



St Joseph's Newsletter 28.03.25

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	95.6%	98%	96.9%	96.7%	95.3%	97.3%	97.7%

Excellent achievement in attendance in **Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6** all with over **97%** This week our overall attendance was **96.58%** which is just below the trusts target of **97%**. Let see if we can achieve this next week. 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 –
Arthur

For working so hard everyday

Year 1-

Ruby

Working hard to improve her handwriting

Year 2 –

George

Excellent work in maths

Year 3

Gabriella

Her excellent counting in 4 skills

Year 4-

Tamara

Always showing a positive attitude to her learning

Year 5 –

Aysa

Showing enthusiasm and independence for all her work

Year 6 –

Kian

For being a kind member of the class

Summer term

Planned Trips and Visitors

(Curriculum linked to enhance our pupil's learning)

EYFS – Hall Hill Farm

Year 1-Northumberland Zoo

Year 2 -Whitehouse Farm

Year 3 – Great North Museum

Year –4 Segedunum

Year 5- Segedunum

Year 6–Alnwick Gardens

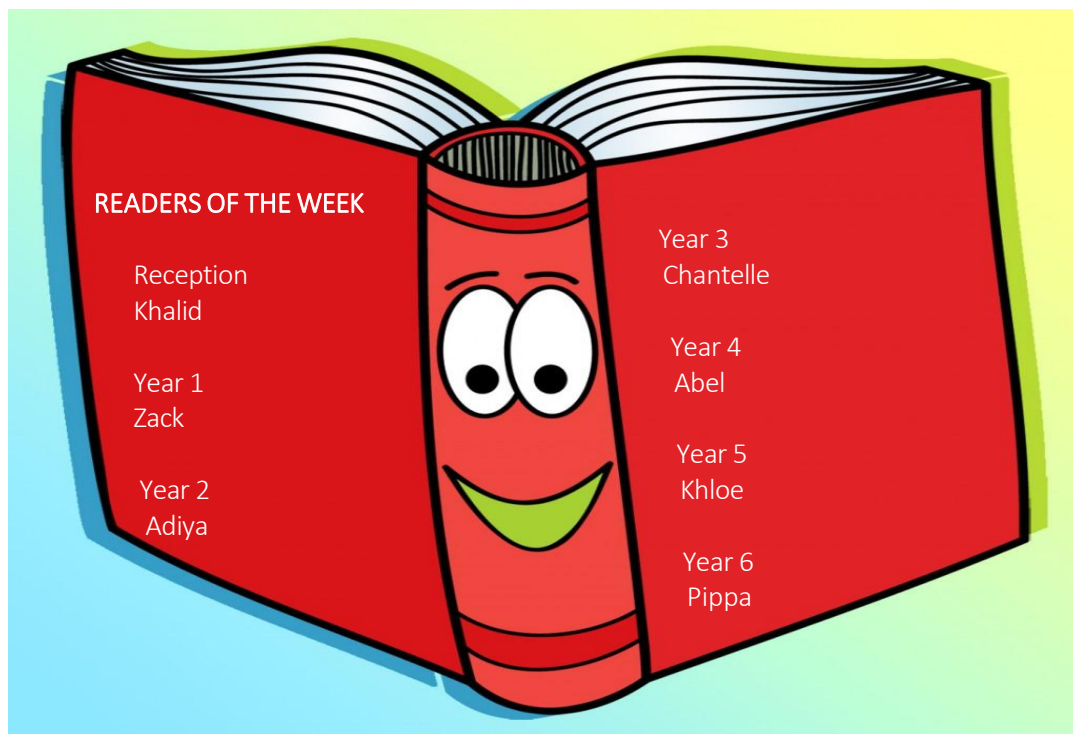
More info to follow in the next few weeks!

House points winner



Well done:
St. Cuthbert's





INFORMATION

Get active in March

Well done to all of the children who have been getting active in March. It is so important that we keep fit and active to stay healthy. The sponsorship money is starting to come into school and we ask that you add it to Arbor as soon as possible. The best way to do this is to go online rather than the Arbor App as it is easier this way. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment to this initiative.

