



# NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB  
admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk Tel: 01666 8223331

**Friday 2nd February 2024**

## Intermin Co-Headteachers' message



The Gospel this week shows how Jesus is in demand to heal and preach constantly. He takes time to find a quiet place to pray and recharge. The children discussed their special places that they find peaceful and shared how they relax. The challenge this week is, in this very busy world, to take a moment of peace and quiet and if we wish to pray and be closer to God.

### **Celebration Assembly**

Celebration Assembly will be on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 2:45pm** instead of Friday due to the PJ and film afternoon.

### **Introducing Mrs Clift - SENCo**

Mrs Clift will be starting at St Joseph's next week as the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo). Mrs Clift is a qualified SENCo with many years' experience working in Primary and Special School settings. Mrs Clift will be working Monday and Thursday next week, but her working pattern will be Wednesdays and Thursdays after a few weeks of induction etc.

### **2024-25 School Term and Holiday Calendar**

The governors have agreed holidays for 2024-25 which follow the Wiltshire recommended dates. These are available on our website

<https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/school-term-holiday-dates/>

Two out of the 5 TD days have been arranged, there are 3 left to be agreed. The outstanding 3 days will not be added to the October half term, this is to fall in line with the other primary and secondary in Malmesbury and to enable quality school improvement time across the year.

### **End of Term 4**

The Governors have agreed that the end of Term 4 will finish on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm** for all children and staff. This is because it is Maundy Thursday, a Holy day of

**WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER**

obligation and part of Holy Week. After school club will be made available for families to book from 1:30pm – 4pm on that day.

## **Children's mental health week 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February**

Children's Mental Health week is taking place across the country from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February.



This year the theme is **'My Voice Matters'**

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

### **What is happening in school?**

From the 5<sup>th</sup> February to the 9<sup>th</sup> February the children will take part in a range of fun and thought provoking activities will take place across each class to promote positive mental health.

Whole school Assembly on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – launching 'My Voice Matters'

### **Pyjama day – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February - £1**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, children will be able to come to school in their snugly warm pyjamas, they will be allowed to bring a teddy and a small pillow and then settle down in the afternoon for a film with all their friends. The PFA will be providing popcorn for the children to have during the film. A small donation of £1 will go towards the PFA fund raising for the school that always helps to provide wider opportunities, play equipment etc. that supports the mental health and wellbeing of our children.

### **Safer Internet week**

Safer Internet day is Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February but at St Joseph's we are going to make a week of it! The week after half term the whole school will have a focus on Safer Internet. The theme this year is 'Inspiring change - Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'.



During this week, we will be highlighting the key messages with pupils of how to stay safe online and what to do if you have a concern when you are online. In this ever changing world where technology is all around us, it is important to put the spotlight on the safe and positive

use of digital technology.

There is also a wealth of support out there for Parents and Carers. Visit the below websites to find out how you can support and inform your child of how to stay safe online.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/>

### **EXTENDED DEADLINE**

**We need more children to make this club viable - KS2 Chess club opportunity** <https://www.chessinschools.co.uk/>



Would your child like to learn how to play chess with a qualified tutor?

Chess In Schools and Communities (**CSC**) are a non-profit making organisation (Charity status) partnering with Schools.

This is a potential opportunity for an after school club (Tuesday or Wednesday TBC) to start at St Joseph's. The commitment is 19 weeks (maximum) and the cost is £5 a session running from 3:30-4:30pm – the cost of £95 would need to be paid in full at the start.

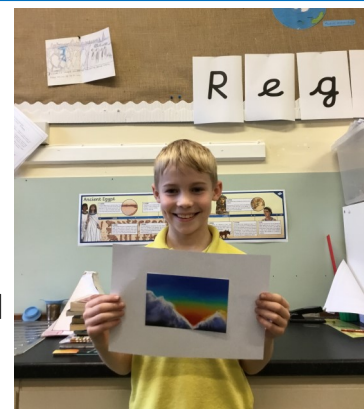
A minimum of 10 children is required to run the club and there will be a maximum of 20 spaces. Please inform the office by **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** if your child would like to take part. A decision will be made before half term if the club is viable to run. The aim is to start after half term.



