St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - October 2025

Headteacher News

We are coming to the end of a long but very productive and successful half term. Children have settled well into their new classes and routines and are working very hard in all areas. We have had teams representing the school in sporting events such as hockey and cross country and well-being events such as the Mental Health Ambassadors conference. We aim to provide as many opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom that we can so we can bring learning alive for our children.

We congratulate ten children who were recognised by the Mayor of Kingston for achieving 100% attendance last academic year at a special awards ceremony at Southborough High School last week. Good school attendance is vital. The evidence is clear - even a few days of missed school can have a significant impact on a child's education and future prospects. Please do ensure your child is at school and on time every day where possible.

It was lovely to see many of you at our Parent Consultation evenings. Thank you for working with us to provide the best education we can for your children.

This month we welcomed Mrs Pavlou as School Business Manager. She will be based in the main office every Wednesday and Friday and is looking forward to getting to know you all.

Half term falls next week and children return to school on Tuesday 4th November. Wishing you all a well deserved rest from the school routine next week! God bless, Mrs Flower

OFFICE HOURS

8.30-4.00 Monday-Friday – closed during school holidays.

SCHOOL HOURS

Registration begins 8.50a.m. (gates open from 8.40am) School finishes 3.15p.m. (Infants/KS1) 3.20p.m. (Juniors/KS2)

Nursery – morning session 8.30-11.30a.m. – afternoon session 12.20-3.20p.m.

CHANGES TO FAMILY DETAILS

For changes to your address, telephone numbers or email address please let the office know either in person or by e-mail.

MEDICATION

If your child needs to receive prescription medicine (4 times a day), medicines need to be brought to the office and parents are asked to complete a 'permission to administer' form.

R.E:

This month, Year 5 led us in a wonderful assembly to mark Harvest time. We were reminded of the hard work of farmers around the world to ensure we all have enough to eat. A huge thank you to all of our families for your incredibly generous support for Kingston Food Bank through your donations on the day. Every donation will go to supporting those less fortunate than ourselves on our local area.

During October, we have also been praying the Rosary in our Collective Worships to ask Mary to bring us closer to God.





Class attendance for October 2025

N = 94%
R = 94.5%
Yr1 = 94.8%
Yr2 = 96%
Yr3 = 96.3%
Yr4 = 97.5%
Yr5 = 96.2%
Yr6 = 96.3%

Congratulations

Y4



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Fairfield, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2UP
Phone: 020 8546 7178 Email: office@stjosephs.rbksch.org Website: www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk

Autumn Dates - Oct/Nov 2025

Mon 27th -Fri 31st - HALF TERM
Fri 31st Oct - Secondary School Applications deadline
Mon 3rd Nov - Inset Day - no school
Tue 4th Nov - children return to school
Wed 5th- Fri 7th - Y4&Y5 Sayers Croft Residential Trip
Fri 7th Nov- Y6 Kingston Library visit
Tue 11th Nov- Y6 Remembrance Day assembly - 9:05am
Thurs 13th Nov- Reception Open Day 2pm -new parents 2026
Fri 14th Nov- Y5 Kingston Library visit
Fri 21st Nov- Y4 Kingston Library visit
Fri 28th Nov- Y3 Kingston Library visit
Mon 24th Nov- International Day



Fri 28th Nov- All Saints Church Concert KS2 - 2pm

Fun Plus Out of School Club
Breakfast Club 8:00-8:40am
After School 3:15-6pm
Please book using the QR code below

Attendance Policy

Our School attendance policy can be viewed on the School website.
There is a direct link between attendance and attainment. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning, and affects children's progress and wellbeing.
New legislation states that head teachers may only grant a leave of absence in 'exceptional circumstances'.

Holidays or unauthorised leave in term time will not be granted.

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Parking Reminder

A gentle reminder to please park considerately around the school. Please avoid blocking driveways, pavements or in some instances roads. Your care helps our community keep safe and respectful - thank you.

Follow us on Instagram:

@STJOSEPHS.KINGSTON

We also have a page dedicated to our Nursery and Reception which can be found here:

@EYFS_AT_STJOSEPHS

Safeguarding:

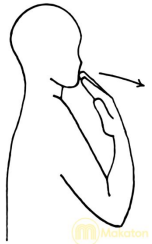
Should you ever have a concern about the welfare of a child or adult, please come and speak in confidence with the school's safeguarding leads. Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders for the school are Mrs Flower, Miss, Devlin, Miss Kate and Miss Aziz. If you cannot speak to us in person we can be contacted via email at: dsl@stjosephs.rbksch.org

Should you not wish to speak to a member of the school team you can contact Kingston's Children's Single Point of Access (SPA).The SPA provides residents and people who work with children in Kingston with direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find the appropriate support for children and families.

