

Dear parents and carers,

I realise that I have spent three weeks bombarding you with notices about our online safety event, but it was a huge success and I'm grateful to all the parents who came, and to Mr Hordley from St Andrew's for doing a brilliant job with the presentation.

For those who couldn't make it, I plan on doing a daytime version soon - please watch this space!

This week at school I have again been so impressed with how hard your children are working, and how fantastic the quality of teaching is at the school.

There is often a queue of children at my office, and the main school office, asking how they can help, or if there are any jobs that need doing around the school. The children take a lot of pride in St Joseph's, and their contribution to making it the best possible school.

From the fundraising efforts via the FOSJ £20.26 for 2026 campaign, I can see that families feel similarly about representing and supporting the school. Please read on to find out more, but we have been overwhelmed by the creativity of the fundraising efforts!

Have a lovely weekend with your families.

God bless

Sam Crome



## IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb  
FOSJ Junior Social

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Last day of half term

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb  
INSET Day - no school

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb  
School starts back

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

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

## TISSUE AND CLOTHING DONATIONS



In addition to our appeal last week for more boxes of tissues, we'd also love more clothing for the children, for example if they have an accident or get their clothes wet or muddy during the day. These include larger sizes of girls' tights and larger underwear for boys and girls. Thank you very much!



## ONLINE SAFETY EVENT - THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to the parents who came to this event - we discussed the reality of challenges posed by smart phones and social media, as well as strategies to help parents make these difficult decisions as a family

I was so pleased, too, to hear from Mr Hordley who shared many experiences and insights - thank you!



## YEAR 4 SUFFRAGETTES TALK

In preparation for our biography work on Emmeline Pankhurst, Year 4 were visited by Kathy Atherton from Dorking Museum, who spoke about the Suffrage Movement in the local area. We learned that several Suffragette leaders lived in Howard Road in Dorking, as well as in South Holmwood and Peaslake. The Surrey Hills were an important countryside base for the Suffragettes.



## PACKED LUNCHES AND SNACKS

A reminder to parents that packed lunches need to be as healthy as possible for the children, in line with the types of food we would serve at school, please.

Snacks at playtime should be fruit / veg based and healthy, not sweets or biscuits, please.

And a reminder we are completely nut free.



## £20.26 FOR 2026 OFF TO A FLYING START

We are so impressed by the fundraising efforts going on for the £20.26 for 2026 FOSJ appeal. The aim of the fundraiser is to encourage the children to be as creative as possible!

Special thanks this week go to the Arnold and Whiteman families who have raised over £400 for a sponsored litter pick last weekend! They used a fundraising page to encourage friends and family to sponsor them easily.

Not to be outdone, Elsie is running 20.26km this half term and has already raised £130! Well done!

Other families are doing sponsored walks, swimming, running, cake sales! Please keep up the amazing work and share with us; thank you for all your efforts.



## CREPES AND WAFFLES AFTER 10AM MASS!



Some of our families are hosting a fundraiser for the same cause at **St Joseph's church after the 10am mass this weekend, 1<sup>st</sup> February!**

Come and treat yourselves to crepes and waffles with different toppings! See you in the church hall!