



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Lawton Avenue, Carterton
Oxfordshire OX18 3JY
Tel: 01993 841240

www.stjosephsprimarycarterton.co.uk



The
Pope Francis Catholic
Multi Academy Company

St Joseph's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 13th March

Weekly Prayer – A prayer from St Joseph

Loving God,

We thank you for the gift of St Joseph,
a gentle, faithful, and courageous protector of the Holy
Family.

Bless our families today and always.

Help us to follow St Joseph's example
by showing love, patience, and kindness in our homes.

Guide us to care for one another,
to listen with open hearts,
and to trust in you, even in uncertain times.

May our homes be filled with peace,
our words be filled with encouragement,
and our lives reflect your love each day.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Amen.



Message from Senior Leadership Team

Another wonderful week at St Joseph's has come to a close, filled with joy as we celebrated our founding saint together as a school family. This morning's Mass in church was a truly beautiful and uplifting experience, bringing together our whole community—children, staff, our PTA, and governors—in a spirit of prayer and unity. It was so special to share such a meaningful moment together, and one that will stay with us all.

The recent sunshine has certainly lifted everyone's spirits, with smiles seen across the playground and classrooms, adding an extra sense of energy and positivity to our days. As we look ahead, there is a real sense of anticipation for the week to come.

A gentle reminder that next week is our final week of term, and we will finish at 1:30pm next Friday as we begin the Easter break. We look forward to ending the term on a high and celebrating all that has been achieved together.

Mrs Carder



Lourdes

Miss Hartland

I have been blown away by Lourdes on our trip to the wildlife park- they were shining examples of our PRAISE values, and demonstrated fantastic knowledge on the animals we saw! The children were confident & engaged during our interactive workshop where we got to explore different animal artifacts, and even challenged themselves to read the notices & displays around the park! Well done Lourdes, Miss Hartland is incredibly proud of you!

Knock

Miss Buckingham

This has been one of the busiest weeks we've had! We enjoyed the Wildlife Park thoroughly on Wednesday. We loved seeing all the animals and following the map. The children were extremely excited and explored the park with intrigue. I am so glad that we were able to visit the park and enjoy this experience together. Thank you for your collaboration and support to make this happen. This week at Forest School we made soup on the fire, looked around for signs of spring, and had two nurses



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In maths we have been building bridges for the 3 Billy Goats Gruff, and extended this into a whole city for the troll! Next week we will be reading Jack and the Giant Beanstalk, and finishing our plant life-cycle learning! We will also be celebrating Holy Week by baking bread, and role-playing Bible stories alongside Knock class!

Maths champion: Spencer
Writing champion: Cody
PRAISE award: Jayden
Gospel Values award: Willow

visit us. The nurses spoke about their jobs and the children recalled their learning about Florence Nightingale. Nurse Ella showed the children how to apply bandages, and Nurse Becca explained handwashing and how important it is. The nurses commented on how polite and kind the children were to them, well done Knock Class!

In Maths the year ones have used rekenreks to help us learn about doubles and near doubles. The children are increasingly confident and more fluent with this concept. Similarly, the Reception children have been identifying the same numbers and using stem sentences "1 and 1 make 2", "2 and 2 make 4" etc.

We have done some writing with the focus on Zoo's and animals building on and preparing for our wildlife park trip. The children have also done some fantastic handwriting practice this week.

I hope everyone has a restful weekend ready for the last week of term next week.

Maths champion: Lucas
Writing champion: Eliana
PRAISE award: Michael
Gospel Values award: Rose

Fatima
Miss Chatfield

It has been an incredibly busy and productive week for all of our children during assessment week. Our Year 1 pupils completed their phonics assessments and also enjoyed time engaging with provision in EYFS. Meanwhile, our Year 2 children worked extremely hard to complete all six of their SATs tests — we are so proud of their focus, resilience, and effort throughout the week.

Wednesday was a real highlight as we spent a wonderful day at the wildlife park in the sunshine! The children had a fantastic time exploring and seeing all the animals, although they were certainly tired after walking around the entire zoo!

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome nurses into Fatima Class to talk to the children about their jobs, linking to our history learning. The children took part in a carousel of engaging activities, including exploring modern nursing equipment with Nurse Becca, taking part in a Q&A session and practising bandaging with Nurse Ella, making lamps inspired by Florence Nightingale, sorting hospital equipment into "then and now," and enjoying imaginative nurse role-play. It was a hands-on and memorable learning experience for everyone.