### **Creative Homework**

Jayda and Josh showcased their amazing homework in celebration assembly last week.

Both had used creative mediums to demonstrate their learning of the class topic, Polar Regions. Jayda made a fantastic polar bear out of recycled materials and Josh created an impressive digital image of a polar landscape.



### **Do you have the desire and passion to drive a mini bus?**

As a school we would love to tap into the benefits of the Cartmell Mini bus. We would welcome and support any DBS parents or friends who would be willing to complete the simple induction process with the Cartmell Community Bus. Once this is completed, we would be able to book the bus for the odd occasion for local trips, visits and sporting events. Maybe we could support a few people through the process and have a wider pool of drivers. This is so exciting! Come and have a chat.



Please check out the following link and talk to the office if you would be interested in pursuing this for us: <http://www.cartmellminibus.org.uk/index.html>

## WOW moments across the school!

"Pupils enjoy coming to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. They find lessons interesting. Pupils are eager to talk about their learning. They feel safe to make mistakes and to learn from them" OFSTED March 2023

Here is just a snap shot of the exciting, wonderful work and activities going on across the school this week.

### St Teresa

**Miss Just:** Today we went to the fire station and had the most amazing time. The children explored the fire engine, sat inside it and even sprayed the hose. The firefighters were fantastic with the children and they taught them so much. I think we have a class of firefighters in the making!



### St Francis

**Miss Thomson:** The children's WOW moments this week have been:  
Gabriella – "I enjoyed meeting Rhianna and doing the fun activities in her polar workshop!"  
Aleki – "I enjoyed swimming because at the end we got to do a race with floats."  
Freddie – "I enjoyed writing because we are writing about Captain Scott, I found the ending suspenseful although it was very sad."



### St Lawrence

**Mr Wilkinson:** This week our WOW moment was when we took part in a drama activity for RE. We have been learning about the story of Samuel and the children were asked to act out the story using their drama skills.

Harriet - "I really liked having to act out the story."

Shania - "I liked discussing the story with my partners."

Aryan - "I enjoyed learning about the story of Samuel."



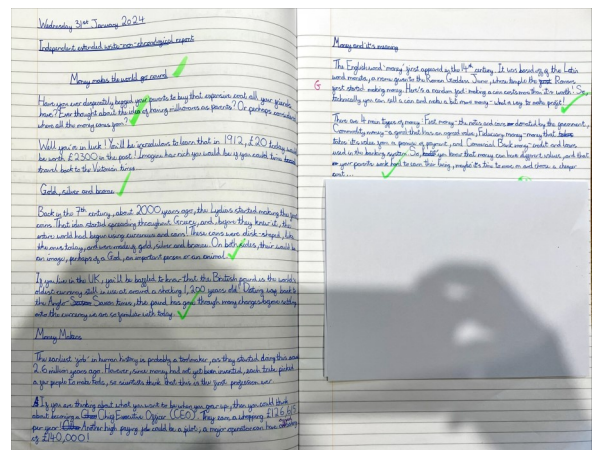
### St Scholastica

**Mr Heavey:** St Scholastica's WOW Moment this week is mixed, children have enjoyed: Going to watch 'Private Peaceful' at Malmesbury Secondary School. Agathe - "I really liked seeing the production and how they used the different lights."

Writing our non-chronological reports.

Cameron - "I really enjoyed this because it is different from our other writing, I found it interesting."

Doing netball in PE. Benjy - "I liked it because I am good at netball."