Wednesday Word

As we are a Catholic school we have signed up to the Wednesday word. Please see attached. This is the Gospel Readings for last Sundays mass with activities you can do with your child. Please see this attached at the bottom of the newsletter.

School lunches

Can all parents ensure that their child school meals are paid in advance. No school meal arrears can occur. Our school meals are provided by Gateshead Council as an external provider. When school meals are not paid for the school has to use funds that are meant for resources and equipment in school to subsidize. If you are struggling financially and may be entitled to free school meals, please contact the office who can support you with your application.

Parking around school

Parking at the side of the school on Coburg Street is permit only. Can I ask that parent's and carers are respectful of local residents when dropping off their children and not to park in this street. Gateshead Council and the police are monitoring the situation due to incidents during pick up and drop off times.

School clubs this year

Please note w/c 31-03-25 is the last week for after school clubs for the Spring Term. After School Clubs will be available to book again for the Summer Term from next week. Parents will be notified via Arbor when these are available to book. Please ensure payment is made at the time of booking.

September 2024 School Uniform- Reminder

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform. On non-PF days, pupils must wear a Royal Blue Jumper,

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yellow polo shirt (NOT WHITE), Grey/Black Skirt or Trousers, black shoes. On PE days pupils are to wear their PE kit. We have introduced a simpler PE uniform for parents to reduce costs. This is the school yellow polo Shirt, school blue sweatshirt (as they usually wear) but then just wearing black shorts/jogging bottoms and trainers. If white t-shirts have been purchased they can still worn too.

A polite reminder also that earrings are not allowed. Parents will be called to school and asked to remove them if this is the case. Plasters can't be used to cover them. This is for Health and Safety reasons.

Wrap around Care

Our wraparound service provision starts at 7.30am. The cost for breakfast club is £5, this includes the childcare, activities and food. The after school provision runs until 6pm and costs £8 a session. This also includes childcare, activities and food. Children must be booked onto the club with advance payment or they will not be allowed to attend.

Mother and toddler group

Our Mother and Toddler group runs every Wednesday 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.

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. We also ask that children do not play football in the playground before school opens, again this is for Health and Safety reasons.

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.

Wednesday 26th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Forgiveness is the lifeblood of any family or community.

In this Sunday's Gospel the younger son insults his father; his inheritance is all he thinks about. To make matters worse, his reason for returning is not love or consideration for his father, but simply his own desperate hunger. The father doesn't even question his son's motives. He welcomes his son back with the open heart and the open arms of forgiveness.

The message for us is that, whatever we may have done wrong, if we are truly sorry, we can still count on the loving forgiveness of God, who is our Father, and on the freedom that his forgiveness brings.

Enjoy a special time with your child exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FORGIVENESS**.

Dom Henry Wainwright

A Word from Pope Francis

"May each family rediscover family prayer, which helps to bring about forgiveness."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 30th March 2025

Jesus said, "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the inheritance that would come to me.' So the father gave him his share and his son then left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of shameless living. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and he began to be in need and he had to hire himself out to feed pigs. So he decided to go back to his father. When his father saw him, he ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him. Then his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him and kill the fattened calf. For this son of mine was lost and is now found.' And they began to celebrate."

Adapted from Luke 15:11-32
The 4th Sunday of Lent, Year C

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope in our Families

The father in this Sunday's Gospel gives us a glimpse of God the father's merciful and forgiving nature. If we acknowledge when we have gone wrong, God is always ready to forgive us and to help us to forgive others. We are all part of God's family and no matter how many times we need to forgive or to be forgiven, God is there to help us.

SPREAD THE WORD and bring **GOOD NEWS** to your friends by sharing **THE WEDNESDAY WORD**

Good News for Families TOGETHER TIME

1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

One day Jesus told this story: "A young man asked his father for his share of the family's money. He went off and quickly spent all he had on selfish living. Then a serious famine spread through the country and, having spent all his money, the son became hungry. He went home to beg for his father's forgiveness and offer to live as a servant. But the father ran out to meet his son. He hugged him and he kissed him and he treated him to a great celebration."

