



# NEWSLETTER

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**Friday 27th June 2025**

## Head Teacher's message

Dear Parents, Carers, Children,

It has been an amazingly busy start to the term and is predicted to continue in this way. This newsletter will bring you up to speed with all of the things that have happened in the school over the last four weeks and, if you refer to our diary dates section, what there is still to look forward to. Please read on to find out about our success in Dodge Ball, Dynamos Cricket festival and Year 6 Athletics. There are also updates on the Year 5 visit to Malmesbury Abbey and the Life Path event and the Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Braeside. Looking to the future the event that is really imminent is next week's production of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

## Developing our spiritual dimension:

Worship: Our worship theme this term is Resilience and we have continued to use a mixture of scripture and story to explore how we can all learn to get up from life's setbacks and, with the help of our friends, find ways to overcome our difficulties. We have continued with our Gospel Worship on Thursday but in recent weeks much of our afternoon teaching space has been taken with rehearsals for Joseph.

The Year 5 Life Path: As part of our community links we joined other schools in the parish to take part in the Life Path event organised and hosted by Malmesbury Abbey. This event enabled our Year 5 children to reflect on the journey of life and how God and other people are always there to help us. The day was a mixture of stories and art and craft activities led by volunteers from the Abbey Community.

First Holy Communion: We would like to congratulate and wish all the children from our school who are taking their first Holy Communion this Sunday a joyful day. We all think you are doing a very important and special thing in your faith journey and hope that you will keep all the lessons you have learnt in preparation for this special event close to your heart.

## Sport for All:

St Teresa Class: It was a real pleasure to join Miss Just's class this week for their swimming lesson. I was really impressed with all of the children but in particular their eagerness to listen, work hard and keep going when they found things hard.

Year 6 Athletics: Another treat for me this week was joining the children in Year 6 when they participated in the Malmesbury Secondary School Athletics transition festival. The afternoon was made up of a mixture of field events that included long jump, shot put, javelin, and discus and track events that included hurdles, 60, 80 and 100m sprints along with an 800m race and team relays. All of our children worked hard, were encouraging of each other and remained determined even if things didn't go as they expected.

Dodgeball: We had fantastic results in the Years 5 and 6 Dodgeball county finals where our team came 7th overall out of over 278 schools that initially took part.

Cricket Festival: We took two teams from Years 4, 5 and 6 with Team A competing in the Dynamos Cricket Competition and Team B playing in the Cluster Festival.

Mrs Bennett's full reports of both the Dodgeball Final and Cricket Festival are on page 2.

## Supporting the Community:

Joseph: As previously communicated, we will be having our dress rehearsal on Tuesday followed by two performances of the production on Wednesday in Malmesbury Abbey. The details of this are as follows:

**1.30pm Matinee** - After this performance all children will be walked back to school and collected at the end of the school day (3.20pm/3.25pm) as normal.

**6pm Evening** - All children to arrive **at school** at 5.15pm for the 6pm performance to change into costumes and be walked to the Abbey. After this performance, all children will be walked back to school to change out of their

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

costumes. Please collect your children **from school** at 7.30pm.

Tickets are selling fast on Parentpay - an item has been set for the matinee and evening performances allowing you to buy up to 20 tickets. Don't delay, places are limited!

The Malmesbury Smartphone Free Childhood: The Malmesbury Smartphone Free Childhood WhatsApp group is a group of carers and parents who are on a mission. Is your child about to go up to Malmesbury Secondary in September? Do you still have a few years to go and are desperately hoping the government will step in and sort things out? Do you worry about children's access to the digital world and its impact on their lives?

If you do, why not consider joining the Malmesbury Smartphone Free Childhood WhatsApp group. Through this you can connect with others who are delaying Smart Phone transitions and learn from experiences of carers with children already at Malmesbury Secondary.

The group is not anti-tech but are pro childhood. They recognise that navigating mobile phones is tricky, however they also recognise the evidence about phone access, both positive and negative is evolving fast, and every family is different. Every family will come to their own conclusions; we just want to open up a conversation about these issues.

To learn more, this [10 minute film](#) packs a punch, explaining how smartphones and social media are designed to keep kids hooked, the secret techniques tech companies use to pull them in, and the impossible choice this leaves parents facing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFsiYAsgx7U>

This is seen as a new frontier of parenting, and we're all in it together. Scan the code to join the WhatsApp group, or look at the attached for more details (and some very scary facts!).



### WILTSHIRE COUNTY DODGEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

This prestigious all day event brought together the best primary school teams from across the county - that's over 278 schools that were in the running—and our Y5/6 team earned their place in the finals by qualifying top of our group back in January. Throughout the day the team showed incredible enthusiasm, energy and teamwork.



They played with determination and supported one another brilliantly. We finished 7th overall - an incredible achievement that places us as the 7th best primary school team in the whole of Wiltshire! I am hugely proud of every member of the team, they were a credit to the school and a joy to spend the day with. Well done to the whole team!

Mrs Bennett



### MALMESBURY CRICKET CLUB CLUSTER FESTIVAL - 2025

On Friday 18th June keen cricketers from Y4,5 and 6 took part in an event at Malmesbury Cricket Club. Team A were playing in the Malmesbury Dynamos Cricket Competition whilst Team B took part in the cluster festival. Both teams played brilliantly, displaying excellent bowling, batting and fielding skills. They grew in confidence throughout the day and were involved in some incredibly tight matches.



Team A came third overall. Team B won two matches and lost two (one of which was lost by a single run) So close! One of our Y6 was awarded with a "Magic Moments" medal for his joyful attitude and determination! Well done Divine. Well done to everyone involved!

