

## First week back

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a wonderful three days back at school. The staff are doing an incredible job, and your children have returned beautifully, and are adjusting to the routine well!

Thank you for attending our Meet the Teacher evening – it was lovely to meet many of you, and I hope it was useful for you to find out about the year ahead. The autumn term is a long one, but also exciting because we have many experiences and events coming up to enrich the children's education.

Please keep an eye out for dates in this newsletter, but also the school website, which has been updated with events.

I love working in Catholic schools and I am delighted to see how alive with faith St Joseph's is. The school has embedded a wonderful culture of gospel values, with a big focus on how Catholic Social Teaching guides us in our actions. Catholic Social Teaching is our 'why' – it helps us understand how we turn the teachings of Christ into our deeds, and why we behave as loving, caring people and put other people first.

Please ask your children about Catholic Social Teaching, [click here](#) to find out more, and look out for Miss Devlin's upcoming RE newsletter for updates about the Catholic life of St Joseph's.

Thank you for welcoming me this week, it has been a privilege to be part of this community already. Between the staff, children, parents, governors, and Friends of St Joseph's, we are in a great position to continue doing work that changes lives and provides the best experience for your children.

God bless

Sam Crome



## IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

### Coming Up...

Sunday 14th Sept  
Education Sunday

Wednesday 17th Sept  
Uniform Sale and Coffee  
morning - all welcome!

### Future dates...

26th Sept - Year 3  
Feet First Training

INSET DAY  
Friday 24th Oct

Half Term Week  
Mon 27th - Fri 31st Oct

[Full School Calendar](#)

Contacts:

[Book a school tour:](#)  
[01306 883934](tel:01306883934)

## A FEW BEGINNING OF TERM REMINDERS:

**We are a nut-free school** – please do not give your children any form of nuts for a snack or packed lunch, including peanut butter or chocolate hazelnut spread.

**Uniform** – please ensure your child is in correct uniform every day. PE days have been confirmed at the Meet the Teacher evening, and curriculum plans sent out this week.

**Weather** – as ever, it is unpredictable! Every day, please pack coats for the rain and hats, just in case we get any sun. You never know!

**Data sheets** – for those not at our Meet the Teacher evening, we have sent your children home with data sheets with your previously submitted information on. Please add any changes so that we have up-to-date information, and return them to your child's bag.

**Morning gates** – a reminder that gates open at 8.45 and close at 8.55 – after this, your child will be recorded as late.

**Access and parking** – Norfolk Road is for permit holders only – please do not park, drop off or collect from this road. Wickes and Lidl are the best parking options, but please check the terms and conditions of using their car parks.

## ATTENDANCE: A GREAT START!



This week, **our attendance is over 95%**, which is excellent! The *Department for Education* has published compelling evidence about the negative impact of attendance less than 95% on children's education and outcomes, so I'm both delighted by our attendance so far, and determined to keep improving it throughout the year.

We know as a school that when children attend, they feel a sense of belonging, and make good progress. Attendance really does matter, and we will look after your children with love and care when they are in school – thank you for helping them to get in every day. If you have any concerns, we will be very happy to support you.

## YMCA – BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We are lucky to have a breakfast (from 7.30) and afterschool (until 6pm) club that runs onsite! YMCA are back for a second year, and speaking as a parent who uses the club, I am thrilled to have them at St Joseph's. The office sent their flyer around recently – please have a look for more details. For bookings and further information, please [click here](#).



## ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026!

We are reaching out to nurseries and other organisations in Dorking to promote St Joseph's for reception places in September 2026. We believe that this is a school that everyone can flourish in. Please consider telling friends and acquaintances, perhaps even at the side of a sports pitch or extracurricular club(!), about our wonderful school. Prospective parents can book onto small tours throughout the autumn term by contacting the office.



We welcome children and their families from any faith



## ST JOSEPH'S CLUBS

We will be launching our clubs soon, with some clubs running at lunch time, and some after school. We will be in touch soon with confirmation of a clubs schedule. Please bear in mind that due to limited capacity, some of our clubs will randomly allocate places to those who apply, and then use a waiting list to offer new places the following term

## WELCOME YEAR R!



The first group of our new reception cohort started this week! We are delighted to welcome them and can't wait to meet the rest of the class next week. Thank you to Mrs Currie, Miss Dootson and all the parents for supporting the children so far.

Thank you for reading our newsletter, and all you do to support the children and our school.