



St Joseph's Newsletter 09.02.2024

Message from the Executive Headteacher

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. As the Headteacher of the school, I would like to reassure all parents and carers that I operate a fully open-door policy. If you have any questions, issues, concerns or need any support at all, please contact the school office and an appointment can be made. Working together we can really make a difference for all our children.

Attendance

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	99%	84.6%	96.9%	94.5%	95.7%	98.3%	91.3%

Excellent achievement in attendance in Reception with **99%** and Year 5 with **98.35%**. This week our overall attendance was **95.2%** which is below our trusts targets for attendance of **97%**. Punctuality is also imperative to a child's education, so please ensure your child is at school for 8:50am each day.

ARBOR PAY BALANCES

Parents are reminded to login to their ARBOR account and clear any negative balances as soon as possible. Please help our school office by not being in arrears and paying daily or weekly.

STARS OF THE WEEK



Reception –
Khaled
For being a happy and kind friend

Year 1-
Mary-Grace
For being a helpful member of the class

Year 2 –
Layton
For his bridge engineering in art

Year 3
Yelissa
For being so interested and enthusiastic about everything we do

Year 4-
Bernice
For always answering in full sentences

Year 5 –
Lois
For always giving good answers in lessons

Year 6 –
Wanda
For being an excellent role model

Autumn term

Planned Trips and Visitors

(Curriculum linked to enhance our pupil's learning)

EYFS – Hall Hill Farm

Year 1 – Northumbria Zoo

Year 2 – Beamish

Year 3 – Centre for life

Year 4 – Broom Hill Farm

Year 5 – Broom Hill Farm

Year 6 – Alnwick Gardens*
(*awaiting confirmation)

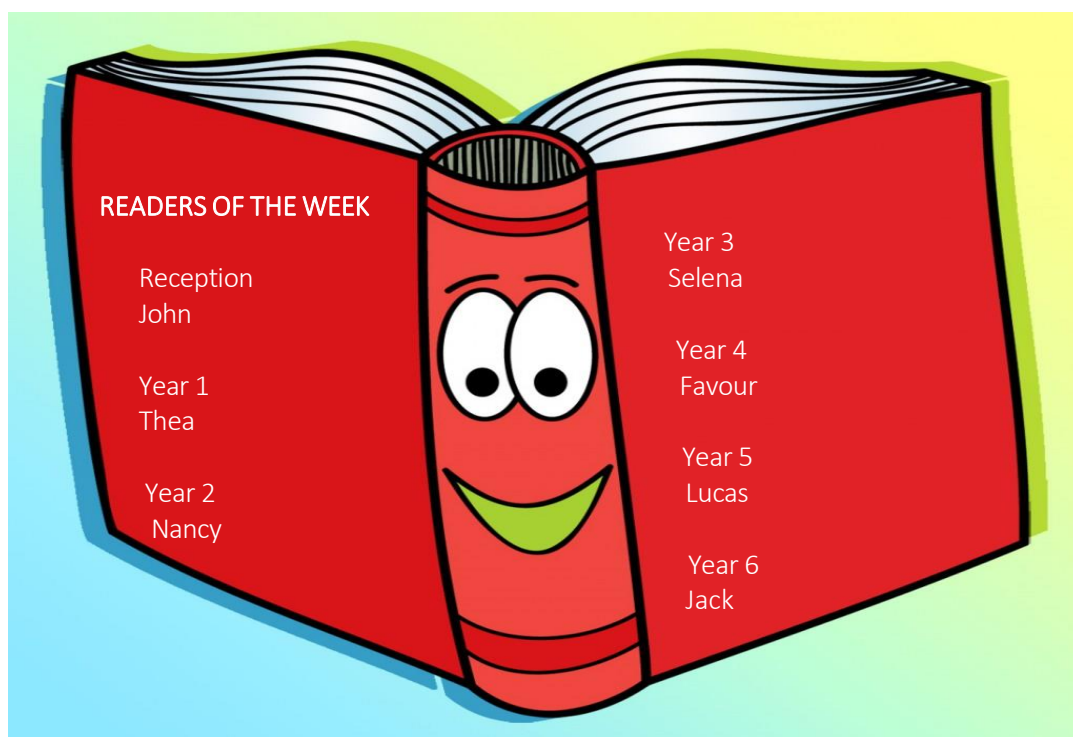
More info to follow in the next few weeks!

