



St Joseph's Newsletter 01.03.2024

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	97.3%	96.9%	91.2%	95.6%	95.7%	95.7%	96.3%

Excellent achievement in attendance in Reception with **97.3%**. This week our overall attendance was **95.4%** 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 –
Ruby
For being a lovely friend.

Year 1-
Jessica
Fantatstic effort at KS1

Year 2 –
Harry
For always trying his best

Year 3
Rachel
For excellent maths work

Year 4-
Khloe
For fantastic participation in lessons

Year 5 –
Tegeste
For always trying her best in all subjects

Year 6 –
Mekson
For excellent work in English

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 – White House Farm

Year 5 – White House Farm

Year 6 – Alnwick Gardens*
(*awaiting confirmation)

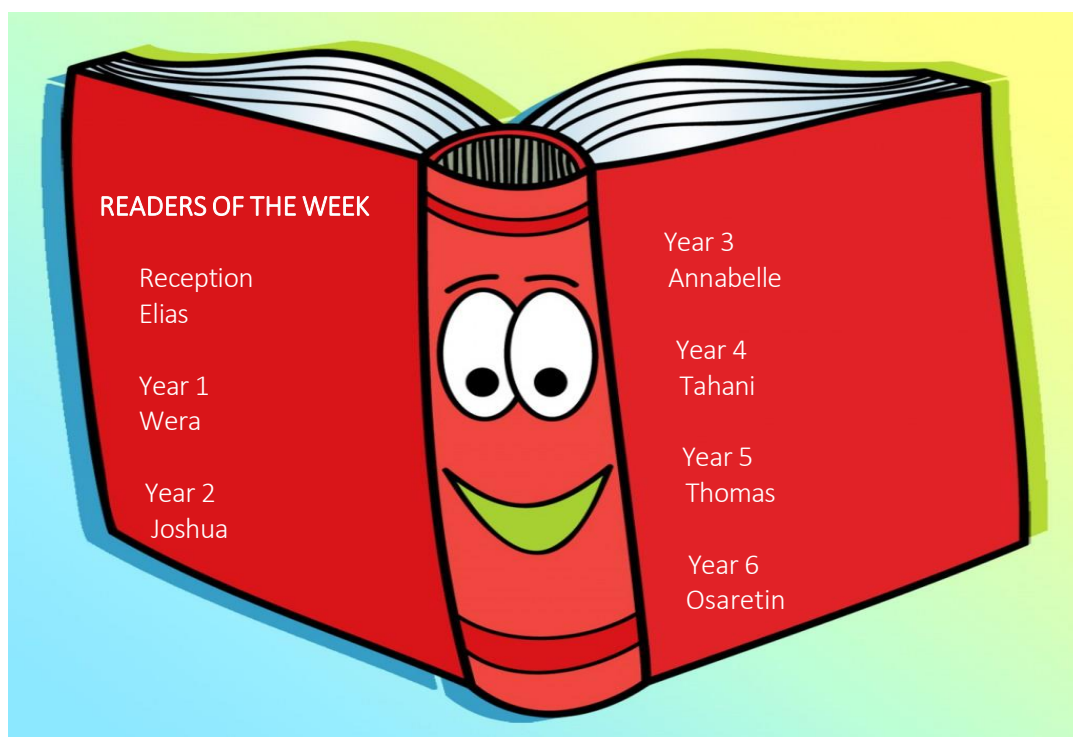
More info to follow in the next few weeks!

House points winner



Well done:
ST. OSWALDS





INFORMATION

Breakfast Club

Please be aware that you MUST book a session in Breakfast Club. This is for Health and safety and legal ratio purposes. If you haven't booked a session, I am afraid you can't send your child to the club. It is also very important that you drop your child at the door to be marked in. Pupils can't just be dropped in the yard and left. If a child is just left to attend Breakfast club alone without being registered parents will be contacted to collect their child and will no longer be able to use the service. Not handing your child over to a member of staff is a safeguarding issue as until this is undertaken parents are still fully responsible for the safety and welfare of their child.

World Book Day 7th and 8th March 2024

Children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6 are able to come to school in either **non-uniform** or in **fancy dress** if they wish on the 7th March. As Year 4 and Year 5 will be going on an educational visit to learn about agriculture and farming, they can come to school in fancy dress or non-uniform on the 8th March. All classes will have the opportunity to do book activities in class which is the main focus of world book day.

We will partake in a number of book and literacy based activities throughout the day. If anyone's child would like to come to school in fancy dress but finances are an issue, please contact the office. We have a small number of costumes that parents have generously donated that children could borrow for the day.

Mother and toddler group

I am delighted to tell you that we have launched our mother and toddler group sessions. They will be held in the school hall every Wednesday from **9am to 11.15am**. **We would love to see you there**. 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 has been transformed during the holidays. The whole provision is has been refurbished from top to toe. We are so excited to show you all just how amazing it is and plan to do so on our inspire session on Monday 11th March at 2pm!

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

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. Parents, 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 – *Wednesday 6th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm- date changed to Monday 11th March*

Year 1 Class – *Monday 11th March 2024 2pm to 3.30pm -date changed to Wednesday March 6th 2024*

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

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:

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

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Fraser

- 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		
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	Year 1	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow (CHANGE OF DATE)
Thursday 7 th 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 2	Celebration of the Word. 3pm.
Monday 11 th March 2024	Reception	Inspire Afternoon. Parent's welcome. 2pm to 3.30pm. More details to follow.(CHANGE OF DATE)
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 26 th 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		



Gateshead Council

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 pasty, 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

04/09/2023
25/09/2023
16/10/2023
06/11/2023
27/11/2023
18/12/2023
08/01/2024
29/01/2024
19/02/2024
11/03/2024
01/04/2024
22/04/2024
13/05/2024
10/06/2024
01/07/2024

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

11/09/2023
02/10/2023
23/10/2023
13/11/2023
04/12/2023
25/12/2023
15/01/2024
05/02/2024
26/02/2024
18/03/2024
08/04/2024
29/04/2024
20/05/2024
17/06/2024
08/07/2024

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

18/09/2023
09/10/2023
30/10/2023
20/11/2023
11/12/2023
01/01/2024
22/01/2024
12/02/2024
04/03/2024
25/03/2024
15/04/2024
06/05/2024
27/05/2024
03/06/2024
24/06/2024
15/07/2024



