

Dear parents and carers,

Another half term has flown by! Despite featuring some record-breakingly bad weather, St Joseph's has been alive with learning and the Holy Spirit.

Your children are working really hard in class, but also being excellent role models in the way they behave. I hope you have a lovely week with them!

This year, Ash Wednesday falls during half term, marking the start of Lent. If you can, please take your children along to church on Wednesday 18th so that they can receive ashes and begin lent with purpose and understanding.

Lent represents Jesus' 40 days in the desert, in preparation for his ministry, and ultimately his death and resurrection. I can't imagine how difficult it must have been for Jesus during that time, and yet during Lent we are called to pray, fast, and give to others, as we too prepare for Easter.

To help children understand what the 40 days might have looked like for Jesus - the good days, and the tricky days - please show them this video: <https://youtu.be/O5bfxGNMY9c?si=Dh696WIWs2ukvwAz>

It's a lovely cartoon that depicts the passing of time really well.

This week's newsletter is a bit briefer than usual but we will back with lots of news and events next time.

Have a lovely half term.

God bless

Sam Crome



IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Thursday 12th Feb
Last day of half term

Friday 13th Feb
INSET Day - no school

Monday 23rd Feb
School starts back

Friday 27th February
FOSJ Infant Social

Thursday 5th March
World Book Day

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

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

£20.26 FOR 2026 CONCLUDES - THANK YOU!

We are so impressed by the fundraising efforts going on for the £20.26 for 2026 FOSJ appeal.

Families have been doing all sorts of things to raise money for the school and we are very grateful.

Here is Imogen from our reception class. She decided to use her love of art to draw pictures for friends and family in return for sponsorship money. She raised £60 for FOSJ in total. Well done! We've also heard from Alyssia F and Emily S, both of whom have done some brilliant baking.

FOSJ will reveal your fundraising total very soon!

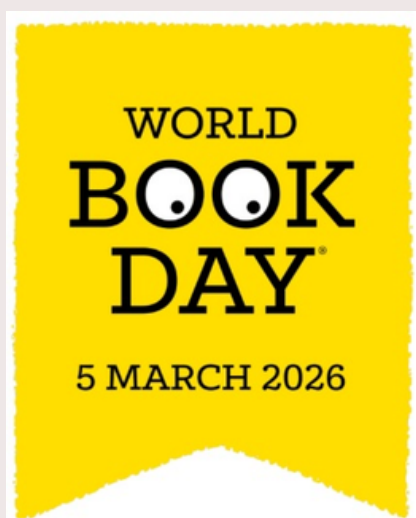


48-HOUR RULE FOR VOMITING & DIARRHOEA



If your child vomits or has diarrhoea, they must not return to school for 48 hours. We realise this can be inconvenient, but it helps to reduce the spread of germs, and follows public health advice from the NHS, found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 5TH MARCH!



As usual we are celebrating World Book Day this year! Children are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character, and bring a copy of the book with them so that they can tell other children about that book. Our aim is to inspire children to read and find new stories by sharing and discussing!

We also have other activities planned on World Book Day - thank you for your support.