House points winner



Well done:
ST. OSWALD





INFORMATION

Mother and toddler group

I am delighted to tell you that we are starting our mother and toddler group. It will be held in the school hall on the first Wednesday after half term, **Wednesday 21st February at 9am**. Please enter through the main office entrance so that we can sign you in. There is no cost to attend and we would love to see lots of our little ones there. Refreshments will be available.

Reception Class 'make over'

Reception class will be getting what the pupils have named a 'make over' during the holidays. The whole provision is being refurbished from top to toe. It will be newly decorated, new flooring will be laid and all brand new resources and furniture has been purchased. This will ensure that our youngest pupils can really thrive in their earliest learning experiences in school. The outdoor area is next!

Wrap around Care

Thank you to everyone for your responses. Just to let you know that the provision will be going ahead from September 2024 and we are currently advertising and recruiting staff. Application packs to use the service will be sent out to those who are interested in using the service in the summer term with full details of costs.

Peripatetic Music Lessons

Thank you for returning your slips for music lessons. We had an overwhelming response. I am just collating the information about which instruments are most popular to make lessons viable to run as classes. Music lessons will be going ahead from September 2024. More information will follow.

Attendance Stars

The school are starting a new system to improve attendance across school. This is called attendance stars. For every full day your child is in school they will receive a star. These stars can then be used at the end of the term to buy prizes in our attendance star shop. There will be prizes and certificates also for children with the most improved attendance as well as excellent attendance. Whole class special prizes will also be awarded for the best class each term.

After School Clubs

Prince Consort Road, Gateshead NE8 1LR
T: 0191 491 1517 E: info@stjg.bwcet.com W:

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Fraser



New after school clubs are being offered from w/c 22nd of January 2024 to 18th March 2024. The cost of Karate remains At £3.00 a session and all other clubs are £2.50 a session. Places are limited and on a first come first served basis. If anyone is suffering financial hardship and have a child who they would like to attend a club please contact the school office in confidence. Lack of finances would never preclude a child from attending a club. The clubs will appear on Arbor next week and a notification will be sent to all parents.

Reception, 1 and 2 – Multi Sports. Monday 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Reception, 1 and 2 – Art and Crafts Club. Thursday 3.30pm to 4.15pm

Year 3,4,5 and 6 – Karate Club. Wednesday 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Year 3,4,5 and 6 – Dance Festival Club Thursday 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Year 5 and 6 – Logic and Problem solving club. Tuesday 3.30pm to 4.15pm Cancelled due to lack of interest.

Exciting plans are coming for the Summer Term based on pupil feedback. The school council will update you in the next few weeks.

Inspire afternoons

Working with our families to best support the children in our school is very important to us. To help us with this we have planned some inspire afternoons for each class. Parent's, grandparents or carers are invited into school so that they can learn a little more about what we do in school and to then undertake a fun activity with their child. Dates are below. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Reception Class – Monday 6th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Year 1 Class – Monday 11th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Year 2 Class Tuesday 12th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Year 3 Class Wednesday 13th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Year 4 Class Thursday 14th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Year 5 Class Monday 18th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm

Morning Booster Invites and Year 6 Booster

Invites for children in school who we believe that with a little extra support can be even more amazing than they already are in reading will be sent out in the next few days. Invites will be sent out for some children to come into school on a Tuesday or Thursday, at 8.20am to work with their class teacher in a small group. Please look out for an invite. This is an invaluable opportunity to build on any learning and intervention in school to ensure all children are supported to achieve their best. Year 6 booster is now being held starting **Monday 29th January 2024** straight after school and until **4.15pm**. This is compulsory for all pupils and will help us to enable that all pupils are secondary ready.