What did the father do to the son who returned home?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.



Sunday Gospel Gallery
Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Pray and forgive. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven." *Sr Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)*

FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is one of God's greatest gifts to us. We must try to forgive others in the same way that we want God (and others) to forgive us. Ask your child what the word 'forgiveness' means to them. Has your child ever asked for and received forgiveness? How did it feel to be forgiven? It may help your child if you tell them about a time when you forgave someone, especially when it wasn't easy to do, or when you were forgiven.

Each of you say how it feels to forgive someone and make friends again. Ask your child if there is anyone they need to forgive, or if there is anyone whose forgiveness they would like? If so, help each other by sharing ideas about how to do this. During Lent, many parish churches have special Reconciliation Services to help us experience God's forgiveness and to give us the strength to forgive others. All are warmly invited.

3 Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

FINDING THREE

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

SON SELFISH FAMINE HUNGRY RETURN HOME FATHER FORGAVE

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

SYRGNUHRFF
EHUNOSOMEA
LHUTIMMRHRM
SONFFAVNTGS
VMLGOREHAAE
RETURNGUFVL
SFAMINENAEF
REEMOHTGVGI
EFATHERRRNS
TFILSOGYNTH
HSELFNRUTER

Cross out the letters **cpu** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

pofufere chopmue secruvapnt ubpegg

He went _____ to _____ for his father's forgiveness and _____ to live as a _____.

This Sunday (the 4th Sunday of Lent) is traditionally known as 'Laetare Sunday'. 'Laetare' is a Latin word that means 'rejoice'. Let's rejoice for the forgiveness which God our Father gives to us whenever we tell him we are sorry.

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

School menu



Gateshead Council



HOW TO CONTACT US:
 Telephone: 0191 433 5522
 Email: schoolcatering@gateshead.gov.uk
 Website: www.gateshead.gov.uk

WEEK 1

MEAT FREE MONDAY

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>FISH FRIDAY</i>
1ST CHOICE	Flat bread pizza slice with pasta, baked beans or mixed salad	Chicken pie, roast potatoes, mixed veg & gravy	Pork meatball sub roll, diced garlic potatoes & mixed salad	Chicken & Yorkshire pudding, mashed potato, cauliflower, carrots, broccoli & gravy.	Fish fingers, potato wedges & peas
2ND CHOICE		Cheese pasty, roast potatoes, mixed veg & gravy	Veggie meatball sub roll, diced garlic potatoes & mixed salad	Quorn fillet, Yorkshire pudding, mashed potato, cauliflower, carrots, broccoli mix & gravy	Veggie fingers, potato wedges & peas
JACKET POTATO	Baked beans with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Tuna mayo with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Baked beans with mixed salad
DESSERT	Ice cream roll & fruit	Jelly & fruit	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit	School cake & custard	Waffle & fruit

02/09/24
23/09/24
14/10/24
11/11/24
02/12/24
06/01/25
27/01/25
17/02/25
17/03/25
07/04/25
12/05/25
09/06/25
30/06/25

WEEK 2

MEAT FREE MONDAY

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>FISH FRIDAY</i>
1ST CHOICE	Mini round pizza with pasta, spaghetti hoops or mixed salad	Savoury beef mince & veg with cooks' choice topping, mashed potato, green beans, carrots & gravy	Chicken curry, rice & naan bread with pea, carrot & sweetcorn medley	Pork sausages, roast potatoes, carrot & swede mash & gravy	Fish cake, mini potato waffles & peas
2ND CHOICE		Quorn savoury mince & veg with cooks' choice topping, mashed potato, green beans, carrots & gravy	Vegetarian curry, rice & naan bread with pea, carrot & sweetcorn medley	Veggie sausages, roast potatoes, carrot & swede mash & gravy	Veggie bake, mini potato waffles & peas
JACKET POTATO	Baked beans with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Tuna mayo with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Baked beans with mixed salad
DESSERT	School cake & custard	Ice cream with fruit	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit	Chocolate mousse, mandarins & mini biscuit	Doughnut & fruit

