

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford

"Let us protect with love all that God has given us"
(Pope Francis 19.03.2013)



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14th July 2023



'Let us protect with love all that God has given us'

Dear Families,

What an amazing year! This newsletter is testament to the broad and varied curriculum we offer. This year has been another year of re-building, post COVID, our curriculum and expectations in line with our Mission (which underpins all that we do) and under our curriculum intent of academic excellence, diversity and action. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank our pupils for working so hard this year and your reports, sent home today, celebrate your academic and personal excellence. Well done, you are amazing.

I also want to thank all our staff for their hard work in supporting our children make progress in all areas. Their dedication and imagination are outstanding. I wanted to give special shout out to the office and site staff. Their tenacity, patience and organisation are invaluable in allowing the teaching staff to communicate and deliver our curriculum in a safe and timely manner. Events like sports day, concerts, visits to the zoo, reports, parent meetings, immunisation and so on, take a vast amount of thought, care and organisation and when they are executed seamlessly, people often don't notice. They are the engine room of the school – please do take the opportunity to thank them!

Another group of people who provide an invaluable service is our Governing Body. A heartfelt thank you to this group of volunteers who meet regularly to guide the school and provide oversight and support for the school leadership. They are also an essential part of our school.

And finally, our families. Thank you for choosing our school and for your support for the work we do. Have a wonderful summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming your children back next September and all the best to our Year 6 as they move on to Secondary School.

Warm wishes

Jess Tweedie
Headteacher

Visiting Speaker Assembly

To finish our series of assemblies on vocations, we had another visit from a former pupil. Jonathan Henry is currently training for the priesthood at the Venerable English College in Rome. He spoke to the whole school about his vocation, answering questions pupils had prepared. He showed us all a photo taken during his time at school! Jonathan spent some time afterwards with Year 5, answering more questions about life as a trainee priest and his vocational journey. We are very grateful for all our visitors this term, who have given so generously of their time.



Before and After photos!

EYFS Farmer Gow's

Reception pupils had a lovely day at Farmer Gow's last week. We had a chance to collect eggs from the hens, get up close to the cows, pigs and sheep and even feed the goats. We explored the farm; where we learnt all about the animals' routines and we finished the day riding on tractors and playing on the hay bales. Thank you very much to the parent helpers who accompanied us. Luckily the rain stayed away and we had a fantastic day trip!

EYFS teaching team



Year 5&6 Production

An exuberant production of the Porridge Pot by Years 5&6! The songs were sung with joy and gusto! The gags delivered with panache and timing. The work the school has been doing in '*public speaking*' has paid off as the audience were able to hear with clarity and no microphones! Thank you to the pupils for their enjoyment and enthusiasm. Thank you to the staff for turning this around in a short timeframe and for the dedication that this takes.



Road Safety

With the good weather and lighter evenings, we know that more of our pupils and parents will be on foot and/or cycling round the city. If driving, please ensure you are vigilant and aware of more vulnerable road users, particularly in the narrow residential roads around our school.

Summer Concert

On Wednesday 5th July the choir, orchestra and handbells group delivered a spectacular summer concert. The children performed beautifully, whilst demonstrating how well they listen to one another and work as a team. The choir showcased their wide repertoire of songs, Mrs Carder was extremely proud of their music making and exemplary behaviour; our orchestra showed off the musical talent of pupils and handbells rung out clearly and cleanly across a packed hall. Music in schools was hugely impacted by the COVID pandemic but we can see that it is bouncing back strongly in our school! A huge thank you to Mrs Carder, Mr Brinkley and Mr Findlay for leading the various groups and putting together a wonderful evening.



Inter- School Chess Tournament

Our school hosted a chess tournament on Wednesday 5th July, with pupils from Larkrise and Windmill joining two teams of St Joseph's pupils. St Joseph's A (U11) team triumphed at the event with St Joseph's B (U9) a close second. We are very proud of the tenacity, skill, strategy and sportsmanship shown by our pupils. They were supportive of each other, gracious in victory and learnt from each of their matches.