Reading Plus

The school has purchased Reading Plus. Reading plus is an online reading programme that's packed full of engaging texts for pupils to explore and enjoy. It teaches silent reading fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary with software that meets each pupil's individual reading level. This is an online programme and over the coming weeks pupils will be given a username and password so they can access this at home.

Packed Lunches

St Joseph's is a healthy school. If your child brings in a packed lunch, we ask parents to provide a healthy packed lunch containing:

- sandwich
- fruit
- a biscuit
- drink

Please do not send fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate (including chocolate covered biscuits and cakes). Takeaway food items are not permitted.

Paying for school meals in Year 3,4,5 and 6

As you may be aware, school meals are universally free to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. From Year 3 onwards, if you would like your child to have a school meal there is a cost of £2.75. Some families in these year groups are still entitled to free means tested school meals by filling in an application form if in receipt of certain benefits. If you think this may be you and your child is not receiving school meals for free, please contact the school office.

Arbor and Weduc

I am aware from speaking to a few parents on the Curriculum Evening that there has been some confusion around the apps that the school uses. Arbor is currently used in school for payments, booking breakfast club/after school clubs and meals. Weduc is currently used for letters we send home. In the near future, the school will be moving across to Arbor for everything to try and simplify this for parents. More details will follow when this is going to occur. If you want to contact the school via email the school email address is : info@stjg.bwcet.com. If this information is for particular teaching or support staff we will ensure the information is passed on. Just let us know in the email who this information is for.

School Meals

We have attached the school meal menu for this academic year to this newsletter. We encourage all parents to pre book their child's meals via Arbor and pay (where applicable). Pre booking meals allows more time in the morning to be spent on learning and teaching.

Breakfast Club

Please pre-book and pay for your places for breakfast club on Arbor. The capacity for the club is 30. Once this number is reached the school can't accept drop-ins.

Names in Clothes

Please remember to put your children's names in their clothing. We appreciate how costly it can be to buy uniform, especially if you have more than one child, and we really want to support the children in looking after their own things. Without names, things can get lost and we don't want you to have replace lost items.

Play equipment

May I remind parent's that children are not allowed on the play equipment before and after school. This is a Health and Safety directive as it must be supervised by trained staff. All equipment is being reopened for the children so they will be getting lots of opportunities to play on it throughout the school day.

Parental discussions with teachers

We really value close communication with our parents as it is key to ensuring we achieve the best for all of our pupils. To ensure our staff can give you the full attention for any concerns and issues that you may have, we ask that if you need to speak to the class teacher about anything that will take more than a few minutes that you make an appointment with them. This can be done through the school office. This is to make sure classes aren't left unattended and that staff can really give you the time you deserve so we can fully support the children.

UNIFORM

We would like to remind all parents and carers of the expected uniform in school. Children can wear grey trousers, grey smart uniform shorts, grey skirt, royal blue sweatshirt, yellow polo shirt, blue gingham school dresses. All uniform can be with or **without** the school logo. If children currently have black trousers or skirts they can still be worn. We ask that when new uniform is purchased that all skirts, shorts and trousers are grey. Children should not be wearing sports leggings/sports shorts, joggers, hair extensions, earrings, trainers or false nails for school. No extreme hair styles including tram lines.

HELP WANTED!

Thank you very much to the parents who have rang the school offering to help with our football team and to help on school trips. We have sent out the volunteer application pack and as soon as we receive these back in school we can then start the required DBS applications. I'd like to thank you all very much again for your support. It is very much appreciated.

Spring 2024 Diary Dates

EVENT REMINDERS – **NEWLY ADDED EVENTS IN RED**

Monday 12 th February to Friday 16 th February 2024 Half Term		
Friday 23 rd February 2024	Year 4	Celebration of the Word. 3pm.
Wednesday 28 th February 2024	Year 5/6	Swimming Gala
Wednesday 28 th February 2024	Year 5	Singing Day
Thursday 29 th February 2024	KS1	Multi Sports
Friday 1 st March 2024	Year 4/5	Girls Football
Friday 1 st March 2024	Year 3	Celebration of the Word. 3pm.
Tuesday 5 th March 2024	Year 5/6	Hockey
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	Reception	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow
Thursday 7th March 2024	Year 6	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow (CHANGE OF DATE)
Friday 8 th March 2024	Year 1	Girls Football
Friday 8 th March 2024	Year 2	Celebration of the Word. 3pm.
Monday 11 th March 2024	Year 1	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.
Tuesday 12 th March 2024	Year 3 and 4	Quick sticks hockey
Tuesday 12 th March 2024	Year 2	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.
Wednesday 13 th March 2024	Year 3	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.
Thursday 14 th March 2024	Year 4	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.
Friday 15 th March 2024	Year 1	Celebration of the Word. 3pm.

