



St Joseph's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 17th April 2026

Weekly Prayer

Dear Lord,

We thank You for the joy of Easter
and the gift of new life in Jesus.

As we return to school,
help us to be **grateful** for all that we have
and **generous** in sharing Your love with others.

Fill our hearts with kindness,
our minds with wisdom,
and guide us to follow the example of Jesus
in all we say and do.

Help us to care for one another,
to try our best each day,
and to build a happy and loving school community.

Bless our school, our teachers, and our families,
and stay with us always.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

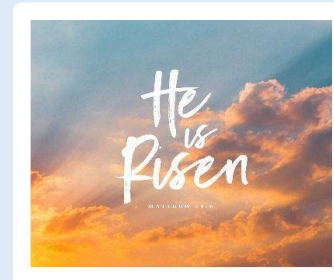
*Our Gospel values this term are **Grateful** and **Generous**
Pupils are growing to be grateful for their own gifts, for the
gift of other people, and for blessings of each day;
and generous with their gifts, both now and in the future.*

*What does this mean? Catholic Schools help their pupils
grow by encouraging them to know and be grateful for all
their gifts, developing them to the full so that they can be
generous in the service of others.*

Welcome back to our wonderful school community. I hope you all enjoyed a joyful and restful Easter break, with at least some (!) welcome sunshine, and that you were able to spend precious, well-deserved time with family and loved ones.

It has been such a pleasure to welcome everyone back, and we are especially delighted to open the doors to our newly refreshed and beautiful Early Years classroom. This special space has been created with so much care by a truly dedicated team who generously gave their time over the holidays to make it ready for our youngest learners. We are so fortunate to have such thoughtful and committed staff—what a blessing for our children and our community. Thank you to the team of volunteers who gave up a Saturday morning to help build all the furniture; I feel very proud to be part of such a supportive school community.

Mrs Carder



Lourdes

Miss Hartland

Welcome back Lourdes class- you have all settled back into our class & routine so beautifully!

This week we have been sharing our own knowledge on People Who Help Us within our community, and I am very impressed with the vocabulary we already know! I have seen lots of independent reading of our new books from the library, and even children challenging themselves to write key words from these books!

We have also been learning the Easter story, and practicing the signs for 'Holy Spirit, you are here with us.'

In maths we have been busy building a wall for Humpty Dumpty, and taking the Teddy Bear's on a picnic, using lots of prepositional language such as 'over, under, through.'
Next week we will become Doctors, exploring first-aid kits, making medicine, and even building an ambulance!

Knock

Miss Buckingham

Our first week back in Knock Class has been very busy and exciting. The children have been busy learning, exploring and bringing their new classroom to life. The classroom transformation is truly gorgeous and will be massively beneficial for the children. The children have really taken on the responsibility of caring for and looking after their classroom. I am so proud of the stewardship that they have shown. We have started lots of new learning including Join our Pirate Crew literacy and the Year 1's have been unpicking the features of a Persuasive Advert. The reception children have focused on writing captions and sentences such as labelling the *Captain's Crew*. We have begun our new History Topic *The Great Fire of London*, starting off by comparing London in 1666 to London Now using pictures as evidence. We also had a beautiful first school in the sunshine, we



