- Newsletter -

Issue 4: Autumn Term **Friday 25th September 2026**

Dear Families of St Joseph's,

Firstly, thank you very much for all the support that you showed towards me, Mrs Elizabeth and 'Team Stacey' for our Cancer Research UK, 'Shine Night Walk'. It was very moving to walk with the hundreds of others that took part last Saturday night. We have nearly reached our target of £1800 which is wonderful. Any last-minute donations to tip us over this would be gratefully received https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/team-stacey-8

It was a challenge and your prayers and good wishes carried us through. Thank you

Today, so many family members supported our annual **Macmillan Cancer Care coffee morning**. Huge thanks to all the parents who set up the morning and donated cakes and biscuits. Thank you to all those who supported the morning and donated to this important charity. You all showed your **'love in action'.**

It was so lovely to be joined by lots of families from our EYFS last Friday for our **Cheese and Wine evening**. Thank you to those families who were able to attend. We hope you enjoyed meeting other families and members of our staff. **Massive thank you to Mrs Patel for the incredible 'grazing table' - wow**. Thank you to the EYFS staff who helped to set up and tidy away. Thank you to all the staff who were able to stay and enjoy the evening too. Some Governors attended as well as Suzanne from the Trust's Development Team and Sonia, our PTFA Co-Chair. As I said at the meeting to our EYFS parents, we know it was a big decision to send your child to St Joseph's - your child is the most important gift you will ever be given. We think you have made a good choice, and we will always do our utmost to give your child the best opportunities and care possible.

The Feast of St Francis of Assisi is on Sunday 4th October. This is the Church's Jubilee Year of St Francis (marking 800 years since his death). Fr Shaun invites families to bring a pet to Mass at St Mary's on the Sunday at 10.30 a.m. Next week, children will complete some activities linked to St Francis and his love of nature and animals.

Sunday 4th October is also St Joseph's International Food Festival! Please do come along and support this fantastic event. Sincere thanks in advance to everyone who is involved in any way.

I wish you a safe and happy weekend.
God Bless,

James Stacey

Head of School

St Joseph's Primary School, Cadogan Street, London SW3 2QT Tel:0207 589 2438 Email: info@stjo.sjscat.co.uk

Important Notices

Attendance

Please ensure that your children are in school on time, every day. **The doors open at 8.45 a.m. The register is taken promptly at 9.00 a.m.** The link between regular school attendance and improved future life chances is undeniable. Please know that when we talk to you about attendance it is because we want the best possible outcomes for your child. If your child is not going to be in school for any reason, it is your duty to contact the school to let us know this and the reason for the absence. This is a safeguarding matter.

Allergies

Please inform Mrs Bartley as soon as possible if your child has an allergy that the school needs to be aware of. Please kindly email, or phone the school office (or see Mrs Bartley at drop-off in the morning).

Medication

If your child requires any medication (e.g. auto-injectors, asthma pumps etc) - please ensure that these are always in school and in date. Please provide as much detail as possible and any paperwork that is required. Medication should be clearly labelled and in the original boxes.

Please know that when we talk to you about your child's medication we are trying to fulfil our duty of care to ensure every child is safe in school.

Snacks

Any snacks brought to school must be **NUT FREE**. Chocolate and fizzy drinks are not allowed as snacks in school or at after-school clubs. Thank you for your support in this.

Uniform

Please ensure that correct uniform is always worn so that St Joseph's children are as smart as can be in school and out of school (where they are our Ambassadors in the local community!). The full uniform list can be found on the school website, or through the school suppliers School Uniform Direct.

Trainers are **NOT** to be worn apart from PE lessons.

Can we kindly remind all families to ensure all school uniform and water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's full name.

