



# NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB  
admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk Tel: 01666 822331

**Friday 6th September 2024**

## Headteachers' message



Dear parents, carers, children and families,

A warm welcome back to a new school year. We all hope that you had a restful, healthy and happy holiday. It was so good to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday and to have seen such a positive start to the new school year in each of our classes.

As with last year we aim to use our newsletter to bring you up to speed with the events that have happened over the last week and also things to look forward to in the near future.

### Worship this week:

The focus of our worship this week was "Believe" and we took inspiration from the "[Super Humans](#)" who are competing in the 2024 Paris Paralympics. Through reflecting on some of the amazing achievements of this year's competitors, I challenged all the children to take a dream for the year and believe it was possible.

Our scripture came from Jeremiah 29:11 which says "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". Our whole school prayer asks for blessings as we meet the challenges the future lays before us.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." — Eleanor Roosevelt

Dear God,  
As we start a new school year, help us to see this as a chance to believe in ourselves and others.  
Give us courage to set new challenges and to work towards these with determination.  
Help us to see ourselves as part of the school family.  
Through this help us to see that we can make our school a great place to both learn and have fun in.  
We ask this in the name of your son Jesus.

Amen

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

### **All are welcome:**

When Miss Bathe and I joined the school last year we highlighted that parents are welcome to come onto the school site at both the start and end of the day. This will give you the chance to settle your children and pass on quick messages to school staff. Please, please do not feel you have to just drop at the gate and go. As with last year we also hold a celebration worship every Friday that all parents are welcome to attend. This starts at 14:45 and is an informal, but celebratory, end to the school week.

Watch this space!: Come Dine with Us - We will shortly be announcing a new initiative aimed at deepening home school links through shared lunch time activities with parents and families, and which we hope you will be able to support.

### **Meet the teacher:**

Now that the children are settled in their new classes we will be holding a short "Meet your child's class teacher" drop in next Thursday 12th September between 15:30 and 15:45. This is not a formal meeting but will provide you with an opportunity to say hello to your child's class teacher, hear about any specific classroom arrangements and ask any questions you may have. This is not, however, a time to discuss individual children. Should you wish to do this, you can make an appointment at this time or do this through the school office.

For the children in St Scholastica, there will be a short update meeting after this to clarify any additional arrangements for their forthcoming residential.

### **Sad news:**

We are very sorry to report that unfortunately Mrs Bradley's husband became very ill over the summer holiday and unfortunately she has been unable to start the school year. We hope this is only going to be a short term absence. In the interim, Mrs Cambray-Smith will be covering her absence on Thursday and we have a recommended supply teacher Mr Parish, covering the Friday.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Bradley and we ask for your understanding at this uncertain time for her and her family.

### **Parent governors:**

Our Interim Executive Board is now in a position to begin the process of converting to a conventional governing body and is holding elections for two parent governors. This is a key role in the life of the school. Please see the letter and application form which has been sent via Parentpay. The deadline is midday on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September at midday and the first meeting is likely to be on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

For clarity, parent governors do not have to be experts in education. What they do bring however is the perspective of a typical parent to the governing body. Their role is fundamentally strategic and does not involve activities linked to the operational running of the school. Parent governors serve for four years, which can continue to the end of their term even if they no longer have children in school. All governor activity is confidential and must not be shared outside the governing body. Governors are volunteers and, while demanding, it is a rewarding role.



### **This week's Wednesday Word is HEALING.**

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

The Wednesday Word is available on our website:  
[www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/](http://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/)

### **Weekly Attendance Tuesday 3rd — Friday 6th Sept**

<b>St Teresa 98.61%</b>	<b>St Lawrence 100%</b>
<b>St Francis 100%</b>	<b>St Scholastica 99%</b>

### **After School Clubs**

Please note that Tuesday's Chess Club is now FULL. Places are still available in other clubs and bookable by making the associated payment on Parentpay. Mr Owen's Art Club will start next Thursday, the booking form is being sent home today.

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



## 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:

The children in St Teresa Class have had a fantastic first week back and have settled in really well. They are very excited for their new friends to join them on Monday! We also would love the parents of the children in our class to join us for a picnic next Friday 13th at 13.30.



### St Lawrence - Mrs Cambray-Smith

"My WOW moment this week was singing the "Stop Bullying" song." - Evie

"I have enjoyed learning about our new topic, Stone Age." - Jack

### St Francis - Miss Thomson:

We have had a great first week in St Francis class. I am so impressed by the children's good behaviour and their enthusiasm for learning. I'm looking forward to getting to know them all over this school year.

