St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter - September 2025

Headteacher News

Welcome back to a new school year! A very warm welcome to all of our families new to us this year; we hope you will grow to feel a part of our very special St Joseph's family. Thank you all for your continued support with ensuring the children are in school and on time each day and that they are looking as smart as they can be. It was also lovely to have so many come along to the Meet the Teacher sessions so as to be able to support your children with their learning. The children are settling back into school and it's great to see them coming in each morning with a smile on their faces. There is a productive, calm atmosphere around the school where children are working hard and trying their best in all of their lessons. Long may this continue!

We look forward to seeing you at Parents Evenings towards the end of this half term. More information will be available in the coming weeks. Please do sign up to come and find out just how well your children are doing. Thai year the meetings will be held in the school hall and not in classrooms.

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:

The Faith Council have now been formally introduced in a whole school assembly and have begun their chaplaincy work in school. The Faith Council will have many duties over the course of the year and you can find out more about these and the members of the Faith Council in future newsletters.

Members of the Faith Council attended the Start of Year Mass at St George's Cathedral on Wednesday 24th September along with one our parents. In the Mass, Archbishop John was calling on us to be disciples of hope as we come towards the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope.





Class attendance for September 2025

N = 96%
R = 97.2%
Yr1 = 93.8%
Yr2 = 97.6%
Yr3 = 97.8%
Yr4 = 96.4%
Yr5 = 93.5%
Yr6 = 95.7%

Congratulations to

Year 3



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 - Sep/Oct 2025

28th Sep-1st Oct - Yr 6 Residential Trip, Liddington
Fri 3rd Oct - Y5 Harvest assembly 9:05am
Fri 3rd Oct - Kingston Library visit Year 4
Tues 7th Oct - Reception 2026 Open Morning 9:30 am
Tues 7th Oct - Rec/Y6 Height/Weight Measurement
Fri 10th Oct - Kingston Library visit Year 3
Fri 17th Oct - Kingston Library visit Year 2
Wed 22nd Oct - parent evening
Thurs 23rd Oct - parent evening
Fri 24th Oct - Kingston Library visit Year 1
Fri 24th Oct - last day of school before half term,school finishes 3:15/3:20 pm
Fri 31st Oct - Due date for Secondary School Applications
Mon 3rd Nov - Inset Day - no school
Tue 4th Nov - children return to school

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.



Safeguarding:

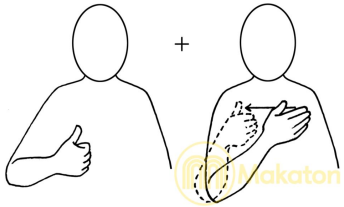
Should you ever have a concern about the welfare of a child or adult, please come and speak in confidence with the school's safeguarding leads. Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders for the school are Mrs Flower, Miss, Devlin, Miss Kate and Miss Aziz. If you cannot speak to us in person we can be contacted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

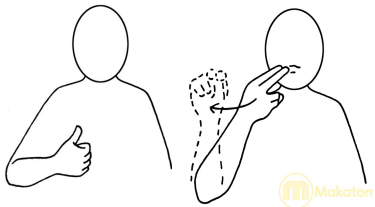
The Single Point of Access team is available from 8am to 5.15pm, Monday to Thursday, 8am to 5pm Friday.Call them on 020 8547 5008, or if you need to speak to someone urgently after hours or at the weekend, call the 'Out of Hours' team on 020 8770 5000.

Makaton

This months signs are…



Good morning



Good Afternoon

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

What a wonderful start to the new school year. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our returning families and a very special welcome to those who are new to our nursery community. The children have settled in beautifully and have already been busy learning, exploring and making new friends.

Settling In

This month the children have been learning the routines and rules of our setting, as well as forming new friendships and strengthening existing ones. A big thank you to the families who brought in the "Chatterbags." It was lovely to learn more about the children and for them to share their special items and interests with both their peers and staff.





All About Me

Our focus has been learning all about ourselves and what makes each child unique and special. We explored how, although we are all different, everyone belongs and is important. The children also learned about the Colour Monster story, which is a child friendly way to help them identify and talk about their feelings.