We ended the week on a lovely note. On Friday morning, we attended Mass together, followed by the finishing of SATs papers. In the afternoon, the children celebrated all their

Medjugorje
Mrs Hamilton

What a lovely week in the sunshine! The children have absolutely loved this beautiful weather- long may it continue!

We've been persevering brilliantly with our assessment week and as ever I am so proud of the children. We've been breaking the day up with fun activities and movement breaks- well done to the children for fantastic effort and resilience.

In English we have finished writing our instructions on how to survive an air raid and I am SO impressed with the quality of their work! We have now written them in best and the presentation is incredible.

In Maths we have been learning about area and perimeter- they have picked it up so quickly and enjoyed working with shapes as a break from fractions and decimals.

Finally in RE we have been looking at Lent and temptation. We ate donuts and had the challenge of not licking our lips- it was great fun but also reminded us of how it feels to want to do something but resisting the temptation to do so.

Maths champion: Elena
Writing champion: Max
PRAISE award: Lily
Gospel Values award: Rosie



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<p>hard work with some extra playtime — a well-deserved treat!</p> <p>What a fab week it has been.</p> <p>Maths champion: Stefan Writing champion: Zhaleh PRAISE award: Iden Gospel Values award: Chael</p>	
<p>Walsingham <i>Mr Dillon</i></p> <p>This week in Walsingham Class we have continued our learning about Lent in RE, and we have also been celebrating St Joseph's Day. The children have reflected on his importance and what we can learn from his example. We are also looking forward to coming together for Mass.</p> <p>In Maths, we have now completed our unit on fractions and the children have worked very hard to develop their understanding of ordering and comparing fractions. This week, we also completed a full week of assessments. All of the children approached these with great focus and determination, and they have done very well. Their results will be shared in the coming week.</p> <p>In English, we have continued learning about explanation texts, focusing on present tense and formal language.</p> <p>Thank you to all the parents who have been checking their children's reading records regularly. It has been a great week in Walsingham Class.</p> <p>Maths champion: Faith Writing champion: Alfie PRAISE award: Thiago Gospel Values award: Jessica</p>	<p>Guadalupe <i>Mrs Cameron</i></p> <p>We have made the most of the lovely weather this week by spending lots of time outside, looking for signs of Spring, taking photos of wild flowers, drawing them and naming them. We have also written posters about looking after plants, enjoyed making and eating cress sandwiches, from the cress we had grown.</p> <p>In maths we are learning about odd and even numbers, continuing our maths challenges and completing maths assessments.</p> <p>Your children always arrive with a positive attitude in the mornings, which is lovely to see.</p> <p>Maths champion: Poppy-Jo Writing champion: Charlie-John PRAISE award: Nico Gospel Values award: Amara</p>
<p>Attendance Whole school attendance – 93% Well done to Guadalupe, Lourdes and Medjugorje who are all at 100%!!</p>	<p>Three cheers for: The whole school! The behaviour in church was exceptional!</p>
<p>Weekly Lent meditation:</p> <p>Each write or draw what you are sorry for on a piece of paper. When you have finished you could either tear the paper into little bits or scrunch it up before putting it in the bin.</p> <p>As you destroy the paper remember how God's love takes away our sins.</p>	<p>Forces Parents</p> <p>If you are deployed and worried that your family may not have access to free, reliable Wi-Fi to help you stay in touch, please know that you are very welcome to use ours.</p> <p>Do come and speak to me and we will arrange a time that works for you, along with a comfortable and private space where you can talk with your family at home for as long as you need.</p> <p>We're always happy to help you stay connected.</p> 
<p>Vacancy!</p> <p>We are delighted to share that we currently have vacancies for Foundation Governors at our amazing school.</p>	



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This is an exciting time to become involved. Our school continues to go from strength to strength, with clear improvements, growing aspirations, and a strong sense of purpose across our community. We are proud of the progress we are making and the positive direction in which we are heading.

As a Foundation Governor, you must be a practising Catholic and will play a vital role in shaping the strategic vision of the school, ensuring our Catholic ethos remains central while supporting continued improvement and excellence for all our pupils. It is a deeply rewarding opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

If you feel called to serve our school community in this way, we warmly encourage you to apply using the link below.

<https://www.pfmac.org.uk/appointing-new-governors>

If you would like to find out more or have an informal conversation about the role, please do come and speak with Mr Morton or Mrs Carder, who would be very happy to talk further.