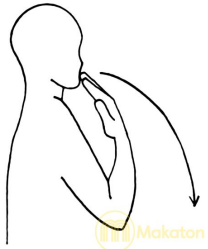
The Single Point of Access team is available from 8am to 5.15pm, Monday to Thursday, 8am to 5pm Friday.Call them on 020 8547 5008, or if you need to speak to someone urgently after hours or at the weekend, call the 'Out of Hours' team on 020 8770 5000.

Makaton

This months signs are…



Thank you



Please (a longer action)

Check out Suzanne and Tracy at the Singing Hands who have lots of wonderful resources online. Please use the link below:
https://singinghands.co.uk/

Appointments

We ask that where possible any appointments are booked outside of the school day. Where this is not possible, or for emergency appointments, please share the appointment confirmation with the school office prior to the appointment in order for the absence to be authorised.

If you need to collect your child early from school due to an appointment, please inform the office in the morning so this information can be shared with the relevant class teacher. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Nursery

The children have had a very busy and exciting month! They took part in the Harvest Celebrations, explored the NSPCC' "Talk PANTS" initiative, and celebrated Diwali. Throughout these events, children enjoyed fun and engaging activities that supported their fine and gross motor skills while deepening their understanding of these important themes.

Autumn Harvest

The children learned all about the Harvest Festival by exploring different fruits and vegetables, taking part in a tasting session, learning the Harvest Samba song, and baking their own bread rolls. They loved playing in our farm shop, where they explored different types of produce and practised buying and selling items with their friends.

As part of their fine motor activities, the children created lovely observational drawings of pumpkins, explored our sensory pumpkin station, and went on an exciting pumpkin hunt around the setting, where they practised their subitising skills.











Talking PANTS with Pantosaurus!

The children took part in the NSPCC Talk PANTS initiative. They enjoyed various activities such as designing their own pairs of pants for Pantosaurus, playing a pants-matching game, and learning the Pantosaurus song. Through play, we talked about ways to keep ourselves safe and the importance of speaking up when something doesn't feel right.

Diwali

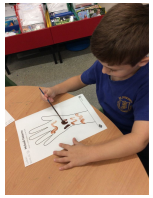
The children celebrated Diwali by learning about the festival, making diyas, creating colourful rangoli patterns, and dressing up in saris, bangles and bindis. They loved the activities and were excited to make their own rangoli patterns at home!

Reception

Diwali

We explored Diwali, the festival of lights, by making Diya lamps, designing our own Mendhi and Rangoli patterns and learning a new dance.

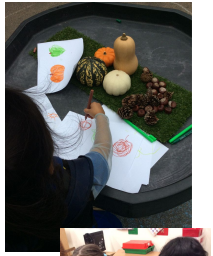





Autumn Harvest

We celebrated the Harvest Festival by exploring different autumnal vegetables. We did some observational drawings with the pastels and paints.





Talk PANTS week

As part of the NSPCC Talk PANTS week, we discussed ways to keep our bodies safe and speak up when something isn't right. We designed pants for Pantosaurus and made our own posters.

Year 1

Year 1 have worked incredibly hard this half term and should be very proud of what they have accomplished over the past few months. They have settled into their new classroom environment and have already produced some outstanding pieces of work. In English we recently read the story "Beegu", which the children loved. They then had to plan and write their own letters to our Headteacher, Mrs Flower, to try and convince her why they think Beegu should be allowed to stay in school and not be sent away. The letters were absolutely fantastic and Mrs Flower even wrote an official letter back to the children explaining that Beegu could come and visit, so long as they keep working hard and being kind to each other. As you can imagine the children were all so excited to receive an official letter from their Headteacher. In Maths we have been working hard on our number bonds to 10, and have been coming up with some catchy songs to help us remember these. Can I also just mention how proud I am with all the children's effort with regards to their homework! I hope you all enjoy a well earned rest over half term.

Year 2

Year 2 have worked tirelessly and are enjoying their new found expertise at grammar in their English lessons. They can explain everything about nouns and name all the 'to be' verbs! Their writing has culminated in a wonderful display about shoe designs using the story Caterpillar Shoes as inspiration. In mathematics children are consolidating their number knowledge and are using related facts to support their improving calculation skills. They have explored the distinction between signs and symbols in RE while learning about the sacrament of Baptism. They also learnt who Baptised Jesus in the bible and the importance of water in our daily lives and our faith. Year 2 have looked at the topic of Growth and Survival during their science lessons and why healthy food and regular exercise are important. They thoroughly enjoyed the lesson where they conducted an investigation into the different heights of those in the class. When Year 2 visited Kingston library they were praised by the librarian and were excellent ambassadors for St Joseph's School.

