



St Joseph's Newsletter 28.03.2024

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	96.6%	100%	96.6%	95.8%	97.5%	96.3%	97%

Excellent achievement in attendance in Year 1 with **100%**. Year 4 and Year 6 well done too with **97.5%** and **97%**. This week our overall attendance was **96.9%** which is so close to our trusts targets for attendance of **97%**. Lets see if we can hit the 97% next term. 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 –
Ethan
For excellent independent writing.

Year 1-
Olaedo
For writing an excellent detailed personal letter.

Year 2 –
Yelania
Amazing work in maths.

Year 3
Jack
For excellent work in history

Year 4-
Greyson
For being a kind and helpful member of class.

Year 5 –
Kai
For excellent writing in English.

Year 6 –
Israel
For always having a great attitude to learning.

Spring 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

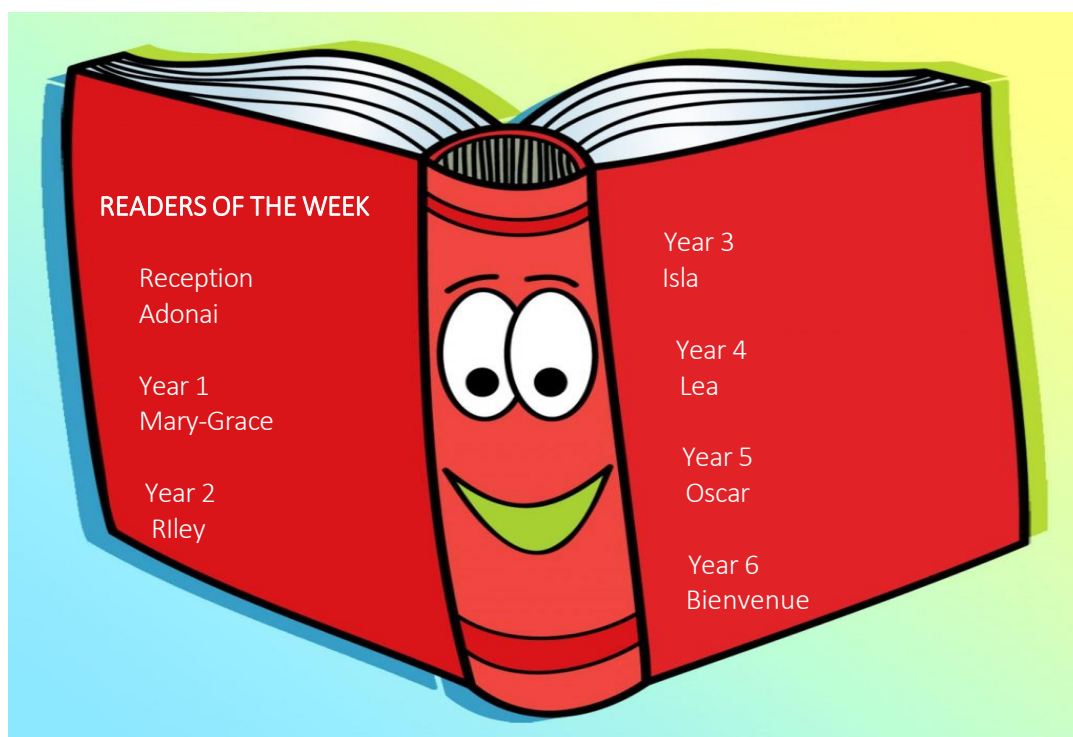
Year 6 – Alnwick Gardens*
(*awaiting confirmation)

More info to follow in the next few weeks!

House points winner



Well done:
ST. BEDE



INFORMATION

Welcome to Mr Fenwick – Deputy Headteacher

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Mr Fenwick our new Deputy Headteacher. He joins me as the Executive Headteacher and Mrs Cuskern as Head of School as part of the Senior Leadership team. Working together we hope to make St. Joseph's an even more amazing place to learn and work!

Easter Egg winners

Thank you to everyone who took part in our inspire afternoons. We loved welcoming you into school and hope you enjoyed the events. We have picked one winner from each class who have won a chocolate easter bunny. They were:

Reception – Felicity
Year 1 – George
Year 2 – Harry
Year 3- Thomas
Year 4 – Tahani
Year 5 – Curtis
Year 6 - Eli

Attendance stars shop

As you may be aware, every day your child attends school they get a star. Today was the day that children could use the stars to buy prizes from the attendance shop. Well done to all the children for collecting so many stars. Stars will begin again for next term ready for the summer shop!

After school clubs after half term – Starting first week back.

Multi Sports – Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Mondays 3.30 to 4.30pm
Karate – Year 2, 3,4,5 and 6 Wednesdays 3.30 to 4.30pm (existing members only)
Science Buddies – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on Thursdays 3.30 to 4.30pm
Dance – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on Thursdays 3.30 to 4.30pm

Booking opens at 4pm today. Bookings are first come first served. Please pay at the time of booking.

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Fraser



Peripatetic Music Lessons

Thank you for your responses to the peripatetic music lesson forms. We were inundated with children wanting to take up instruments. We will be providing violin, guitar and keyboard lessons next year. We will initially offer these lessons to pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 as demand was so high. We will hold waiting lists of pupils in Year 3 and 4 if we can't offer a place straight away. The cost to parents will be £5 a week and is subsidized by the school. A sign up letter will be sent out in the first few weeks back and places will be offered on a first come first served basis. If any child wants to learn an instrument but would struggle financially to pay please contact the office for a confidential chat.