Early Learning

In maths the children explored colours and shapes, and began recognising numbers. In literacy they practised recognising their own names in fun and practical ways such as finding their name tags on pegs, tracing letters with their fingers and using mark-making tools like crayons and whiteboard pens.

Physical Development

Outdoors, the children have been developing their gross motor skills by climbing, scooting, biking, running, jumping and playing ball games. Indoors, they strengthened their fine motor skills through mark making in sand and flour, painting, playing with dough, using tweezers and building with blocks.



Seasons and Nature

We began exploring the season of autumn, talking about its key features and enjoying nature treasures found in our setting. The children also started learning a new autumn song and joined in with themed activities which they found lots of fun.

Music

In music lessons the children practised listening carefully and following instructions. They experimented with different tempos, moving slowly and quickly, as well as dynamics by playing instruments both quietly and loudly. The children also enjoyed making their own shakers, which they will use in future sessions.



Looking Ahead

The children are settling in well, growing in confidence and most importantly they are happy. We feel very blessed to have such a wonderful group and we are excited to continue learning and exploring together in the coming months.

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Reception

Reception have had a fantastic start to the year. We have been learning about ourselves and what makes us all unique. We've also been talking about our families and our school community and making friendships.









We made self portraits by using a range of creative and natural materials.

We have also been learning about the wonderful world that God created. We sequenced the story of creation.







We've been learning about the Colour Monster and about how to notice different feelings and emotions in ourselves and others.

We discussed the importance of rules and how they keep us safe and ready to learn. We decided on our own class rules and the children have been working really hard to show how they are following them. Here are just a few:



Good sitting



Good listening



Good walking



Our school's Golden rule is: We use kind hands, kind feet, kind words.

Year 1

What a great start it has been to the new academic year. The children have all come back fully refreshed from the summer holidays and have come back with such a great attitude and readiness to learn. In English we have already looked at a few class texts including "The Squirrels who Squabbled" and "Beegu". The children have loved writing about their feelings on the texts and have even created some of their own characters.



In Maths, we have been looking at place value where the children have learned how to count backwards from 10, sort and separate groups depending on common features, and also how to use greater than, less than and equals symbols.

In Science, we have been learning about everyday materials and have investigated which materials are waterproof and which are not. We have even investigated what's happens to an egg when we put it in salt water compared to regular water. Finally, in Art the children have already created some fantastic artwork which is now proudly on display in the school corridor. The children used watercolour paints to create the brilliant Autumn display portraits. Keep up the amazing work everyone, well done!

Year 2

We have had a great start to the new academic year. The class have been carrying out their class jobs with enthusiasm and are enjoying the responsibility. In English we are improving our grammar knowledge and are becoming experts at explaining the terminology of a noun and adjective. We are using the story 'Caterpillar Shoes' to support our descriptive writing skills. In mathematics we have been revisiting place value and using key mathematical vocabulary when explaining our understanding. At the start of the year we created our class display on the theme 'This Is me'. The children drew lots of pictures that makes them unique. Once drawn they cut out the pictures and created their portraits showing how everyone is different! In history the children are learning about the Great Fire of London and exploring historical figures who recorded the events we read about today. In RE we are exploring the topic of 'Beginnings'. We learnt about the new Saint Carlo Acutis, the commitment he had to his faith at a young age and created a biography to celebrate his short life and becoming a saint at the start of the school year.



Year 3

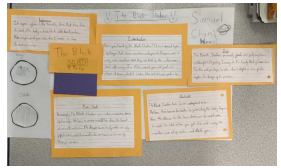
The children have made a fantastic start to Year 3 and have all settled in really well. In English, we began reading The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl and even created our own magic fingers! We are now busy writing instructions on how to turn someone into a duck. In Maths, we have been exploring place value and representing numbers to 100 using base ten blocks. Our History topic has introduced us to the Anglo-Saxons, while in Science we are learning all about what makes a healthy, balanced meal and discovering different ways to keep ourselves healthy.