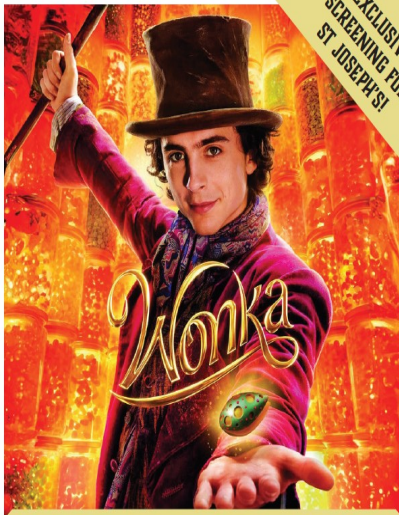
## BOOKING WRAP AROUND CHILDCARE

Please be aware that we plan our staffing ratios around the number of children booked into the club and find it increasingly difficult when we do not know in advance how many children will be arriving. **If you require regular childcare each month, please help us by submitting a booking form for the next month at least by the middle of the previous month, this will give us time to plan ahead.**

Please also note our Terms and Conditions for bookings include payment with booking. Please follow this link from our website should you wish to remind yourself of club terms and conditions of use.

<https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Terms-and-Conditions-Breakfast-Opportunities-and-Holiday-clubs-2023-2024.pdf>

Thank you so much for your understanding.



EXCLUSIVE SCREENING FOR ST JOSEPH'S!

MOVIES@MALMESBURY

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW**

Purchase your ticket from the school office or on the day the Town Hall.

DATE	TIME	PLACE
14 FEB	14:00	TOWN HALL



Tickets are now available for Wonka from the school office at £5 each. Please send the correct money for the number of tickets you require (cash only please, no cheques) in a named envelope and we will send them home with your child.

Please note that this event is run by Movies at Malmesbury as an exclusive screening for St Joseph's. It is not a PFA supervised event and **children will need to be accompanied by an adult.**



### Mad Hatter's Tea Party Lunch World Book Day Thursday 7th March

- Sandwiches - Ham, Cheese, Egg Mayo
- Cocktail sausages (meat & vegetarian)
- Cheese savoury snacks
- Cucumber Sticks
- Jam Tarts, Cup Cakes,
- Fruit Skewers, Jelly

R&VP: Order your meal on Parentpay by 19th Feb  
£2.60 for KS2 children, free for KS1 children paid for by Infant Meal Grant

Allergens: Sandwiches - Ham A2, Cheese A2 A7, Egg Mayo A2 A4, Cocktail Sausages A14, Meat free Cocktail Sausages A2 A13, Cheese Savoury Snacks A2 A4, Jam Tarts A2, Cup Cakes A2 A4 A7

### Weekly Attendance Monday 29th Jan - Fri 2nd Feb

St Teresa 95.7%

St Lawrence 94.5%

St Francis 93.5%

St Scholastica 96.8%

### "God grants us his love, which gives us strength and heals us." Pope Francis



The Wednesday Word is available on our website.

Good News for Families

Follow the link below: <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/>



## Children's Lent Retreat event—Save the Date!

The parish is delighted to invite children aged 4 – 11, to a Lent themed 'retreat' event, with many new and faith inspiring arts and crafts activities on **Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2.30 – 5.30pm at St Joseph's school**. Cost will be £10 per family on a first come first served basis; participation is not dependent upon ability to pay full cost. **To express interest**, please sign up your children using the link below and a parental consent form will be forwarded later with details of how to pay.

<https://staldhelmsromancatholicc.flocknote.com/signup/154544>

We'd again welcome parents, secondary aged young people and parishioners to assist as volunteers. Please use the Volunteer sign-up link above and a registration form will be forwarded later.

This Children's Lent Retreat will also form the initial, important, interactive and joyful session for Yr 3 children and above to commence sacramental preparation towards **First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion in June 24**. For families who have separately registered for First Holy Communion preparation, or those yet to register for it, we politely request your children's participation in the Lent Retreat, as we're unable to repeat the event this year.