

Dear parents and carers,

A second week back in school routine, and it is a joy to see the children work so hard. I walk around the school regularly throughout the day and I'd love to share a few things about what lessons look like at St Joseph's.

Firstly, the behaviour in classes is exceptional. The children are focused, respectful, and eager to learn; the norm in every year group is to learn as much as possible, with children helping their peers, and working hard for their teachers and teaching assistants.

Building on the foundation of great behaviour, the teachers nurture a sense of belonging and resilience in their classes. Making mistakes is framed as normal, expected, and as being on the path to learning more. We have lots of oracy, with children regularly speaking together to solve problems, before doing independent work.

This year, we have created 'Learning and Teaching Principles' so that there is a consistent, shared understanding among staff of how we teach. We've tried to create learning environments that are calm, helpful for learning, and less cluttered, while also working hard to agree on the best teaching techniques, and cognitive science, that serve the way the children think and learn.

We are also proud of the way we adapt to meet the needs of all learners, both in how teachers make realtime decisions to aid learning during a lesson, but also in our ongoing support for children who need support or interventions. Our belief is that every child will succeed, and the team work tirelessly in aid of that.

We are really lucky to have high-quality educators at St Joseph's and I'll really miss seeing the fantastic lessons when I finish in July.

God bless

Sam Crome



IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Thursday 24th April
Discos

Monday 4th May
Bank Holiday, School Closed

W/C Mon 11th May
Year 6 SATS week

Friday 22nd May
End of half term 3.15pm

Sports Day
12th June 2026

Summer Fair
20th June 2026

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

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

YEAR 6 AND YEAR R TABERNACLES

Last week, Year 6 and Reception learnt together about Tabernacles, both in scripture from books such as Exodus, and also how they are used in the modern-day Catholic church.

The children buddied up to design and make their own tabernacle. It was such an enriching experience and we are really grateful to Year 6 for the maturity they showed.



NEW HEADTEACHER AT ST ANDREW'S

Following Mr Mitchell's departure from St Andrew's at the end of this year, Mr Brooks will takeover as Headteacher. Mr Brooks has been at the school for 15 years, and served as Deputy Head for 8 of those. I worked with him there for many of those years and am delighted that he will be Mr Mitchell's successor.

We pray for Mr Mitchell, Mr Brooks, and St Andrew's as they take a new step in their journeys.



WORLD EARTH DAY



As a school, we marked World Earth Day by thinking about our word of the week: Stewardship.

This is a key principle of Catholic Social Teaching, challenging us to proactively care for our world, from keeping it tidy, to taking the lead on bigger environmental issues.

YMCA BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

YMCA is suitable for children of all ages, with trained staff who provide a brilliant experience.

The children are given breakfast before school, and food during the after school session too.

What I love about seeing the club in action is how children of different ages spend time together, playing games, building forts, doing puzzles. It's a brilliant extension of the nurturing community we have at school.

The online booking is very easy, but does show 'out of notice period' if it's too close to the booking date. If the booking form doesn't show availability please call or email - there is usually space for last-minute additions.

<https://ymcaeast Surrey.magicbooking.co.uk/>



Y2 TRIP - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Year 2 have an exciting trip to Tilgate Nature Centre on Tuesday 2nd June.

For the trip to go ahead, we will require some parent volunteers - please contact the school office if you can help - thank you for considering this!

LEARNING ABOUT LOURDES

Year 4 were delighted to welcome former St Joseph's, and St Andrew's pupil, Joseph Barcellona, to talk to them about his experience of going to Lourdes.

Joseph discussed why millions of people travel to Lourdes on pilgrimage every year and how special a place it is for Catholics. He also told the class about his experience of being a Redshirt, hopefully inspiring them to do the same when they are in secondary school!

[Click here for Lourdes pilgrimage details](#)

