reception	Mabel	Frankie for being a fantastic partner and showing kindness when learning to blend.
Year 1	Sonny	Kit for being a reliable and hardworking boy who consistently gives 100% effort in everything he does. He enjoys his learning and makes valuable contributions to class discussions. Well done Kit, keep up the good work!
Year 2	Isla	Raye for brightening up everyone's day with her smile, trying new things and being fabulous on our trip to church.
Year 3	Hallie	Frazer for giving 100% effort in all lessons this week.
Year 4	Molly	Noah for being a hardworking, dependable reliable member of the Year 4 class.
Year 5	Lucas	Ethan F for kindly offering help around the classroom in his own time.
Year 6	Nancy	Estelle for excellent long division.

News

Nursery & Reception



What a wonderful term our lovely nursery and reception are having.

In both classes we have been thinking about the season of autumn. We have read the book 'The Leaf Man' and have both been on leaf hunts. We were categorising the leaves into small, medium and large. The children loved looking at the different colours, shapes and sizes. Reception have made leaves in the play dough and nursery are busy making leaf men in class.



In reception we have been focusing on becoming fluent in knowing our letter sounds. We have set up lots of fun provision activities for both classes to help us such as a clean-up activity using spray bottles, hiding letters in the sand and using the paint brushes to find them and sorting conkers into the correct letter tubs.



Reception have also started blending their letter sounds to read and make words. They are doing brilliantly.

The children have all settled beautifully and are becoming more and more independent. We are so proud of them all!



Year 1

In English, the children have been reading the story 'I want my hat back' by Jon Klassen. Last week we used drama to bring the story to life, taking on different characters and exploring the narrative through performance. They imagined how the characters may have felt at different parts during the story as well as how they may have moved



In RE we have been learning about family. We have thought about how our homes are safe, welcoming and loving places. We thanked God for this and thought about the message he shares with us. We understood that God always shows us love and care and as he does, he asks us and our families to do the same. We shared our ideas and our experience of what makes a home a lovely place and thought about how our families love and care for us. We shared a moment of quiet reflection during circle time and placed a building block onto our focal point to show how they are a stone for us, strong, sturdy and dependable.



Year 2

We had a lovely reward trip to Saltwell Park! The children had lots of fun finding each other in the maze; meeting peacocks and parrots at Pet's Corner, spotting wildlife at the lake and playing games at the different parks.

As we connect our learning to our new mascot, Patariki the Penguin, Year 2 have been participating in different activities and are working really well as a team. In science, the children created a class Bug Hotel, and they enjoyed discovering and assembling natural resources to make a perfect shelter for minibeasts. Furthermore, the children are thriving in Just Dance Club, and we also perform dance within class, so the children have the opportunity to practice their dance moves to their favourite songs with all of their friends.



Well done Year 2,
we are very proud of you!





Year 3



Year 3 are continuing to work very hard. We have enjoyed reading the poem From a Railway Carriage by Robert Louis Stephenson; we learnt about rhyming couplets and planned our own versions of the poem. We are now reading Charlotte's Web - the children are loving getting to know the characters of Fern and Wilbur.

In Maths, we have been exploring patterns when we add and subtract 1s, 10s and 100s. We are doing

really well at explaining our thinking in Maths.

Our PE lessons with Mr Morris are so much fun - we have been learning the rules and playing Tag rugby.



Our first RE topic was all about homes and families. We thought carefully about how we can live as God's People, and we created recipes for a loving family. Each week, groups of children have planned and led acts of worship for the rest of the class. They have chosen prayers, hymns and actions to help us to reflect on Sunday's Gospel.



Year 4

Year 4 have been working really hard in computing. They have been using the programming language Scratch to create an interesting and enjoyable game. They have created a variety of algorithms to create the game whilst using variables for control.



The Year 4 children over the last few weeks have been creating their own liturgies. They choose the hymns, prayers and how to respond to the Gospel reading.



Year 5

What a lovely few weeks we've had in year 5!

The children absolutely loved the Majesticks Little Sticks Golf Festival in Sunderland. They learnt new skills and were inspired by professional golfers. It was a lovely morning.

On Friday afternoons, the children have continued to deliver our class-led Collective Worship. They have used the gospel and have thought about linked hymns, prayers and actions. They have been beautiful. In science, they really enjoyed dissecting eggs, looking at the different parts and their properties.

Some of the children have found addition and subtraction difficult this week, but the lesson writing their calculations on the table really engaged and motivated them, and they are understanding the concepts much more now!



Year 6



Year 6 had a fantastic afternoon of rugby provided by Gateshead School Sports Partnership at Winlaton Vulcans' ground. We came joint third and won 6 badges for sporting values. Well done everyone!

In the classroom, we have enjoyed a science practical investigating how the size of blood vessels affects blood flow.

We used straws to model this, took careful measurements and drew our own conclusions. We also held a trial for the father of the Prodigal Son, accused of not showing unconditional love. It was nail-biting!

Class collective worships have continued, and the children led a beautiful welcome Mass at St Anne's to mark the beginning of a new academic year. Stunning!





Gospel

Sunday 12th October 2025 - The Samaritan Leper

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, “Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.” When he saw them he said, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, “Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.” And he said to the man, “Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.”



Did any words or phrases stand out to you in the Gospel? If so, take a few moments to meditate on them.

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

God Bless, Paul Naughton



St Joseph's
Catholic Primary School
Provided by the Diocese of Birmingham



**ADMISSIONS
2026**

School Visits Welcome

Just contact the school for an appointment

**Why not
book a visit
to see our
school?**

Part of the St Thomas More Cluster of Schools

Contact Us:

0191 414 3108

info@stjb.bwceet.com
stjosephsblyden.bwceet.com

- All Families Welcome
- Flexible Nursery Provision, 15 & 30 Hours
- Before & After School Care
- Wide Variety of Extra Curricular Activities



Music Tuition available for children in Years 3-6



**Side By Side Arts
Music
Tuition**



**New Starters and
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Side By Side Arts will be offering high-quality music tuition at **St Josephs Catholic School Blaydon** throughout the **2025/26 academic year!**

If your child is eager to learn a musical instrument and explore their creativity through music, simply scan the QR code to sign up and get started in September.

Email
Info@SideBySideArts.org
For more information



WWW.SIDEBYSIDEARTS.ORG

**ST JOSEPH'S SEND
PARENT
COFFEE & CHAT**




**9.15AM THURS 16TH OCTOBER
AT COSTA BLAYDON**

**OPEN TO ALL ST JOSEPH'S SEND PARENTS FOR
INFORMAL PEER SUPPORT, COMMUNITY AND MOST
IMPORTANTLY COFFEE!**