



St Joseph's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5th June 2026

Weekly Prayer

This weekend we celebrate **Solemnity of Corpus Christi**: Celebrated on the Sunday following Trinity Sunday, this jubilant feast honours the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, often featuring public processions and adoration.

Loving Jesus,

On Sunday we celebrate the wonderful gift of Your Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

Thank You for staying with us in such a special way, so that we are never alone. Thank You for feeding us with Your love, strengthening us when we are worried, and helping us to become more like You.

Help us to remember that every time we gather at Mass, You are truly present with us. Teach us to welcome You into our hearts and to share Your love with everyone we meet.

May we be kind to those who are lonely, generous to those in need, and forgiving when others make mistakes. Help us to be Your hands and feet in our homes, our school and our community.

Bless our families, our friends, our teachers and all those who care for us. As we receive Your love, help us to share that love with the world around us.

Jesus, Bread of Life, stay close to us always.

Amen.



Lourdes

Miss Hartland

Welcome back Lourdes! I have loved seeing some show & tells from our children's half-term, such as pictures of new kittens & Elsa's holiday - this has really boosted the children's confidence & is supporting their communication & language!

We have begun looking at Fairy tales this term, starting with a firm favourite, 'Three Little Pigs!' We have enjoyed

Dear Families,

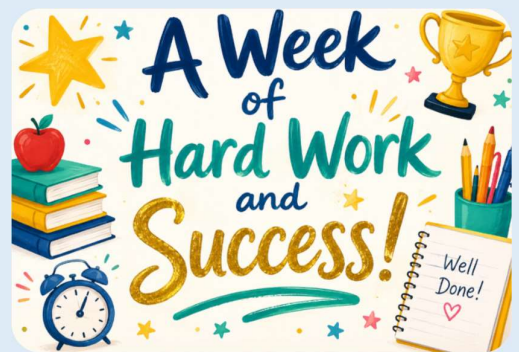
Stormy weather in June? We certainly weren't expecting that! Despite the wind and rain, the atmosphere inside St Joseph's has been nothing but bright, positive and full of determination.

This week has been particularly exciting as we completed our first Year 6 writing moderation. The quality of work produced by our pupils was truly exceptional, and it looks as though we have achieved the highly aspirational goals we set ourselves at the beginning of the year. This is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the resilience of our children and the strong partnership we share with our families.

Across the school, children have returned to learning with enthusiasm and purpose, hitting the ground running after the break. Classrooms have been busy with high-quality learning, curiosity and hard work, and it has been wonderful to see such positive attitudes towards learning in every year group.

As always, I am incredibly proud of our school community. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure every child can flourish and achieve their very best.

Mrs Carder



Knock

Miss Buckingham

A lovely first week back in Knock Class.

This term we are looking into Fairy tales with the children, they have enjoyed exploring different versions of Little Red Riding hood this week. They have done an excellent job of comparing the similarities and differences between the two different stories. The Year 1 children have been reading and feature spotting within a Little Red



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designing our own characters, comparing the similarities & differences between pigs & wolves. We have also explored making '3' with different objects, and our little architects loved building with straw, sticks, and bricks (making sure to include a chimney for the wolf!) We have tested how strong our buildings are by huffing & puffing to blow them down!

Next week we will be reading 'The Enormous Turnip' and looking at number 1-5!

Maths champion: Spencer
Writing champion: Jaythraah
PRAISE award: Beatrix
Gospel Values award: Poppy

Riding Hood character description. We have discussed the use of pronouns to replace names in character descriptions, and how this impacts the flow of writing and reading.

In the Forest School we enjoyed chicken noodles which were thoroughly enjoyed and most children enjoyed seconds! We spoke about cooking noodles and what the ingredients are and the method to cook them. The children enjoyed sharing their experiences of eating noodles at home too. We also made ribbon wands out of sticks the children found. We were lucky to also find lots of active snails, enjoying the rain, which the children got the chance to hold gently.

