



NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Head Teacher's message

Dear Parents, Carers,

It seems hard to believe we are at the end of our first term already and starting to prepare for Term 2. It has been a very actioned pack end to this term with successes in rugby and netball for the school from a sports perspective and an amazing response from you all for our Harvest Festival Celebrations (see Page 2).

As we approach Term 2, please read on for updates from the last two weeks and also to get a picture of things we are planning for the future. We hope that you all have a restful October break and look forward to seeing you again at the start of November.

Worship this Term

For the whole of this term we have had a focus on the school's value of Serving and Giving and the Catholic Social Teaching element linked to "Options for the Poor". Overviews of all worship from this term can be found on the school website <https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/whole-school-worship/> A large proportion of what we have developed this term has focussed on unconditional giving and much of this linked to developing our school Chaplaincy team.

With a strong focus over the last two weeks on Harvest we have used two stories to illustrate the importance of unconditional giving, the first was the Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister and the second was a Chinese parable about how working together for the good of others can bring happiness to all. Worship for next term will focus on the virtue of Peace and our Catholic Social Teaching focus will be Family and Community. Both of these elements will lead us into the season of Advent.

Head Teacher work patterns for Term 2

As outlined at the start of the year, Mrs Carpenter and I are operating a co-headship for this year. This means we are sharing the role of headteacher on the days when we are in school. This arrangement is very similar to the organisation when Miss Bathe and I shared the role. What is slightly different, however, is our work pattern which fluctuates across the term and has been designed to allow us to both experience the start and end of the week, rather than having a set day working pattern. What this means is that we alternate who works on the Monday and Tuesday and Thursday and Friday. This is summarised as follows for the next term

Week beginning	M, T	W	Th, F
03.11.25	PB	PB/ SC	SC
10.11.25	SC	SC / PB	PB
17.11.25	PB	PB/ SC	SC
24.11.25	SC	SC / PB	PB
01.12.25	PB	PB/ SC	SC
08.12.25	SC	SC / PB	PB
15.12.25	PB	PB / SC	SC

As you will notice, Wednesday is usually a day when we are both in school. We use this time to work together with our handover and this is also the day that Mrs Carpenter dedicates to SEND provision.

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER

Advance Notice:

We will be continuing our learning theme of "On the move" next term but will shift our focus from History to Geography. To support and inspire the children in developing geographical skills we will be organising two field trips in Term 2. The first will be in our locality and the second will be a whole school fieldtrip to Bristol. This has been made possible by your agreement to support us in getting the children to Chippenham train station on the day of the visit. The details of this visit are attached in an additional letter to the newsletter. As there are some deadline dates to be aware of, we would be grateful if you act on these for the start of Term 2.

Harvest Festival Appeal for the Foodbank

We are delighted to share that, thanks to your kindness and generosity, we have collected a truly amazing volume of food and other goods to donate to the Malmesbury Foodbank. We have decorated shoeboxes with a Harvest theme and are proud to have been able to fill 14 of them to the brim with essentials and treats for those in need this Harvest time. We hope that these gifts are able to put a smile on someone's face and let them know that they are cared for by their community. This project has underpinned our Catholic Social Teaching aims and our school virtue this term of 'Serving and Giving'. It has encouraged the children to really 'live' our values – thank you so much for your support and we look forward to doing it all again next year. Also, many thanks to those of you who attended one or both of our Harvest Assemblies. I'm sure you'll agree that the children shone in their Harvest related songs and dances, we are very proud of them.



Golden Tickets

Congratulations to the following children who were chosen to have Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher on Tuesday afternoon - Beau, Ellie, Charlie H, Grace, Marvin, Shania, Lilly T and Kady. Many of our children have been awarded Golden Tickets for being a positive influence on the playground at lunchtime - these tickets are then named and posted into the Golden Ticket box, which is then drawn in Celebration Assembly for this lovely end of term treat! Mrs Carpenter may have thrown in some extra marshmallows....keep earning those tickets everyone!



This week's Wednesday Word is HUMBLE

"When we live humbly, God takes our small efforts and creates great things." Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)

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



Poppy Appeal

Today we have taken delivery of an exciting array of poppy appeal items including paper poppies, bracelets, keyrings, badges and snap on wrist bands/rulers. Our Year 6s will sell these in each of the classes at the beginning of next term. Please donate what you can for this very worthy cause.



St Aldhelm's Parish Hall Fund Presents, In Conjunction with The Lions Club of Chippenham

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

"Have A Flutter for Fun & for Fund"



**Friday 24 October, 7:00pm,
Malmesbury Town Hall, SN16 9BZ**
Tickets £10 to include Hot Supper
Bar Available

Gabrielle: 01666 838 391
Val: 01666 822 267
or this QR code