Important School Run Safety Notice:

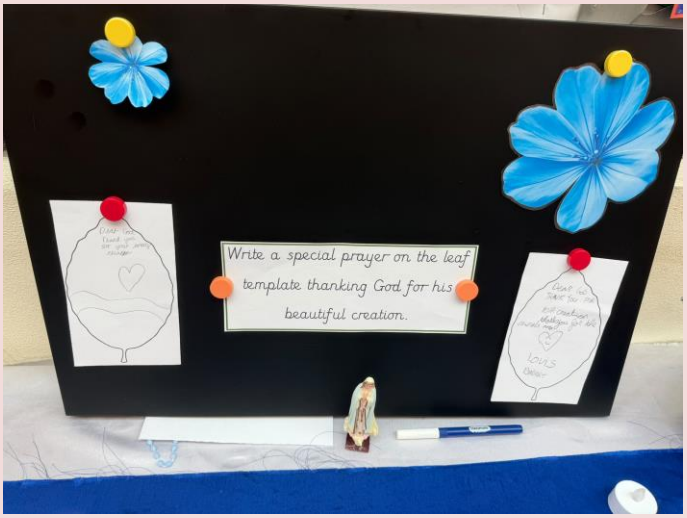
We have received concerning reports of vehicles travelling at high speeds down **Draycott Terrace** during morning drop-off. Please **reduce your speed to under 20mph**, plan extra time for your journey, and drive with extreme caution around the school gates. Let's work together to keep our children safe.

CATHOLIC LIFE

The new Pupil Chaplaincy Team had their first meeting with me this week. They received their badges and I thanked them for their positive applications.

We discussed the important role that they have in developing the Catholic Life of St Joseph's school. The Team have a wide range of responsibilities; for example: becoming experts in child-led worship sessions, monitoring class prayer tables and displays, setting up for assemblies and Masses and taking care of the communal displays in the school (to name a few!).

I could see that the Team were going to take their roles seriously. Further evidence of this came the very next day. I peered over the balcony into the Heart of The School during lunchtime and could see members of the Team carefully and lovingly arranging the Pupil Chaplaincy Team's prayer table.



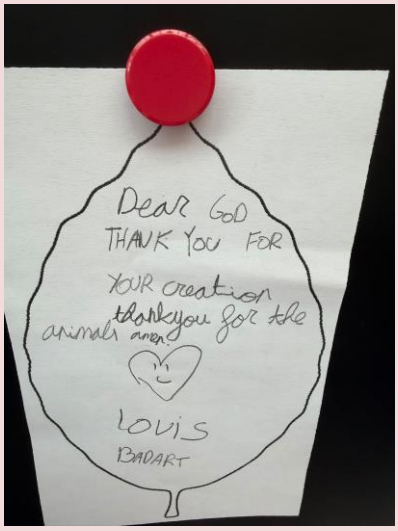
Well done and thank you children for your enthusiasm and faith.

We talked about the forthcoming month of October, the 'Month of The Holy Rosary'. The Team went away to think of ideas for this special month.

Next Wednesday, the whole school will join me for a special 'Rosary Assembly'. The Pupil Chaplaincy Team will help me to lead it.

Every child from Year 1 to Year 6 is invited to bring in a Rosary that day to hold during the assembly.

Prayer bags will also start to go home from next Wednesday to encourage children and families to say a decade of the Rosary together at home during October. Some resources will be emailed separately too.



On Monday, I was really happy to be joined by family members in the hall for the first **Parents' Prayer Session** of the year. It was really lovely to sit together and pray for the whole school community, the world and for those who are sick; especially those sick with cancer. Heartfelt thanks to those who were able to attend. **Please try and join me for the next one on Monday 19th October.**

Prayer for Those Suffering with Cancer

Loving Father,

We pray today for all those who are living with cancer. Surround them with Your healing presence and fill their hearts with courage, hope, and peace.

In times of fear, be their strength. In moments of pain, be their comfort. In times of uncertainty, help them to trust in Your loving care.