Year 3

It's been a busy and exciting time in Year 3! In English, the children have been finishing their instructional leaflets, which are now part of a lovely classroom display — they worked so hard and should feel very proud of their efforts. We are also in the middle of writing diary entries inspired by one of the characters from Roald Dahl's The Magic Finger. The children are developing a great understanding of how to write in the first person and past tense. In Maths, we have been learning how to add three-digit and two-digit numbers, including those that cross over 100. The children have been practising different strategies to help them work confidently with larger numbers. In Science, our topic has been "Keeping Healthy." We've been learning about how to look after our bodies, and why our muscles and skeletons are so important for movement, protection, and support.

Year 4

Year 4 have had another productive month. In writing lessons, the children have been planning and writing their own chapters of *How to Train Your Dragon*, creating imaginative stories filled with daring adventures. In Maths, they have been tackling tricky concepts such as addition and subtraction with more than one exchange and have shown great perseverance as they worked through these challenges. In art, the children have been experimenting with cross-hatching and exploring how light can be represented through this technique, producing some fantastic pieces of work.

Year 5

Year 5 have been working hard throughout the month, beginning new Maths units on Addition and Subtraction and then Multiplication and Division. In these lessons, they have used a variety of strategies with which to approach mathematical problems, working independently and collaboratively with their peers. We have continued to study World War II through our English work on Goodnight Mr Tom, wherein we have written letters, recounts and now speeches based on Neville Chamberlain's declaration of war speech in 1939. The children have then recorded their speeches on iPads. In History, we learned about the Battle of Britain and the Holocaust, as well as Anne Frank's diary which the children were greatly interested in. It was fantastic to see Year 5 put such effort into their Harvest Assembly earlier in the month too, showing off their acting skills and reminding us about the importance of such festivals all over the world.

Year 6

It has been another busy month for Year 6, starting with our amazing trip to PGL! The children were absolutely fantastic, behaved incredibly well and were a real credit to the school, and themselves. They took on a range of daring activities and had great fun whilst doing it! All pictures from the trip can be found on our class page on the school website. On our return, we have been busy creating our own recounts of the trip, which the children wish to publish into a book for future classes to read…watch this space! We have been learning about some tricky Maths concepts, especially how to divide, with both long and short methods. Our Year 6 sports leaders have helped kick off 'Tuesday Take Off, and have been great ambassadors thus far! We look forward to the rest of the term and the busy activities coming up both in and out of the classroom. Please check the Year 6 class page for up to date info and pictures of our activities.



French Podcast – Created by Our Students!

We're excited to announce that our students, with the wonderful support of Mr Hunt, have launched a French vocabulary podcast! Each class has chosen a different theme and recorded their own episodes to help listeners learn new words in a fun and engaging way.

It's a fantastic blend of language learning, creativity and collaboration. Bravo to all our young podcasters!

Year 3 - "Ca va?" How are you?
https://www.podbean.com/ea/pb-rfh6p-1983565

Year 4 - Talking about family
https://mcdn.podbean.com/mf/web/vwze6v9i6xzr6cd5/French_year_4_family8w030.mp3

Year 5 - Talking about the pets
https://www.podbean.com/ea/pb-mjqjw-195f97a

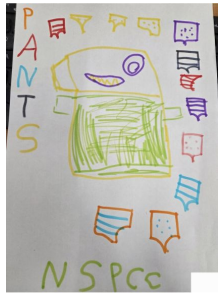
Year 6 - Asking the time
https://www.podbean.com/ea/pb-x2ni5-19834a8

Talk PANTS week 2025

This month, pupils took part in the NSPCC Talk PANTS week with the help of Pantosaurus. Children explored ways we can stay safe and speak up with 5 simple rules:

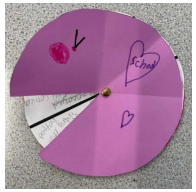






We made our own posters, designed some pants for Pantosaurus and even made our own feelings wheels to help us acknowledge our feelings and emotions and think of positive ways of dealing with them.









For more information, visit the NSPCC Talk PANTS website.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Fairfield, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2UP
Phone: 020 8546 7178 Email: office@stjosephs.rbksch.org Website: www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk

PE

🏑 Hockey Festival

A huge well done to our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils who represented St Joseph's brilliantly at the recent Hockey Festival. Their teamwork, energy, and sportsmanship were outstanding throughout the day — they truly did St Joseph's proud!





