



## St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mr P Brown



Living, Learning  
and Loving  
together with  
Christ

15<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents,

As the Spring Term comes to an end, I would like to take the opportunity to update you all on various news items across the school.

**MRS MALLET:** After 24 years of wonderful service, Mrs Mallett has retired from her position and has left school. She will be fondly remembered for all of her skills and patience with the children and we wish her well for what will be a richly deserved retirement. Mrs Mallett has many interests outside of school and is looking forward to pursuing them. She knows that she is welcome to come back and see us at any time.



**MISS MANNING:** After having a low intake of Nursery numbers this year, we reverted to one class in September, combining the Nursery and Reception classes. Happily, numbers have picked up significantly over the course of the year and we are now in a position to re-establish two separate classes. To this end, I am delighted to confirm the appointment of Miss Hollie Manning as Nursery teacher. Miss Manning will work alongside Mrs Love and the rest of the Early Years team. It is the school's intention to begin September with a full Nursery and a full separate Reception class.



**WEBSITE:** We now have a new and updated website, which we are very pleased with. You will be able to find records of school events in each class and subjects from across the year as well as useful information such as school term dates and policies. The website address is: [www.stjosephsrcprimary.co.uk](http://www.stjosephsrcprimary.co.uk)

**LENT WALK:** The children all took part in a Charity Walk on Tuesday - with Year 5 and 6 walking a full 7 miles from Newburn to Wylam. I think they surprised themselves with their fitness! All of this is in aid of fundraising for CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). CAFOD work to provide resources for our neighbours in poorer parts of the world to support themselves and their families. It is an excellent cause and it is great for the children to see their efforts practically aiding others. If you would like to support the children you can donate using this link: <https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-josephs-rc-primary-school-benwell>



**FOOTBALL TEAM:** Our football team have progressed to the final stages of the Bishops Cup. We have won 5 out of 6 matches this season and the children have represented the school superbly.

**ATTENDANCE:** We have not had a great term for attendance. Unfortunately, we have had a bad outbreak of Chicken Pox which has swept through the school. There is not much anyone can do about that! Traditionally, we always have very strong attendance in the summer term and I am sure that this will be the case this time as well. Remember, that good attendance has a strong and obvious link to children having the best possible outcome from school. We aim for 95% attendance in school and 90% is the absolute minimum that children should be achieving. Should your child fall below 90%, Mrs Crowle will be in touch to support. Once again, I must remind parents that we are unable to approve any term time holidays. However, we must always be informed where children are if they are off sick or are absent for any other reason. This is a legal requirement.



**TRIPS AND RESIDENTIALS:** For the first time, we have gained funding to take the children to France. This is a hugely exciting opportunity for them. Mrs Rogan in particular has worked very hard on this. The dates for the trip are 16-20 June. We are also taking Year 6 for their residential in the Lake District between 3 -5 July. We will be aiming to improve our offer to the children each year so that they get the best possible experiences both in and out of school during their time at St Joseph's.

**ASSESSMENTS:** The Year 6 children will be taking their SATS examinations on Monday 12 to Thursday 16 May. The school has exceeded national averages in each of the last three years in almost all areas. The Year 4 multiplication check is on the week of Monday 2 June. The Year 1 Phonics Screen is on the week beginning Monday 9 June. If your children are in those year groups and you need any advice on helping them to prepare, please contact their class teachers.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS:** Please see a list of confirmed events for the summer term. When any more are confirmed, we will add them and update you all on Class Dojo.

Date	Activity
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Draeger – Pupil pitching final product Year 5
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 Mass St Bede’s Church
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 6 Celebration of the Word
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	School council at Scotswood Garden
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday School Closed
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Housesteads (waiting for confirmation)
7 <sup>h</sup> May	Year 6 Mass St Bede’s Church
8 <sup>th</sup> May	WWII 80 <sup>th</sup> commemoration day
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3: Celebration of the Word
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Science Centre
9 <sup>th</sup> May	EYFS Hall Hill Farm
9 <sup>th</sup> May	Whole school mass lead by 3 and 4
12 <sup>th</sup> May	SATS week
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Celebration of the Word Year 5
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Mass year 3 St Bede’s church

<b>21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Year 6 transition to Sacred Heart High School
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	Celebration of the word year 2
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	Languages Day
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	LAST DAY OF TERM
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	School Reopens
<b>4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Mass Year 2
<b>5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Celebration of the Word Year 4
<b>11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Mass St Bede's Year 6
<b>12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Celebration of the Word Year 1
<b>16<sup>th</sup> June- 20<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Year 6 France visit
<b>18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Mass St Bede's Year 5
<b>20<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Year 5 Big Gig World Music Day
<b>25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Year 6 Primary Festival
<b>25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Mass St Bede's Church Year 4
<b>26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Celebration of the Word year 3
<b>28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	First Holy Communions
<b>30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Whole School Music Festival
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> July – Friday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 6 Borrowdale – Lake district
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Celebration of the Word year 4
<b>7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	EYFS Sports Day
<b>8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Sports Day years 1-6
<b>9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Mass St Bede's year 2
<b>9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 6 Transition St Cuthbert's
<b>10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 6 Transition St Cuthbert's
<b>10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Celebration of the Word Year 1
<b>11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 6 Transition Day St Cuthbert's
<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Mass Year 6 to lead
<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Last day of term



On behalf of all of the staff, we wish you all a happy and holy Easter.

Mr Brown

Mrs Sharon Rogan

Executive Headteacher

Head of School