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

<p>Maths champion: Jayden Writing champion: Poppy PRAISE award: Spencer Gospel Values award: Willow</p>	<p>toasted crumpets on the fire and explored MRS GREN to explain living things for our Science topic.</p> <p>Maths champion: Darcy Writing champion: Harley-Rose PRAISE award: Oliwia Gospel Values award: Aria</p>
<p>Fatima <i>Miss Chatfield</i></p> <p>Term 5 has got off to a busy start, with lots of exciting new learning across the curriculum! In Maths, we have begun our fractions unit. The children have been learning about the fraction symbol, identifying the numerator and denominator, and finding halves. In Literacy, we have started our Great Fire of London diary unit. The children have been deconstructing diary texts and identifying key features, as well as learning about facts and opinions, time adverbs, and writing in the first person. In RE, we have begun our Easter unit, where the children are learning to recognise key symbols of Easter and understand what they represent. In History, the children have been practising how to interpret evidence to answer the question: "What was London like before 1666?" In Science, we have started our habitats topic. The children are using the MRS GREN acronym to help them decide whether something is living or non-living. As part of the VE Day festival preparations, Fatima class voted to sell popcorn and make VE Day bracelets for their stall. They have also been busy creating flags to use during the parade.</p> <p>Maths champion: Harriet Writing champion: Martin PRAISE award: Jackson Gospel Values award: Ava</p>	<p>Medjugorje <i>Mrs Hamilton</i></p> <p>What a lovely start to our term! In English we have looked at the features of diary entries and investigated them within a range of texts. We will now be learning how to make our diary ingredients as fabulous as we can before we create our own.</p> <p>In maths we are looking at line and bar graphs- the children have really enjoyed doing something different and we're thinking up a practical investigation which we can record using our new skills.</p> <p>In RE we have started our Easter unit by discussing "Doubting Thomas" and how he would have felt during Jesus' resurrection.</p> <p>We are also investigating electrical circuits in science and finishing our WW2 unit in history. What a busy term already!</p> <p>Maths champion: Chad and Rosie Writing champion: Tommy PRAISE award: Eliza and Denzil Gospel Values award: Aleks</p>
<p>Walsingham <i>Mr Dillon</i></p> <p>Welcome back to all our Walsingham Class families after the Easter holiday! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break. It has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm and readiness to learn.</p> <p>This week in RE, we have begun exploring the meaning of Easter and the key stories associated with it. In Maths, we have started an exciting new topic on time, where children are learning to read clocks and understand the passing of time. In English, we have introduced our new text, <i>Robin Hood</i>, which the children are already thoroughly enjoying.</p> <p>We would like to remind everyone of the importance of reading at home. Regular reading supports all areas of learning, and reading records will be checked weekly. Please also take some time to read our curriculum map to discover all the exciting learning planned for this term.</p> <p>Maths champion: Louis</p>	<p>Guadalupe <i>Mrs Cameron</i></p> <p>Welcome back to a new exciting term, where we hope to be able to enjoy lots of outdoor learning. We have enjoyed catching up with each other, discussing what adventures everyone got up to over Easter and how much chocolate we all ate!</p> <p>This term all children will take part daily to learn how to tell the time, as well as continuing to concentrate on reciting their times tables.</p> <p>Our Historians will be learning about The Great Fire Of London, so ask them about some interesting facts over the next coming weeks!</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend.</p> <p>Maths champion: Charlie-John Writing champion: Ava PRAISE award: Poppy-Jo</p>



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

Writing champion: Aria PRAISE award: Oliwia Gospel Values award: Harvey	Gospel Values award: Nico
<p style="text-align: center;">Attendance</p> <p>Whole school attendance is at 93%. Again, this is still well below what is expected.</p> <p>Well done once again to Lourdes for excellent attendance this week!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Three cheers for:</p>  <p>Miss Buckingham! She has worked tirelessly over the Easter holidays to transform the classroom – thank you for the dedication and the love you have poured into the environment!</p>

Vacancy!

We are delighted to share that we currently have vacancies for Foundation Governors at our amazing school.

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.

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.

22nd April – Walsingham
29th April – Fatima
6th May – Medjugorje
13th May – Walsingham
20th May – Fatima

Curriculum Maps

Please do look at our Curriculum Maps for Term 5. These will be clearly displayed on the classroom windows, on Dojo and on the website. They will give you a clear overview of the learning for this term. These will be completed every half term.

Fatima Curriculum Map
Summer 1 2020



As readers and writers, we are exploring diary recounts through a Great Fire of London text. We will be deconstructing the texts to understand the features of a diary before writing our own.

Our key texts are: *Escape the Fire!*

Our phonic sounds in Year 1 are alternative sounds and **tricky words** are: Usually, return, quickly, fearful, terrifying, survive, action, direction, question, parents, again, behind, last of...

As Mathematicians we have 2 topics – money and fractions. We will be working through the steps to be able to count money, recognise notes and coins, calculate Monday and give change, round to a pound, compare money in the fraction's unit, we will learn to recognise and fractions, quarters, thirds, three quarters and whole. We will learn about unit and non-unit fractions and learn to count in fractions to a whole.

Key Vocabulary: part, whole, half, quarter, third, equal, unequal, denominator, digit, numerator, equivalent, unit fractions, non-unit fractions, split.

