



ST JOSEPH'S
Catholic Primary School

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Autumn 1 Newsletter to parents - September 2026

A warm welcome back to all pupils, families and staff. I hope you had a lovely summer.

It was great to see the children's smiley faces on their return and I hope everyone is ready to have a successful year, growing together with God at our side, fulfilling our Mission of "Believing in God, ourselves and others" For the first four weeks we will be looking at the virtue of "RESPECT and COURTESY" and how we can show this to one another. After that it will be collecting for HARVEST and looking at the virtue of "THANKFULNESS"

Welcome to our new Nursery and Reception children who join us later this week, and to the new children starting across school.

We welcome back Mrs Dunn from her maternity leave and also congratulations to Mrs Davis who is expecting her first child in the New Year!

Class teachers will be sending a letter out this week, introducing themselves and giving information. Please help with any homework and look for information on their new topic, your child's dedicated class page on our website will be ready to view from next week. The first Parents Evening of the year will be on **Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October**, put it in your diary.

Let the office know if any contact details have changed and check Arbor and Parent Pay apps are working correctly after the break.

Key stage 1 - Reception to Year 2.

The children get a free snack and can have a free school meal if you would like them to.

Key Stage 2 - Years 3 to 6

A tuck shop is available every break time, 40p an item. Children must pay for their school dinners unless they are entitled to receive Pupil Premium. If you are unsure if you qualify for Pupil premium click the following link to find more information [Free School Meals | Bradford Council](#)

To set up Parent pay to pay for dinners, breakfast club and our after school club- Treehouse, or any concerns please ask at the office, Dinners must be paid for on a Monday(or before) for the following week before your child has taken them. Please keep this up to date and in credit.

On a Friday we have a raffle to win a toy / game for each Key Stage - 50p a ticket. The money raised is for the petrol for our minibus. In these assemblies on Friday we give a prize and certificate to the "Star and Virtue of the week" and see which house - Matthew, Mark, Luke or John has the most house points that week. The house with the most wins each half term receives a special afternoon treat.

Catholic Sacraments: Preparation for Reconciliation (Confession) for year 3 will start after February half term and Year 4 Holy Communion after Easter - dates to follow later. Year 6 are currently preparing for their Confirmation, we wish them well in their preparation.

Mrs Wilson and Miss Wild will be holding "Friends of St Joseph's" meetings, to help the community and find out the needs and wants of our parents. We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee morning later this month, it would be great if you can drop in for a slice of cake and a cuppa, details to follow. We will be selling buns on that day to the children as well.

Father Joseph Noble is our new Parish Priest, he has settled in these past few weeks and he will be delivering a whole school mass this Thursday 3rd September at half past 9 - everyone is most welcome. Two classes then go across to church every Thursday morning at half past 9 on a termly rota.

Residentials: Year 4 to Whitby, Year 5 will be going to London this year and Year 6 to Paris. More details will follow this half term.

Children from Key Stage 2 will be selected for job roles around school soon. We will have a School council, RE council, Prefects, Sports leaders, Library monitors, Digital leaders, Gardeners and Mental Health Champions. We want the pupil voice to be strong here at St Joseph's. This half term they will be helping create a new Prayer space, collecting for Harvest and arranging a social for the school. Bright shiny badges are awaiting those selected to represent the school. Talk to your child over the next couple of weeks, do they want to try out for a spot on a council?

If children are bringing their bikes or scooters to school we must request that they are wearing a HELMET. They will not be allowed to take them at the end of the day if they do not. We have a duty and responsibility to make sure they are as safe as they can be.

There were 3 HUGE tubs of lost property at the end of last year. Please label your child's uniform, they WILL misplace them. Eliminate days of stress looking for costly missing uniforms by putting their initials in them. If they have names in them they are quickly returned to them, it is that simple. We will initial jumpers if they are not done in the following weeks to help.

Please have PE kits in school from next Monday - they stay in school until each half term then taken home to be washed. Returning them the first Monday back. **ALL** children need a PE kit.

A reminder all bottles must have only water in them, apart from any children with a medical reason. Each class has a calm box in their class with lots of different tactile fidgets, so there is no need to bring any from home. Mobile phones must be switched off as they enter the playground and given in to the class teacher until the end of the day.

Here's to a wonderful year and helping your children thrive and become polite, caring and responsible students. Thank-you for all your co-operation.

God Bless
Mr Arnold
Head of School