ChessFest London!

On Wednesday 12th July, Ms Tweedie took 7 pupils from Y3 and Y4, to the London ChessFest. It was an excellent day – they got to play against the Under 8 World Champion (who played all 7 of them simultaneously and won!), meet a Grandmaster and play other schools. Thank you to the CSC (chess in schools and communities) who gave a grant for the transport and to the Office and Dr Varney for helping to arrange for this. Well done to our amazing pupils – they were a credit to the school.



ChessFest 2023, Manchester Square, London

Chesskids Holiday Tournaments

Andrew Varney will be running on-line chess tournaments over the summer for our Chesskid pupils. Typically, they will take place on the days that chess clubs would have been running and are open to anyone from St Joseph's who has a Chesskid account and is in the official St Joseph's group. The first tournament is set up for Wednesday 26th July 4pm-5pm. More information is available when your child logs in to their account.

Year 6 IMPS trips - Injury Minimization Programme!

On Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th July, Year 6 visited the John Radcliffe Hospital to take part in IMPS. IMPS is the Injury Minimization Programme for Schools which was developed by a team from the John Radcliffe Hospital led by Professor Willett. The children learned basic resuscitation, what to do if someone is choking or unconscious and how to prevent accidents happening in the first place. We are so lucky to have this resource available and hope that our pupils feel more confident should they ever need to apply the skills they have learned.

School Swimming – Post COVID Catch-up

We have good news! This year, we have invested in two afternoons of swimming per week, as many children missed out on learning to swim during the pandemic (due to long periods of pool closures and the suspension of lessons both in and out of school). In Years 3, 4 & 5, all children have been swimming at some point this year. In Year 6, those pupils not able to confidently swim 25m also swam for half a term. We feel we have made a difference in terms of numbers of children being able to swim 25m and show basic water safety skills, we had record success levels when Year 5s were tested on Friday!

- 18 out of the 29 Year 5 children have now achieved the required level.
- Almost 50% of Year 4 children have already completed the required level.
- 7 out of the 24 Year 6 children achieved the required level after 6 weeks of lessons.

Those pupils who have not officially passed the standard yet, have also significantly improved in a sporting activity which can provide exercise and fun as well as save a life! Well done to all St Joseph's swimmers this year and a huge thank you to the school staff who have accompanied them.

Mr J. Ingram

Year 3 Poetry

On Monday 3rd July, Year 3 had a wonderful walk through Oxford, taking in the sights of the city on the way to Magdalen College School to participate in a performance poetry workshop with poet and rapper, *Kimba*, as part of the Oxford Festival of the Arts. Kimba spoke to the children about his journey to becoming a poet and the key ingredients of writing good poetry. He performed some of his inspiring work which was enjoyed by all. We enjoyed a picnic lunch in the grounds of MCS before a slightly soggy walk back to school!

Mrs D Montes



Sports Day

Weren't we lucky with the weather! A very enjoyable sports day. What was noticeable was the level of fitness in the relays! We can certainly see our focus on daily running paying off. The pace of the races in KS2 was significantly faster than last year. The picnic was a success with many families attending. This is always a well-attended and enjoyed day in the school calendar.



IRock

Our iRockers delivered a super concert to parents and pupils on Friday 14th July, with some great renditions of current chart hits. Well done to all the young musicians who took part, performing in front of your peers can be a daunting thing to do but they carried it off with gusto!

Book return

Please could you ensure you return any reading books or library books to school before the end of term. Some shelves are looking quite depleted and it would be lovely to have them refilled by September!