As Scientists, we will explore and compare the differences between living things, dead things, and those that have never been alive. We will learn that most living things are suited to specific habitats and understand how different habitats meet the basic needs of plants and animals, and how they depend on one another. We will identify and name a variety of plants and animals in different habitats, including microhabitats, and describe how animals obtain food from plants and other animals using simple food chains. We will also identify and name different sources of food.

Key Vocabulary: habitat, microhabitat, conditions, adapted, omnivore, herbivore, carnivore, cactus, woodland, forest, jungle, savanna, desert, mountain.

As Theologians we are studying Easter and Pentecost. We will learn stories about the Resurrection and the Holy Spirit, the other characters involved and their reactions. We will be able to identify the symbols used during the Easter season and explain their significance. We will learn the story of Pentecost and understand that the Holy Spirit was the promised gift of Jesus. We will recognise that Confirmation is a celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit and the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of Christians today.

Key Vocabulary: Easter – resurrection, Mary Magdalene, Holy Spirit, Crucifix, Palm, Omega, Easter Vigil, Holy Water, Embrace, Thomas, Doubt, Pentecost – Agapes, Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity, Confirmation, Sacrament, Oil of Baptism, Oil of Chrism.

Our Gospel Values are: Grateful and Generous

Across the Curriculum

As Historians we will learn what London was like in 1666 and compare it to today. We will find out what happened when the Great Fire of London started on 2nd September 1666, why it spread so quickly, and how people tried to stop it. We will learn about important people from the time and explore how we know about the past by looking at evidence like diaries and objects.

As Geographers
(Taught in another term)

As Artists we are using clay to make sculptures. Use a variety of modelling and printing techniques to create sculptures. We will explore colour mixing to create seasonal colours to paint our final pieces.

As Athletes we are developing our PE skills through athletics and a range of field sports including cricket and rounders.

As Musicians
(Taught in another term)

As Design Technologists we are
(Taught in another term)

As Computer Programmers we are exploring what the term data means and how data can be collected. We will explore how attributes can be used to organise data and how data can be presented in the form of pictograms and block diagrams. We will use the data presented to answer questions.

As Deep Thinkers we are learning that God made us to be in loving relationships through parables including The Good Samaritan.



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

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for students to make good progress, build confidence, and fully engage in school life. **While attendance has been a focus for some time, overall levels of attendance are not showing the improvement we would expect, and this remains a concern for some families.**

We understand that there are times when absence is unavoidable; however, we ask all families to make every effort to ensure children attend school consistently and arrive on time each day. **Good attendance supports not only academic achievement but also social development and wellbeing.**

As a school, we have always prioritised working in partnership with families rather than taking formal action.

However, if attendance does not begin to improve, we may need to review our approach, and the use of penalty notices could become a necessary option in line with national guidance.

We strongly encourage all parents and carers to support us in improving attendance so that every child can benefit fully from their education.

Your school leadership is now aspirational for every aspect of the school day; starting with attendance.

Check out the new Early Years Classroom!





St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Lawton Avenue, Carterton

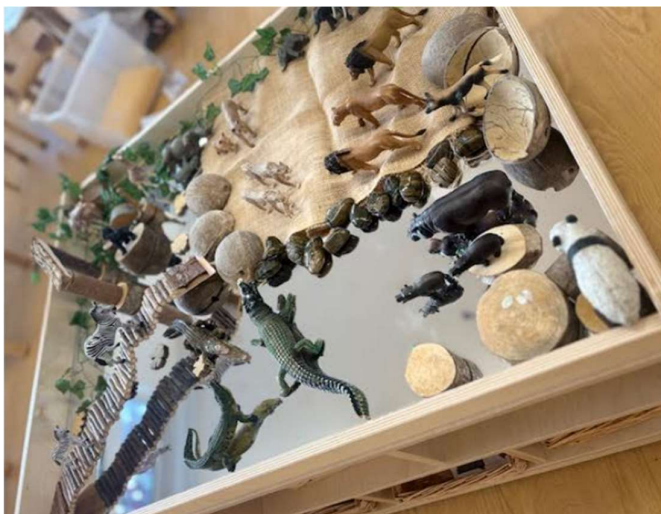
Oxfordshire OX18 3JY

Tel: 01993 841240

www.stjosephsprimarycarterton.co.uk



The Pope Francis Catholic
Multi Academy Company





St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

www.stjosephsprimarycarterton.co.uk



The
Pope Francis Catholic
Multi Academy Company

What's on in Oxfordshire?