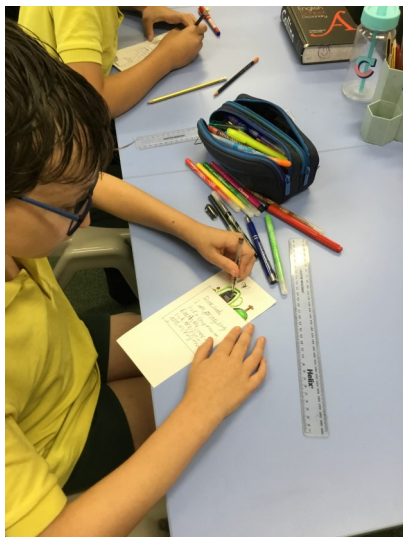


### St Scholastica - Mr Wilkinson:

During our first class worship of the academic year we discussed what we as a class were thankful for. We then started making our own prayers that we will be able to call back on during the school year. There were some beautiful designs and the class thought respectfully about the prayers that they made.

Freddie - "I enjoyed making the prayers because it made me think about being kind to everyone and respectful to God."

Conner - "I enjoyed making my prayer because I think it's important to be respectful towards our religions."



### Playground Fun

The children have been enjoying some new toys in the playground this week, having lots of fun with bubbles and dolls.

It was lovely to see the children taking pride in the playground and volunteering to sweep up the leaves.





## Harvest Collection Stock items needed

- Chocolate and sweets
- Savoury snacks
- UHT milk
- UHT fruit juice
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned soup
- Tinned beans/spaghetti
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Shaving gel and razors
- Cereal
- Tinned hot meat
- Tinned cold meat
- Tinned rice pudding
- Washing detergent

Long Life food products only please

Please make sure all donated items are in date. Thank you.



Tel: 01666 826982

<http://malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk>

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1157896)



### Harvest Festival Collection Point

We will soon be collecting items for this year's Harvest Festival. We will be donating to the Malmesbury & District Foodbank who have kindly provided us with a list of items that they are most in need of. Last year the foodbank provided 4,136 three day emergency food packages to local people who are referred to us in crisis. Look out for a collection box over the next few weeks, so this is a much needed and very worthy cause. Thank you in advance.



## St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



### Are you looking for a nursery place for your 2, 3 or 4 year old?

We are exploring the possibility of opening a nursery  
for

2 - 4 year old in January 2025

Interested?

Please complete our feasibility questionnaire.

<https://forms.office.com/e/XVt53wfrMd?origin=lpLink>

Questionnaire  
link

Provisional times are:

Breakfast club – 7:30am - 9am

Session 1: 9am – 12pm

Lunch session: 12 – 12:30pm

Session 2: 12:30pm – 3:30pm

After school club – 3:30pm – 6pm



This provision will be :

- For children between the ages of two and four.
- Facilitated and overseen by experienced early years practitioners and teachers.
- Within a secure school building and site.
- Cater for a hot lunch at a small additional cost.

In addition, your child will access:

- Separate toilet and intimate care facilities.
- An existing, excellent, early years (EYFS) outdoor environment.
- St Joseph's extensive land and outdoor facilities.
- St Joseph's wrap-around care before and after school (3 and 4year olds and for an additional cost).



**St Aldhelm's Parish, Malmesbury, First Holy Communion Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – save the dates!**



**We are now taking enquiries for children who will be in Yr 3 or above, from Sept 24, regarding 2025 First Holy Communion preparation.**

*This will happen term time weekly on **Sundays after 10am Mass, from 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**; the day and time also best accommodates the provision of altar serving training, (by Remi).*

*Parents will be required to attend some sessions and assist catechists on a rota basis*

*For those who have not yet registered, applications are to be received by **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 24**.*

**On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 24**, Solemnity of Christ the King, ('Youth Sunday'), 10am Mass will be animated by children of the parish, giving an opportunity for children FHC candidates, to see how they can take part in future similar Masses. Following that Mass, we'll move to the town hall, to have a **parents meeting and registration 'stations'**, followed by a light welcome lunch, with Fr Thomas and catechists, as an opportunity to socialise and address any other concerns.

*Children candidates and siblings will be supervised and catered for in the same space, in a separate group.*

*For an application form, or any further information or questions, please don't wait until registration date but do contact the parish: [malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftodiocese.com) and forward your contact details: name of parent and child, email and tel number.*

*We hope this allows families sufficient notice to include FHC preparation within your child's extra-curricular activities timetable, for the academic year from Sept 24.*

*Do introduce yourselves to Fr Thomas, Deacon Steve, Remi or catechists: Mary, Virginia, Annette, Maurice, when at any of the weekend Masses: Saturday 6.30pm; Sunday 8.30am; Sunday 10am.*

*We look forward to meeting you!*

## For the attention of all parents

**Will your child be four years old before September 2025?**

**You must apply for a primary school place**

.....  
Apply online at **wiltshire.gov.uk** or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

**The deadline for applications is**  
**12 midnight, 15 January 2025**

.....  
All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

.....  
**Contact customer services on 01225 713010**

## For the attention of all parents

**Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2025?**

**You must apply for a secondary school place**

.....  
Apply online at **wiltshire.gov.uk** or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

**The deadline for applications is**  
**12 midnight, 31 October 2024**

.....  
All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

.....  
**Contact customer services on 01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

**Wiltshire Council**