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Raines





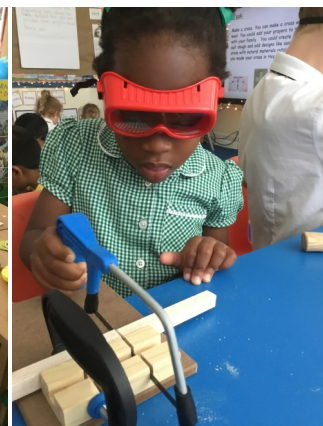
## WOW moments across the school!

*"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 from each class this month.

### St Teresa - Miss Just

June has been a busy month in St Teresa Class - we had fun in DT using G-clamps, hammers, nails and saws, we have made micro habitats to encourage mini beasts onto the land and we really enjoyed the Daddy Olympics for Father's Day – the tug of war was definitely a highlight!



### St Francis - Miss Thomson



This month the children in St Francis enjoyed Forest School, PE and our writing unit based on the short animation "Marshmallow" by Kylee Poole.

Flick – I loved making the shelters – me, Rosa and Jessie managed to make ours waterproof without using the tarp!

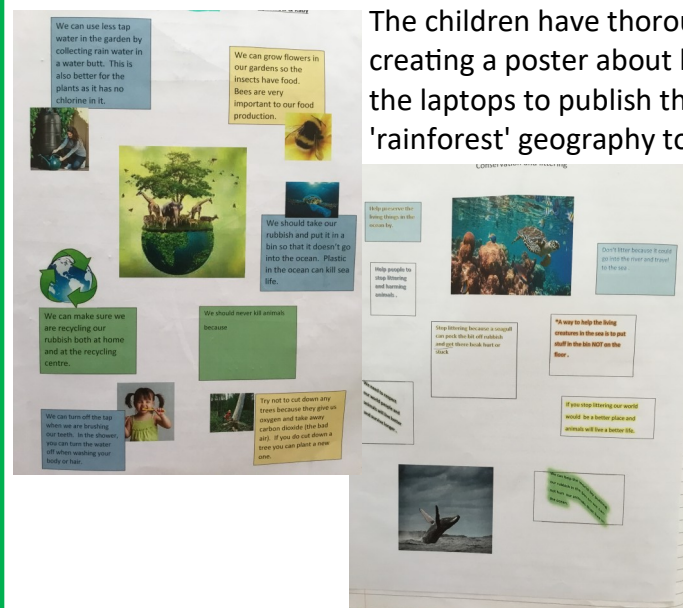


Florence – I enjoyed doing our writing topic about the monster and the marsh mallows.

Jack – I enjoyed PE and sports day – my favourite thing at sports day was the sprint!



### St Lawrence—Mrs Cambray-Smith and Miss Weatherall



The children have thoroughly enjoyed wrapping up our science 'conservation' topic by creating a poster about how we can look after our planet on a daily basis. They used the laptops to publish their work and they worked very well with a partner. Our 'rainforest' geography topic has also concluded with the children reflecting on the reasons for deforestation and how we contribute to this from hundreds of miles away.

Braeside has been the main highlight of the term so far. The children were seen trying something new, having a go (even when they felt reluctant). Our favourite moments were: Charlie: I loved making my friends laugh by doing a puppet show for them!

Rosalie: Zip-lining was amazing, even though I felt a little scared!

Evie: I loved the Life Line activity the most as you really had to trust your partner!



## St Scholastica—Mr Wilkinson

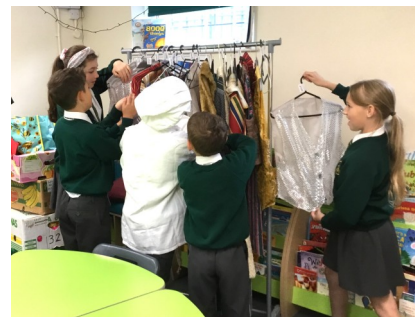
This month in St Scholastica we have focused on climate change. We've looked at different works of art that have focused on global warming. The children then made a piece of art that includes a message to do with global warming with an influence from the art that they had seen.

Another WOW moment this month was our class debate on whether it is people or money that make the world go round. The class were separated and assigned different roles to take part in our debate. In the end the audience awarded "team people" as the winners due to the excellent points they made.

The children have also been working really hard on our Joseph production and are very excited for the upcoming performances. I am sure they will be great!

Gabriella - "I really enjoyed making my art and how I was able to have a wide range of resources to choose from."

Austin - "I liked listening to the different debate teams and then choosing who we thought had the best arguments."



## This week's Wednesday Word is CHURCH

"The Church is called Catholic or universal because it has spread throughout the entire world, from one end of the earth to the other." - St. Cyril of Jerusalem..

The Wednesday Word is available on our website: <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/>



## June Attendance

St Teresa 95.5%

St Lawrence 95.3%

St Francis 98.8%

St Scholastica 98.5%

## Hot Dinners

Please be aware that, on days of extreme heat, we reserve the right to change the dinner menu and the main meal choices would be substituted for packed lunches. This is to ensure the health and wellbeing of our catering staff.

## School Uniform Orders

If you need any school uniform for the next academic year then please complete an order form, available on the school website, and return it to the office by Wednesday of next week for delivery to school.

<https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/school-uniform/>

## PFA Summer Raffle

Today we are sending home books of raffle tickets for the PFA's Summer Raffle to take place at Summer Fest on Friday 11th July. Please support if you can. Deadline to return any sold (or unsold) tickets is Monday 7th July.

The PFA is also looking for donations of food or drink items to make up a luxury summer hamper which will be second prize in the raffle. A collection box will be on the school gate from next week. Thank you for your support.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
Parents and Friends Association  
Registered Charity No: 1145152