The best sunny places to visit in Oxfordshire - <https://littleexplorers.com/the-best-sunny-adventures-in-oxford/>

The Leys Splash Park

Yet another splash park revamp! Bright rainbow colours and accessible water features make this one stand out. It was already a great park, now it's even better!



Wallingford Riverside Splash and outdoor pools

Another refurbished splash park (did the council get a job lot?!), with an outdoor pool beside it. The pool isn't as wow as Hinksey but it's fun and it's in a gorgeous location along the river so lots of opportunities for other activities too like canoeing or boat trips.



Check out the Bluebell woods at Badbury- <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/oxfordshire-buckinghamshire-berkshire/badbury/bluebells-at-badbury>

Bluebells at Badbury



Bluebells at Badbury Clump | ©National Trust Images/David Sellman

Every year, more and more people visit Badbury to enjoy the carpet of bluebells amongst the beech trees in the area known as Badbury Clump - once an Iron Age hillfort. Usually flowering in April, they're a welcome sign that spring is well under way and the warmer days of summer aren't far off.

More at Oxfordshire Mummies – <https://oxfordshiremummies.co.uk/days-out-in-and-around-oxfordshire/whats-on-may-june-half-term-activities-for-kids-in-oxfordshire/>

Oxfordshire Mummies

Home - Places to Visit - Specific Features - Regions - Playgroups and classes - Day care and Nurseries - Contact

HOME - PLACES TO VISIT - ACTIVITIES - MAY/JUNE HALF TERM ACTIVITIES 2020 - WHAT'S ON FOR KIDS IN OXFORDSHIRE

May/ June Half term activities 2015: Whats on for kids in Oxfordshire



@oxfordshiremummies

21 April 2015



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 Catholic Primary School

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS!

JOIN THE FUN AFTER SCHOOL!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.30pm
SATS BOOSTERS with Mrs Hamilton	BOARD GAMES with Mr Dillon	GARDENING with Mrs Lyon	SATS BOOSTERS with Mrs Hamilton	MOVIE CLUB with Mrs Carder
EXPLORE THE WORLD CLUB with Mr Morton	MINDFULNESS with Mrs Wickens	TEA TIME CLUB with Mrs Cameron & Miss Buckingham	SPORTS CLUB with Miss Chatfield	

NO LIMIT TO SPACES - EVERY CHILD IS WELCOME!
Sign up at the office.

All clubs (with the exception of gardening, which is kindly run and resourced by a dedicated PTA volunteer) are completely free until 4pm—every single day! 4.30pm on a Friday!

Need a little extra time at the end of the day? We've got you covered with extended care until 5pm for just £4.50—that's nearly half the cost of our previous after-school provision.
Best of all? There's no limit on places—everyone is welcome!



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 CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS ★ ★ ★

VE DAY CELEBRATION

A Celebration of Our Forces & Families

Friday 8th May | 3:00pm – 6:00pm
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Veterans VIP Table
Carterton's Oldest Veterans

Thank You Wall
Leave a Message for Our Heroes

★ EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ★

- 3:30pm - Children's Parade for Veterans
- 4:15pm - Children's Entrepreneur Contest
- 5:00pm - Tug of War
Military vs Children & Teachers vs Children!

Attractions & Activities

Music	Fun Family Games
Food/Drink	1940s Photo Booth
Free Craft Fun	Fairground Rides
Children's Entertainment	WWII Vehicles
Nerf Gun Team	Military, Veterans and Charity stalls

★ All Funds Support Our PTA & Future Festivals! ★ ★

**THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO
COME TOGETHER • REMEMBER • CELEBRATE!**



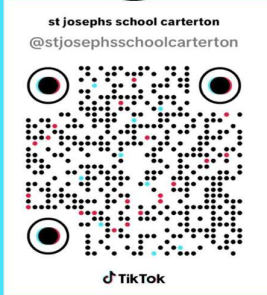
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Lawton Avenue, Carterton
Oxfordshire OX18 3JY
Tel: 01993 841240
www.stjosephsprimarycarterton.co.uk



Social Media Links TikTok

Instagram



Facebook