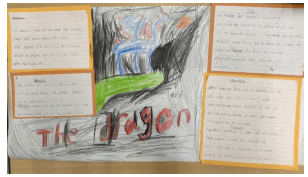




Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the new school year. After settling back in after the summer holidays, the children have enjoyed diving into *How to Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell. Using the story as inspiration, they created their own dragons and wrote brilliant non-chronological reports filled with imaginative ideas and creative detail. In maths, the class has been working hard on understanding place value in four-digit numbers and practising how to round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. It's been a busy and positive first month back, and I'm really proud of how well the children have started the year.





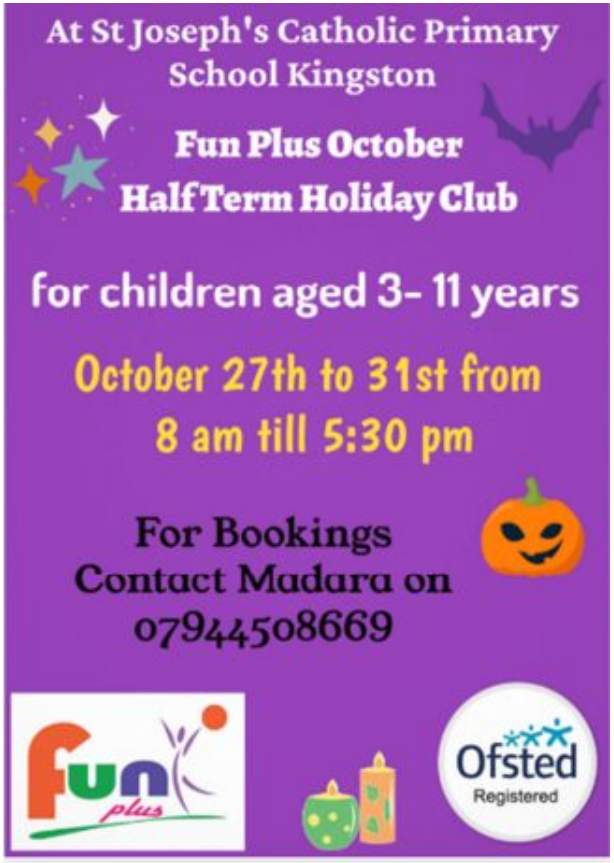
Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to the year. In Maths, we have been building on our place value knowledge from Year 4, looking at number lines and rounding in particular and applying this to larger numbers. We have been putting lots of effort into our times tables also, with the class very competitive about lowering their average times in studio! In English, we have started reading 'Goodnight Mr Tom', linking this to our History unit on World War II. We have used Goodnight Mr Tom to learn about characterisation and and speech, looking at how we can use our writing to reveal more about a character and their background. We have began a unit on Forces in science, learning about the links between weight and gravity, as well as carrying out an investigation on friction. In our World War II unit, we have looked at how the war started, as well as the impact of air raids and The Battle of Britain in particular. In Art, we have explored various artists, including Andy Warhol and his take on Rorschach's inkblot test, with the class producing and interpreting their very own inkblots.

The class have also been working hard practising their upcoming Harvest Assembly, which they are looking forward to performing, learning their lines and songs.

Year 6

Welcome back, and welcome to Year 6! The children have had a fantastic start to the year, with lots of in-house activities and topic work already completed! We started the year by focusing on our new topic of 'The victorians'. The children have enjoyed reading our new class text 'Street Child' and writing their own diary entries as workhouse children. Keep an eye on the school website to see the finished articles! We have been looking at number and place value in our Maths lessons, and we're starting to move into more complex addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Our RE topic of 'Loving' has brought some interesting discussion points, with some great views being shared. Our computing topic has us looking at coding, with the children getting the chance to code their own 'beebots'. In science, we have been focusing on 'electricity', conducting some cool experiments surrounding static electricity. We are looking forward to our upcoming trip to PGL. Please note that our class 'Victorian Day' will take place on Thursday 23rd October! Well done for a great start to the year!



Spanish Amigos Kid's Clubs

Spaces still available at our Monday lunch club for Y1 and Y2



https://www.clubenrolment.com/SpanishAmigos/newuser.php?userType=3&mode=0

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