Year 1 - Cotswold Wildlife Park

We have been learning about animals including humans this past term. So it was most fitting that our school trip this term was to go and see some different animals 'in the flesh'. On July 4th the Year One classes ventured out to Cotswolds Wildlife Park! We saw a range of different animals from the different animal families. Even though it rained the whole day, the children found it interesting. Here are some of the feedback we got:

'I liked the bats- They were in the dark room because they like night time'.- Clarisse

I liked looking at the gorillas because they were hanging from the wall. It was really cool to see! -Sama

'I saw a cobra. I felt a little nervous- I was worried that if I would make too much noise, he would jump at me through the window!'- Gabriel

'I liked when I met the gorillas, they were really funny!' Evan

'I liked the zebras they are stripy (white and black). They are herbivories they eat grass and leaves!' Siddharth

'My favourite part was probably the picnic. I liked how we were comfy, and we could see the giraffes eating their lunch too.' Joshua

'I liked the lizards and snakes. The snakes are poisonous because this is something to protect the snakes' Iraklis

Miss Mleczko and Miss May



Reports and Statutory Information and Class Lists for next year

School reports went out today including specialist reports and statutory testing results (where relevant). Classes for next year were also included in the envelope. Pupils will have a transition day with their new teacher on Monday morning.

St Joseph's Pupil Profile

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been **Intentional and Prophetic** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates		RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	Ryo
1MA – Miss May	Jotham	1ML – Miss Mleczko	
2C – Miss Cook	Xzavier	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon		3M – Mrs Montes	Jaden
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter		4R – Mrs Ravenhill	Alice
5I – Mr Ingram	Mariam	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	Bisan
6H–Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	Angela and Artin	6T – Mr Turner	

Learning Charter Champions

Congratulations to the following pupils, our **Learning Charter Champions** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates		RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	Javeria
1MA – Miss May	David	1ML – Miss Mleczko	
2C – Miss Cook	Raheem	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon		3M – Mrs Montes	Seeyar
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter	Zainab and Irene	4R – Mrs Ravenhill	Elizabeth C
5I – Mr Ingram		5R – Mrs Rashleigh	Saood
6H–Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	Raphael	6T – Mr Turner	

Practical Help and Signposting

Sadly, things at the moment are difficult for many of our families. Bills all seem to be rising, and everything is getting more expensive. We want to make sure that all our families have support in place if it is needed. Even if your child is not eligible for Free School Meals, we may be able to help with uniform from our vast stock of good-quality second-hand items, we are able to refer to local Food Banks and signpost families to other sources of help, advice and support.

If you are struggling, please contact our home/school link worker, Mrs Kate Stratford. Her contact details are below. Mrs Stratford will be happy to talk to you in confidence to see what support we can offer.

If you need help towards paying for school trips, please contact the office to arrange a confidential conversation with Ms Tweedie.

Mrs Kate Stratford

Home/School Link Worker and Deputy DSL

Tel: 01865 763357

Mobile: 07500 802732

Email: kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Dairy Dates

Date	Year Group/Class	Event
Friday 14 th July	All year groups	End-of-Year Reports to families
Monday 17 th July	All year groups	Visiting new classes for next year!
Wednesday 19 th July	Year 6	Leavers Mass
Thursday 20 th July	Year 6	Leavers Assembly
Friday 21st July	All year groups	School finishes for all pupils at 1pm
Monday 4 th September	Years 1-6	Return to school!
Monday 4 th – Tuesday 5 th September	Reception	Phased start
Wednesday 6 th September		All year groups in school

Flyers and Information



Calling all parents!

- Do you have a child in **Year 1 or Year 5**?
- Does your child receive **free school meals**?
 - We want to hear from families who **speak English only or another language at home.**
- Would you like to take part in a research project about your child's reading?
- Scan the code below and **receive £20** if you and your child complete the study



SCAN ME



Summer Holiday Clubs

St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

These clubs are open to children aged 3-11

Monday 24th July to Friday 28th July
Tuesday 15th August to Friday 18th August
Monday 21st August to Friday 25th August



Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.



Cost: £35 per day
All childcare vouchers accepted

Timings: 8am-5pm

To find out more or to book visit
www.rattleandrollperformance.com
or call 07722 014301



Sometimes, talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.

Autism Central is here to help!


Sometimes, talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.
Autism Central is here to help!

The Autism Central Peer Education programme is for parents, carers and personal assistants of autistic people.


Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

- We are here to listen, offer guidance and tell you about services that are available in your local area
- Navigate you to services that can make a difference and empower you
- Increase your knowledge, understanding and provide you with skills to last

Request for Support



Charity number: 1171446



aspens.org.uk



HERE THIS SUMMER HOLIDAY!

TECH

SUMMER CAMP

DIFFERENT COURSE EACH WEEK!



VR & ROBOTICS



PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY



MINECRAFT & LEGO ENGINEERING

ST EBBES PRIMARY SCHOOL
OXFORD, OX1 4NA

AGES 5-11, £225 £205 FOR 5 DAYS, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY

www.nexttthing.education

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023

JULY - SEPTEMBER

ACTIVITIES THEY'LL LOVE!

WEEK 1 ROBOTICS, VR + TECH FUN

Program robots, design games, model 3D creations, experience Virtual Reality, learn to mix like a Pro DJ... plus MEGA LASERTAG! A week of inspiration and creation with MAXIMUM excitement. Children will experiment and challenge themselves, with world skills.

WEEK 2 MINECRAFT + LEGO ENGINEERING

Designed for ULTIMATE fun and education! Students can dive into Minecraft Education and design game elements, build Redstone circuits and learn coding fundamentals. Then take a deeper look into engineering using LEGO bricks combined with sensors and motors to create cool inventions powered by code.

WEEK 3 PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOGRAPHY + CRAFTS

Is your child obsessed with Youtube and Tik Tok? Join us for a complete masterclass in capturing and editing like a pro, whilst instilling safety and proper practice. Plus, a BONUS Arts and Crafts session each day that will become their content focus.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP



Packed Lunch and Snacks



Water Bottle



Medication if Required



Weather Appropriate Clothing



★★★★★
"Both my son and daughter had lots of fun, made new friends, learnt new skills and will not stop talking about the Robots!"
Lucy Hart - St Ebbe's Primary School

£10 OFF

BOOK BEFORE THE 30TH JUNE TO GET £10 OFF WITH CODE

JUNE10

E: info@nexttthing.education
T: 01442 873150


Children's Book Club

at Old Marston Library

Perfect for children aged 8-12 who like books, stories, cartoons and making friends!

We meet on the first Monday of the month at 4:15pm

☎ 01865 726823



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SUMMER HOILDAY EVENTS!

21st July - 1st September 2023

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays
11 - Rhymetime 11:30 - Stay and Play 3:15 - Lego Club	10:30 - Storytime and Crafts	11 - Rhymetime 11:30 - Stay and Play 2:30 - Art Club
Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
2:00 - Giant Colouring	11 - Rhymetime 11:30 - Stay and Play	11 - Origami Club 2:30 - Storytime and Crafts

All events are drop in!

Scan this QR code for more information on our Eventbrite page!

All children must be accompanied by an adult.





OXFORDSHIRE PLAY ASSOCIATION

**FREE ENTRANCE
AND FREE
ACTIVITIES**

**NORTHWAY AND MARSTON
PLAY AND ACTIVITY DAY**

SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2023

11AM UNTIL 3PM

**NORTHWAY RECREATION GROUND,
OXFORD. OX3 9RU**



**Tricky Trails Biking * Go Kart Party * Groovy Su *
Body Zorbing * Giant Bubbles * Bright Sparks Science *
Smoothie Bike * DIY Face Painting * Ride on Time * Art
Avalanche * Climbing Wall * Tots of Mess * Muzo
Akademy II * Science Oxford * Parasol Project *
City Council Sports & Communities Teams * Oxford
University Chemistry Outreach Team and more!!!**

This is a Family themed event and as such NO Childcare is provided /
Please do feel free to bring a picnic although food will be available to
purchase on site / Please walk or use Public Transport for the event as
there is NO parking on site / This event will be photographed and
filmed.

**For further information contact - www.oxonplay.org.uk / 07436
270267 / martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk**



**OXFORDSHIRE
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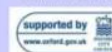
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