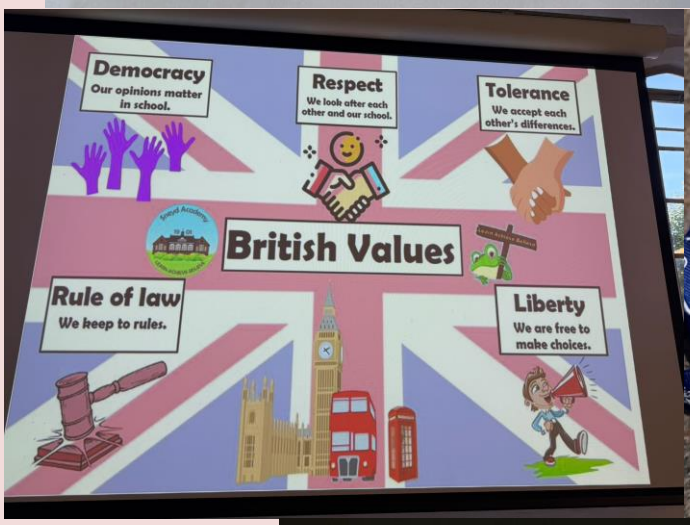
Bless their families, friends, and carers who walk this difficult journey alongside them. Give wisdom and skill to doctors, nurses, and all who provide treatment and support.

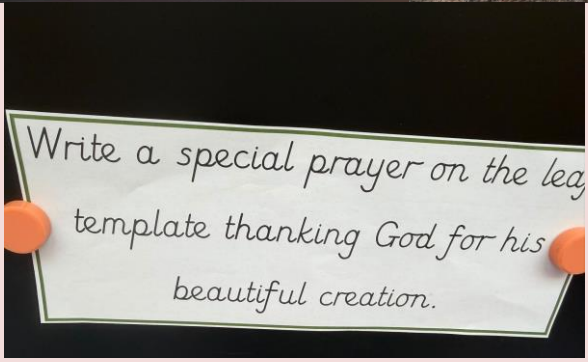
Lord Jesus, You knew suffering and carried the burdens of others. Hold close all who are ill, ease their pain, and help them to know that they are never alone.

Through the intercession of Our Lady, Health of the Sick, may they find comfort, healing, and hope.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





Dates for the Diary

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who is welcome to attend?
Sunday 4th October	11.30-2.30pm	International Food Festival	School	All Families are very welcome to attend
Wednesday 7th October	10am	Class Assembly - Year 3*	School Hall	All Year 3 Families are very welcome to attend
Thursday 8th October	6pm	EYFS Open Evening	School	For Prospective Families - do let your friends and family aware of this important event
Friday 9th October	8.45am	It Takes a Village Coffee Morning	School Hall/Garden	All Families are very welcome to attend – location weather dependant
Monday 12th October	3.45-6pm	1:1 Meet the Teacher Meetings (Years 3-6 only) **	School Hall	Families of Years 3-6
Tuesday 13th October	3.45-6pm	1:1 Meet the Teacher Meetings (Years 3-6 only) **	School Hall	Families of Years 3-6
Wednesday 14th October	10am	Class Assembly - Year 4*	School Hall	All Year 4 Families are very welcome to attend
Wednesday 14th October	3.45-6pm	1:1 Meet the Teacher Meetings (Years N-2 only) **	School Hall	Families of Years Nursery-2
Thursday 15th October	3.45-6pm	1:1 Meet the Teacher Meetings (Years N-2 only) **	School Hall	Families of Years Nursery-2
Friday 16th October	All day event	Show Racism the Red Card - Wear red day. (More details to follow)	School	All children
Tuesday 20th October	Whole week event	Scholastic Book Fair (More details to follow)	School Hall	All families and children are very welcome
Wednesday 21st October	10am	Class Assembly - Year 5*	School Hall	All Year 5 Families are very welcome to attend
Half Term Week 26th-30th October				
Friday 18th December	12pm EYFS 12.15 Years 1-6	Last day of Autumn Term	School	N/A
Christmas Holidays Monday 21st December – Monday 4th January 2027				

*Please note for class assemblies, gates will open for families at 9.55am. Buggies are left outside of the School Hall for health and safety reasons please.

** Please note sign-ups for 1:1 Teacher Meetings will be accessed via Arbor and details communicated in the first week of October.

