

Dear parents and carers,

It is Pentecost this Sunday, a special celebration in the Church that takes place fifty days after Easter, marking the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples/apostles. The account of this in Acts is dramatic and incredible: the wind, noise, and the tongues of fire all igniting the apostles' mission. It has been described as the birthday of the Church, because it was the moment when the apostles were filled with courage and went out to share the Good News of Jesus with others.

Symbols of Pentecost include wind and fire, reminding us of the powerful and life-giving presence of the Holy Spirit. For our children, Pentecost is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how the Spirit guides us to be kind, loving, and brave in our daily lives, helping us to live out our faith in school, at home, and in our wider community.

Today, we finish for a half term break and hopefully have some lovely weather ahead of us. Thank you for your support again this term - we really appreciate it. I hope you and your children have a restful week.

Finally, it's important to look ahead to the first week back because of a few events. The catering company changing means parents must sign up and register their children's meals; this is a new system but has worked well in lots of other schools. Please also be aware of Year 6 bikeability, and other trips going on that week, as well as TTRS day on Friday 5th - please see the upcoming email from Mrs Deegan.

Have a lovely week and we'll see you on Monday 1st June.

God bless

Sam Crome



IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Friday 22nd May
End of half term 3.15pm

Y6 Bikeability
w/c 1st June 2026

Y2 Tilgate Park Trip
2nd June 2026

Y3 Butser Farm trip
4th June 2026

Sports Day
12th June 2026

Summer Fair
20th June 2026

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We are so delighted for 11 of our Year 3 children who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday. It was a beautiful occasion and such an important step in the faith journey of our young people.

A big thank you to the children, parents, Fr Ian, and the volunteers who helped run the programme.



GIRLS CRICKET - Y5&6

A big well done to our Year 6 and Year 5 girls who represented the school at the Cricket Tournament this week!

And thank you to Mrs Field and Miss O'Donnell for taking them!



YEAR 6 SATS WEEK CONGRATS!

After a week of hard work, Year 6 went to the Nower for games last Friday morning, enjoying some exercise and team activities!

In the afternoon the staff served them ice cream and congratulated them on a job well done!



SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN NEXT HALF TERM

Next half term is another busy one - here are a few highlights:

Sports Day, 12th June: based at Pixham Lane Sports Ground - all welcome! No parking on site, unfortunately.

Phonics screening for Year 1: please keep practising with them!

Multiplication table checks for Year 4: lots of practise over half term please!

St Joseph's academises and joins the Xavier Catholic Education Trust on 1st July

WIN £1,000 FOR OUR SCHOOL'S LIBRARY!



The National Book Tokens website is running a competition to provide books for schools! Anyone can enter and it only takes a minute or two.

Please [follow this link](#) and nominate St Joseph's. You can also win prizes for yourself while you enter the school. Thank you!

NEW CATERING COMPANY AND SYSTEM

On 1st June we start with our new catering provider, Innovate. They provide lunches across the Xavier trust, and I have had a brilliant experience with them at my last school, St Peter's in Guildford.

The system is different, though. Parents must use the SchoolGrid portal (please see our emails about this) to book in their children's meal. This means you can see and select what they will be eating from the menu. This must be done in advance of the school day, and you can book meals weeks ahead.