Important Dates:

Father Hudson's Day (non-uniform) – Friday 27th of March

End of Easter Term – Friday 27th March at 1.30pm

Father Hudson's Lenten Appeal

Father Hudson's Caritas (formerly Father Hudson's Society) works extensively with Catholic schools and parishes across the Archdiocese of Birmingham to support children, families, and vulnerable people.

Last year, all schools within the Birmingham Diocese raised over £130,000 for those in need. This year we are aiming to raise more!

On the last day of term, we are asking children to come into school in home clothes, with the proviso that you donate £1 by bringing that money into school.



Dates for School Masses on Wednesdays (9.30am)



We would like to inform you that the dates listed below indicate when your children will be attending Mass at St Joseph's Church as part of our school's faith life.

These occasions are an important opportunity for our pupils to come together in worship and to strengthen their understanding of our shared values and beliefs. **We would be delighted if you were able to join us.** If you are available, please make every effort to come along and celebrate Mass together with our school and parish community.

Your presence helps to show our children the importance of faith, community, and belonging, and it is always a joy to welcome families into these celebrations.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing these special moments with you.

25th March - Walsingham

St Joseph's Day!

This morning, we were delighted to celebrate our St Joseph's Day Mass in church, with nearly every child in attendance. The atmosphere was truly special—deeply spiritual and offering a sense of reverence that felt both meaningful and new for many of our pupils. We were incredibly proud of the exemplary behaviour shown by all the children throughout the celebration. It was also a joy to welcome representatives from the PTA and the governing body, whose presence added to the sense of community. Moments like these remind us what a special school we are so proud to be part of.





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MARCH ON THE FARM

15th: Mother's Day
 Mums go free! Enjoy the spring flowers, meet the animals, tour the Manor House and finish with a delicious lunch, cream tea and a prosecco! See website for full details. Terms & conditions apply.

22nd: Community litter pick
 Join us in cleaning up the Cogges community 10am-12pm. Meet at Cogges Manor Farm. Afterwards, come back to the farm and enjoy tea, coffee & biscuits plus free day entry.

26th: Quiz & Curry Night
 It's Quiz Night at Cogges Manor Farm. Enjoy a delicious curry and sides before you take on the challenge of the Cogges Quiz. The Cogges Bar will be open! 6pm-10pm

28th: Easter Fun begins
 Meet the fluffiest of chicks, the cutest lambs, hunt for the Easter eggs in the straw, step into Alice's wonderland in the Manor House, hunt for the knitted rabbits, craft and much more.

cogges.org.uk



Wheels for All

What is it? Supportive, safe and inclusive cycling sessions for those with physical, learning and well-being needs. All are welcome; no diagnosis or referral required. We also cater for those who need help with their confidence. We have a good range of adapted bikes and some two-wheeled ones too. The space is part playground, part field and we also have a canopy to sit under if you just want to watch or eat your snack. Come along and feel the wind in your hair and enjoy cycling with us at Wheels for All. Siblings and other family members are welcome to join in too.

When is it? Every Saturday 11am-1pm, all ages welcome

Where is it? Wood Green School, Witney, OX28 1DX

<https://windrushbikeproject.uk/wheels-for-all/>

Events and Shows [See All Events](#)



TWO YOUNG DRAGONS

19 Feb 2026

Performance Suitable for children



SNOW WHITE ROSE RED BROWN BEAR

21 Feb 2026

Performance Suitable for families



FAIRYTALES FOR GROWN-UPS: A DANCE WITH THE MINOTAUR'S SISTER

26 Feb 2026

Performance Suitable for adults



SUITCASE STORIES

28 Feb 2026 - 14 Mar 2026

Performance Suitable for Early years



WORLD BOOK DAY 2026: HALF PRICE MUSEUM ENTRY

7 Mar 2026

Event/Workshop Suitable for families

BE THE FIRST TO KNOW

Sign up for our newsletter to get informative updates about events, news and offers.

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

By submitting your email address, you agree to receive updates from The Story Museum in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#). Unsubscribe at any time.

THE STORY MUSEUM

Top Recommendation!

Tumble down the rabbit hole. Push through the wardrobe doors into Narnia. Play on the big storytelling bed. And help bring the magic of stories to children in Oxford and beyond.

<https://www.storymuseum.org.uk/>



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Top 5 places to see snowdrops

Top 5 places to see snowdrops in Oxfordshire and beyond

Feb 1, 2025

Oxford Illusion Musuem

A new museum in the centre of the city where

Top Recommendation
Little Explorers is an amazing resource that keeps families in the loop with great ideas for free and budget-friendly days out together. You can follow on Facebook or Instagram, or click the link below:

<https://littleexplorers.com/>