PE Uniform Notice

After discussions with our uniform suppliers; the PE Tracksuit top remains a compulsory item of uniform. However, children can wear plain, bottle green, jogging / tracksuit bottoms (no leggings please). The jogging bottoms / tracksuit bottoms should not have logos on them (e.g. no branded sportswear). Thank you for your support in helping our children to look super smart at all times.

Trainers are not to be worn

(apart from during PE)

Polite Notice: Being Mindful of Our Neighbours

We would like to gently remind all families to be mindful of our local community when waiting for the school gates to open (particularly in the morning) when standing near the almshouses (St Joseph's Cottages). Many of the residents living in the almshouses are elderly or vulnerable, and they value highly their peace and quiet (especially earlier in the morning).

Please help us maintain our excellent relationship with our neighbours by ensuring that children do not shout, run loudly, or make excessive noise when passing these properties. Thank you so much for your continued support, co-operation, and kindness in helping us be considerate members of our local community.

Attendance Message

Please note:

Government guidance makes clear that a family holiday during term time is not considered an exceptional circumstance for authorising absence. Parents are therefore strongly encouraged to arrange holidays during the school holidays wherever possible.

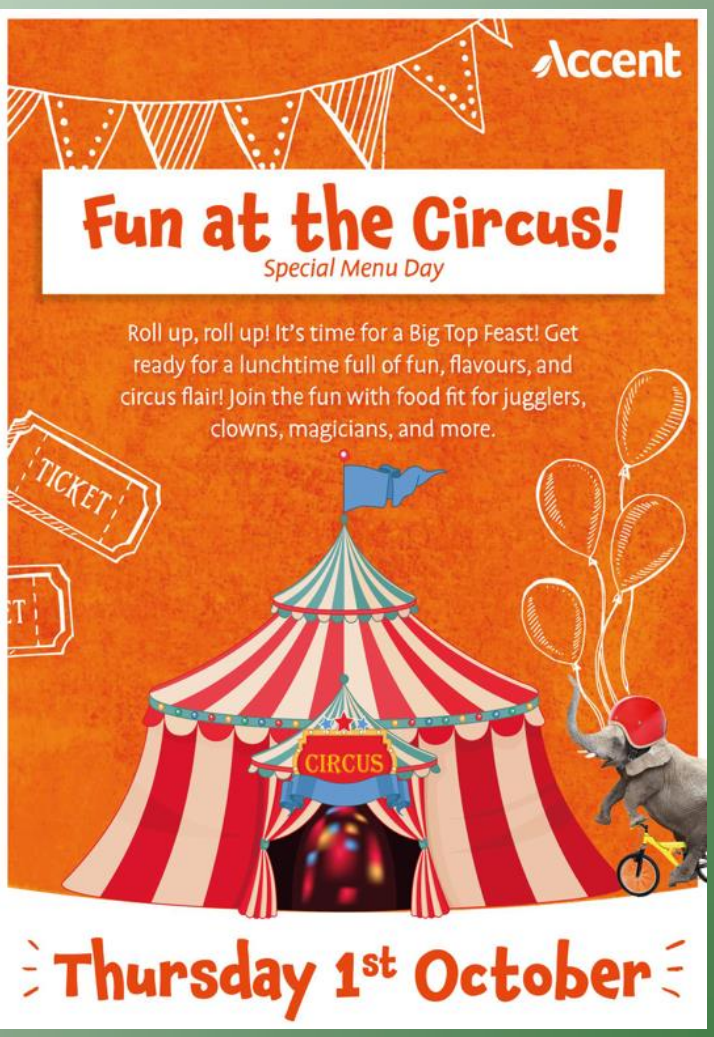
Happy Birthday this week to…

Sophia Year 5
Pepe Reception
Valentina Year 6
Elena Year 4
Stella Year 3

We hope you had an amazing day!