PE Kit

At the end of this term all PE kits will be sent home. From the start of next term, when we return from the Easter holidays, children will come to school wearing their PE rather than getting changed in school. This will ensure that the children can be ready immediately to start their PE lesson and that they don't need to get changed in school. For September 2024 a consultation will go out in regards to PE kit and how we can adapt the current policy to make it cheaper and easier for parents.

Wrap around Care

Our wraparound service will be going ahead from September 2024. The provision will start at 7.30am cost for breakfast club will be £6. This includes the childcare, activities and food. The after school provision will run until 6pm and will be £9 a session. This will also include childcare, activities and food. At the start of the summer term parents will be invited to sign up for the service and the terms and conditions will be sent out. Free places at any of the clubs will only be offered at the schools discretion as the service needs to be able to pay for itself.

Current 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. Can we also ask parents to cancel any places they do not want to take the day before. Failure to cancel sessions means other children can't attend and we will have to prevent further bookings.

Mother and toddler group

I am delighted to tell you that we had our first mother and toddler group session on Wednesday. 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.

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.

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

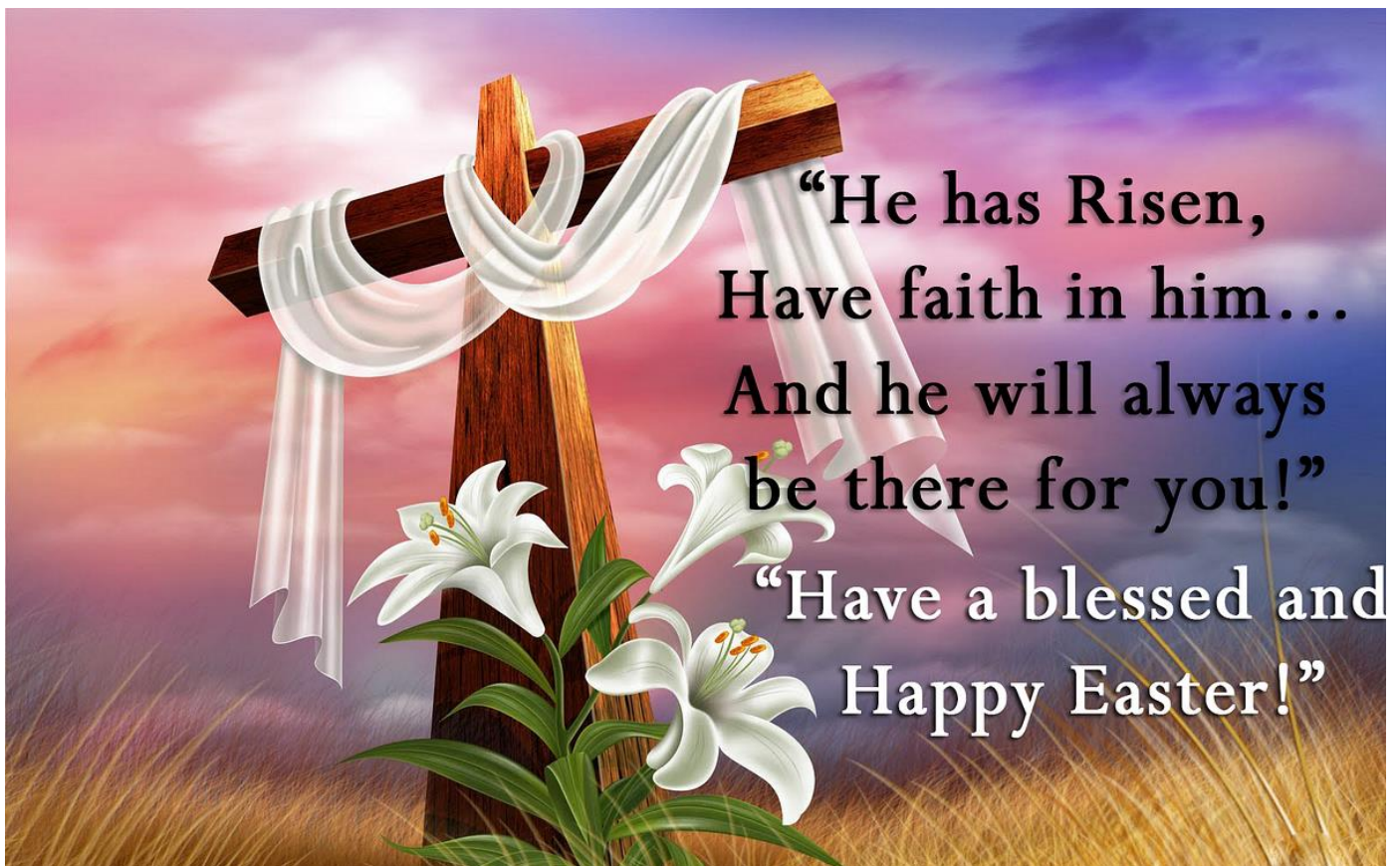
Please pre-book and pay for your places for breakfast club on Arbor. The capacity for the club is 30. Once this number is reached the school can't accept drop-ins.

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.



**“He has Risen,
Have faith in him...
And he will always
be there for you!”**

**“Have a blessed and
Happy Easter!”**