Monday 18 th March 2024	Year 5	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	KS2	Dance Festival. 10am. More details to follow.
Wednesday 20 th March 2024	Whole School	Parents Evening. 1pm to 6pm
Monday 25 th March 2024	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	Palm Sunday Celebration of the Word. 2.30pm
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	Year 3 and Year 4	Last Supper. Celebration of the word. 2.30pm
Tuesday 26th March 2024	Year 5	Spring Sing – More details to follow
Wednesday 27 th March 2024	Year 5 and Year 6	Stations of the Cross. Celebration of the word.
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Whole School	Lent and Easter. Celebration of the word.
Thursday 28 th March 2024	KS1	Multi-Sports
Friday 29 th March 2024	Whole School	CLOSED – GOOD FRIDAY
Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024 Whole school – End of term. All children return on Monday 15th April 2024		



School menu

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Telephone: 0191 433 5522

Email: schoolcatering@gateshead.gov.uk

Website: www.gateshead.gov.uk

WEEK 1

MEAT FREE MONDAY

FISH FRIDAY

	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
1ST CHOICE	Cheese & tomato round pizza, pasta, baked beans, or mixed salad	Sausages, mashed potato, mixed veg & gravy	Pork meatballs, handmade potato wedges, schools' choice tomato sauce or gravy	Roast chicken, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, broccoli, carrots & gravy	Fish portion, chips & peas
2ND CHOICE		Homemade cheese patty, mashed potato, mixed veg & gravy	Vegetable enchilada, potato wedges, sweetcorn or mixed salad	Cooks' choice pasta, garlic bread & mixed salad	Veggie bake, chips & peas
JACKET POTATO	Tuna mayo, cheese, beans				
DESSERT	School cake & custard	Jelly & fruit	Pancake with bananas and toffee sauce	Fruit smoothie & fruit	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit

WEEK 2

MEAT FREE MONDAY

FISH FRIDAY

	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
1ST CHOICE	Folded pizza, pasta, baked beans, or mixed salad	Mince pork pie mashed potato, mixed veg & gravy	Chicken curry, naan bread & pea/sweetcorn mix	Gammon slice, roast potatoes, cauliflower, carrots & gravy	Fish finger, potato wedges & peas
2ND CHOICE		Veggie meatballs in gravy, mashed potato, mixed veg	Vegetable chow mein with pea/sweetcorn mix	Cooks' choice pasta, garlic bread & mixed salad	Veggie fingers, potato wedges & peas
JACKET POTATO	Tuna mayo, cheese, beans				
DESSERT	Waffle & fruit	Ice cream roll with fruit	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit	School cake & custard	Muffin

WEEK 3

MEAT FREE MONDAY

FISH FRIDAY

	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
1ST CHOICE	Flat bread pizza slice, pasta, baked beans or mixed salad	Beef burger in a bun, potato wedges, sweetcorn or mixed salad	Chicken wrap with salad, savoury rice & garlic mayo	Savoury mince with cooks' choice topping, mashed potato, green beans, carrots & gravy	Fish star, seasoned twisters & peas
2ND CHOICE		Cheese omelette, potato wedges, sweetcorn or mixed salad	Veggie curry, rice, naan bread & vegetable sticks	Cooks' choice pasta, garlic bread & mixed salad	Veggie shapes, seasoned twisters & peas
JACKET POTATO	Tuna mayo, cheese, beans				
DESSERT	Chocolate crispy cake with orange wedge	School cake & custard	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit	Fruit & ice cream	Muffin