🏃 Cross Country Run

Congratulations to our Year 5 and Year 6 runners who took part in the Cross Country event. It was a challenging course, but every pupil showed great determination and resilience. We're incredibly proud of their effort and spirit!

100% Attendance Ceremony

We're incredibly proud of our St Joseph's pupils who were honoured at the recent **100% Attendance Ceremony**. Their commitment to showing up every day was recognised in a special event where they were personally congratulated by the Mayor of Kingston and Mrs Flower.

Huge Congratulations!



WELLBEING NEWS

Future coffee mornings

If you have any suggestions for future coffee mornings that you would like us to hold, please complete the feedback form - https://forms.gle/zFQf2YLDGY63HWut9

Rainbows

St Joseph's is a rainbows registered school. We provide a structured 12-14 week program to assist children and young people through grief and loss facilitated by trained staff with small groups of children. Rainbows provides age related materials and supports self-esteem, trust, confidence and resilience. It promotes emotional development and positive, healthy relationships for children who are grieving through a death, divorce, separation or any other painful transition in their lives.

Please get in touch with Kate Shaw Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead for more details Kshaw@stjosephs.rbksch.org 0208 546 7178.



Mental Health Support Team at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

The Mental Health Support Team are an early intervention service from Achieving for children, supporting children and young people's wellbeing across schools in Kingston & Richmond.

The MHST will continue to offer varied early intervention support for common wellbeing difficulties this academic year. You can view information about the upcoming parent workshops we are offering on the school website, under the Child & Family Wellbeing Lead section.

If you have any questions or would like further information on how to access support, you can speak with your child's class teacher or the Mental Health Lead; Miss Kate Shaw. Alternatively, you can complete the self-referral form on the school website.

https://www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk/child-family-wellbeing-lead/

achieving for children

WELLBEING NEWS

Wellbeing Ambassadors



We had a great day at Southborough High School with children from 11 other Primary schools across the borough. The children attending completed a full day of activities and training to successfully become the new Mental Health Ambassadors for this year at St Joseph's. They created an action plan for the year so that they can help the whole school learn more about how to look after our positive mental health.

■ Tuesday Take Off! ■

Morning Activity Sessions for All Pupils

■ **Launching:** Tuesday 7th October

■ **Location:** KS2 Playground

■ **Time:** 8:25 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.

What is *Tuesday Take Off!*?

A fun, active start to the school day! Children can enjoy a variety of equipment and activities before heading into class, ready to learn.

■ Open to **all pupils**

■ **Voluntary** – join in if you'd like!

■ Supported by **Year 6 Sports Leaders**

Why join in?

- A healthy, energetic start to the day
- Fun with friends before lessons
- Builds focus and readiness for learning

■ Come along, get moving, and start your Tuesday with a boost! ■

WELLBEING NEWS



Express CIC Quiz Night

Fri 14 Nov | The cornerHOUSE Arts Centre

Join Express CIC for the Express Quiz Night hosted by Beth the clubs lead..
£5 per team. MemberAge 12+ under 18s to be accompanied by an adult.
Please book tickets in advance.

https://www.expresscic.org.uk/event-details/express-cic-quiz-night?ct=t%28Express+CIC+Events+book+your+space+Apr+25_COPY_01%29&mc_cid=38afcb9811&mc_eid=acdbbe23f8

Wellbeing Mornings in the Community

Queen Mary Hall , Cambridge Gardens , Kingston upon Thames, KT1 3NJ
All welcome on the first Friday of every month at Queen Mary Hall, where volunteer-run charity RBKares and local partners support the mental, physical, financial and digital health of local residents in need. This free one-stop shop of vital services includes health checks, liver scans, haircuts, employment support, bike repairs, energy vouchers, benefit support, mental health support, Simcards, clothes, toiletries, as well as delicious soup and cake.

SKYLARKS

Skylarks offer a huge range of activities for children with SEND needs and their families such as -
events, activities, talks, workshops, clinics and therapies

https://www.skylarks.charity/whats-on?utm_source=Skylarks+main+mailing+list&utm_campaign=e75e550fcf-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_09_02_08_54_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-f58311dd8c-684049514

Warm Spaces www.kingston.gov.uk

In this time of crisis, Warm Spaces in the borough are opening up to the public. As part of Kingston's partnership response to the Cost of Living Crisis, there is a focus on using existing buildings and spaces across the borough which are easily accessible to residents, offering warm, welcoming and safe spaces for residents to come together. You can find more information via

Connected Kingston.

achieving for children

WELLBEING NEWS



Local Adverts





Local Adverts