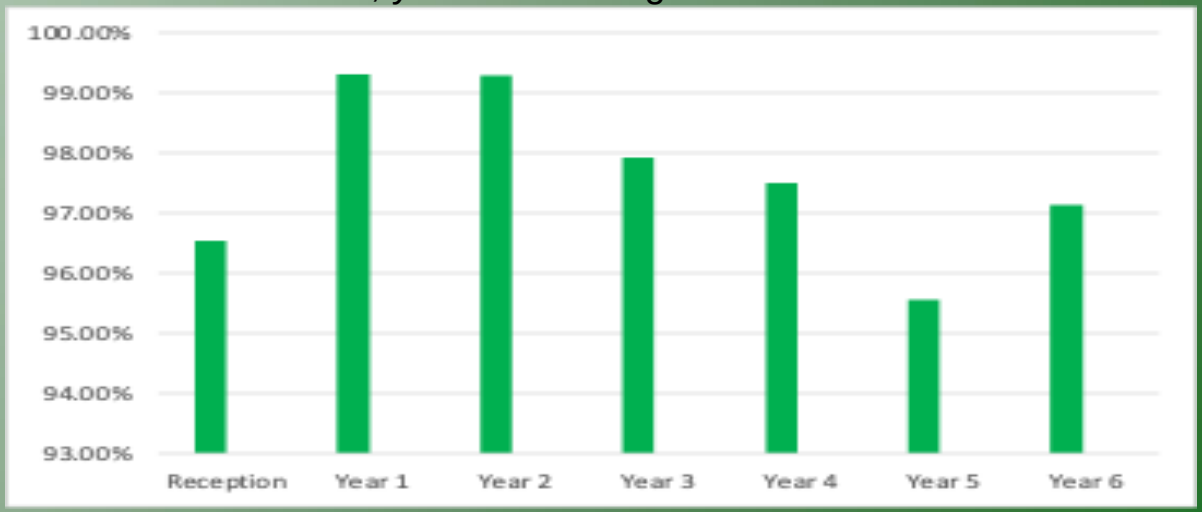
Football Competition

Well done to our Year 6 footballers who reached the semi-final of a football tournament linked to the Grenfell Foundation. The players did St Joseph's very proud. Thank you to Mr Mclean and Mr Patel for taking the team.



Weekly Attendance

Well done Year 1, you have the highest attendance at 99.31%!



Dear Parents,

We are delighted to confirm the new, safe, fun, educational October Half-Term Camp 2026 -*Halloween Science!* - Mother Nature Science Activity Holiday STEM Camp is now open for booking - *At our School* Don't forget your Special School Basket Discount Code'COOLSCHOOL30' for an extra £30-off.

Note: for greater affordability for parents Childcare Vouchers are accepted by MNS. Just book online as normal below and choose 'Pay by Other Method' at Checkout (not Pay by Card) to receive further instructions.

Book Online by Entering your Home Postcode(e.g. 'SW3') -Here :https://www.mnature.co.uk/holiday-science-activity-camps/#book

Why do Parents choose Mother Nature Science Camps?

★ Trustpilot rated 'Excellent' by parents

For all Girls and Boys Ages 5-11 (Years 1-6)

Small, Structured "Get-Ahead" STEM Classes limited to only 20 children

Taking Place at Our School - *Click link above and simply enter your Home Postcode*

Safe, Fun, Social and Educational

October Half-Term Camp 2026: -*Halloween Science!*

Indoor and Outdoor Activities

New Hands-On, Screen-Free Learning STEM Themed Activities – *across Chemistry, Biology and Physics*

'Early-Bird Discount' now in place - Save Automatically Online - Expiring Soon

Childcare Vouchers Accepted

No-Quibble Refunds

The No. 1 Parent-Trusted Premium Holiday Science Activity Camp for Over 15+ Years

Voted 'Best Holiday Camps' by Parents in the Hoop Awards

What did parents say about the previous MNS Camps this year?

"My son attended the MNS Camp for the first time and it was absolutely brilliant. Every day he came home with all sorts of experiments - it's learning but fun. He thoroughly enjoyed himself, so thank you so much for everything the staff and team put into this camp. It was amazing and we will def use your camp again for future holidays."

Read More MNS Reviews - Here

Excellent

Trustpilot