09/09/24
30/09/24
21/10/24
18/11/24
09/12/24
13/01/25
03/02/25
03/03/25
24/03/25
28/04/25
19/05/25
16/06/25
07/07/25

WEEK 3

MEAT FREE MONDAY

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>FISH FRIDAY</i>
1ST CHOICE	Pizza wedge with pasta, baked beans or mixed salad	Sweet chilli or BBQ chicken wrap, rainbow rice, salad & veg sticks	Beef bolognese with pasta, garlic bread & pea & sweetcorn medley	Gammon slice with Yorkshire pudding mashed potato, carrots, cabbage & gravy	Fish portion, chips, peas & curry sauce
2ND CHOICE		Sweet chilli or BBQ veggie pieces in a wrap with rainbow rice, salad & veg sticks	Cheesy pasta with garlic bread & pea & sweetcorn medley	Quorn fillet with Yorkshire pudding mashed potato, carrots, cabbage & gravy	Veggie bites, chips, peas & curry sauce
JACKET POTATO	Baked beans with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Tuna mayo with mixed salad	Cheese with mixed salad	Baked beans with mixed salad
DESSERT	Cooks' choice hot pudding	Cooks' choice homemade biscuit	Cooks' choice muffin	Fruit smoothie & fruit	Pancake with banana & chocolate sauce

16/09/24
07/10/24
04/11/24
25/11/24
16/12/24
20/01/25
10/02/25
10/03/25
31/03/25
05/05/25
02/06/25
23/06/25
14/07/25

Spring Term 2025
Event reminders – Newly added events in red

Date	Class	Event
Monday 10 th March 2025	Year 6	Attending the Commonwealth Day Flag Raising Ceremony at Civic Centre 11am.
Thursday 13 th March 2025	Year 3	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Friday 14 th March	Whole School	Science Day. Children can come into school dressed as a scientist or in non-uniform.
Friday 14 th March 2025	Year 2	Celebration of the word, in school. 3pm all welcome.
Wednesday 19 th March 2025	Years 2-6	Feast of St Joseph, Mass at St Joseph's Church 10am all welcome.
Wednesday 19 th March 2025	Whole School	Parents Evening starting at 1pm.
Thursday 20 th March 2025	Year 2	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Friday 21 st March 2025	Year 1	Celebration of the word, in school. 3pm all welcome.
Wednesday 26 th March 2025	Year 4	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Thursday 27 th March 2025	Year 5	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Friday 28 th March 2025	Year 6	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Monday 31 st March 2025	Year 1	Year 1 Trip to Northumberland Zoo. More details to follow.
Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 1	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child.
Thursday 3 rd April 2025	EYFS	2pm – Inspire Afternoon. Easter Egg Decoration Parents are invited into school to take part in fun craft activities with their child
Monday 7 th April 2025	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	Palm Sunday. Celebration of The Word in school, 2.30pm all welcome.
Tuesday 8 th April 2025	Year 3 and Year 4	Last Supper. Celebration of The Word in school, 2.30pm all welcome
Tuesday 8 th April 2025	Whole School	Easter Disco. More details to follow.
Wednesday 9 th April 2025	Year 3	Stations of The Cross at St Joseph's Church 10am all welcome.
Wednesday 9 th April 2025	Year 5	Stations of The Cross. Celebration of The Word in school 2.30pm all welcome.

Wednesday 9 th April 2025	Year 6	Year 6 Trip to Alnwick Gardens.
Thursday 10 th April 2025	Reception	Trip to Hall Hill Farm. More details to follow.
Friday 11 th April 2025	Reception	Easter Bonnet parade in hall, parents welcome 2.30pm.
Friday 11 th April 2025	Whole School	Easter Egg Competition/ Easter Fun Day. More details to follow
Friday 11 th April 2025	Whole School	Last day of term, finish at 3.30pm.
Monday 14th April 2025 to Friday 25th April 2025 Whole school – Easter Holidays. All children return on Monday 28th April 2025		