This term we are exploring music, we enjoyed listening to some rhythmic "boots and cats" music and the children confidently joined in and laughed along with the silly rhymes. - I have shared a link for you to enjoy the clip we watched at home on dojo'

We have also enjoyed jumping into our new RE unit, *People who help us*, where we will learn about Fr Paul's role in the church and the way the church family comes together. We will also touch on other people who help us, such as our emergency services, libraries, teachers and more. This week the children began unpicking what a Priest is, and that Fr Paul is our priest. The children were asked to share what they know about Father Paul and what they think he is like. The children did their own drawings of Father Paul and wrote a word or a sentence to describe him.

Maths champion: Imogen
English champion: Ire
PRAISE award: Lucas
Gospel Values award: Lili

Fatima
Miss Chatfield

This week, the children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum.

In Literacy, the children wrote their own Little Red Riding Hood letters, aiming to include all the features we learned before half term. They carefully incorporated expanded noun phrases and adverbials of time and place, while also focusing on improving their handwriting presentation.

In Maths, the children worked on finding the quotient using their 5 and 10 times tables. They used practical resources, including ribbons and counters, to support their understanding and help them solve division problems confidently.

In RE, Year 2 began their Church unit with a visit to St Joseph's Church. The children explored the church, drawing and recording the symbols and features they could see. They then used iPads to research the different roles within the Church and worked together to create a class fact file.

In Science, we started our new Materials unit by investigating the materials used to make different objects around the classroom.

Medjugorje
Mrs Hamilton

We've had such a great week back! The weather has been a tad iffy but the kids have had a much sunnier attitude to their learning. We've been authors this week, using lots of different starting points and stories to create our own versions- I've been so impressed

In English we have been looking at Alma- a fantastic video which I suggest you watch at home, you can find it on Literacy Shed! It has really got the kids thinking and we've created some wonderful dialogue, character and setting descriptions.

In Maths we have been looking at the area of parallelograms and using our knowledge to find missing values. Next we will tackle coordinates and movement!

In RE we will be moving onto Jesus and his Apostles where we will have lots of opportunity for role play and story telling.

Maths champion: Eloise
Writing champion: Tommy
PRAISE award: Rosie
Gospel Values award: Kaitlin



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In Geography, the children began their Local Area and Norway unit. They started by recapping the world's oceans and continents before using atlases to label and complete a blank world map.

In DT, we introduced this term's project of making a healthy snack. The children began by exploring and reviewing a range of fruits and vegetables.

Year 1 children have been enjoying lots of phonics games as they prepare for their Phonics Screening Check next week. Please continue to use the reading resources that have been sent home. The children are making fantastic progress, and your support is greatly appreciated.

Maths champion: Chael
Writing champion: Salvador
PRAISE award: Harriet
Gospel Values award: Mya

Walsingham
Mr Dillon

Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see the children return after the half-term break with such enthusiasm and positivity. They have settled quickly back into school routines and have shown excellent attitudes towards their learning throughout the week. It has been lovely to see the children supporting one another and demonstrating our school values both in and out of the classroom.

In **RE**, we have begun our new unit on **Prayer**. The children have explored why prayer is important and have written some thoughtful and heartfelt prayers of their own. Their work has been truly impressive, and we are looking forward to displaying these beautiful prayers around the classroom.

In **Maths**, we have continued our work on **Money**. The children have been adding different amounts to find totals and using a range of strategies to calculate change accurately. They have shown great resilience and confidence when solving these practical problems.

In **English**, we have been reading the story of **Robin Hood**, using it as inspiration for our own creative writing. The children have produced some imaginative and engaging narratives, bringing the legendary outlaw and Sherwood Forest to life through their excellent use of description.

Our **Year 4** children are now making their final preparations for the **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)**, which begins next week. They have all worked incredibly hard throughout the year, and we are very proud of the progress they have made.

Over the weekend, it would be extremely beneficial for the children to continue practising all of their times tables up to 12×12 so that they can recall the facts quickly and confidently. Just a few minutes of daily practice can make a real difference.

Maths champion: Nancy
Writing champion: Harper-Leigh
PRAISE award: Jack
Gospel Values award: Alfie

Guadalupe
Mrs Cameron

I am thrilled with how positive Guadalupe children have been on their return to school after half term. They have all worked so hard with every aspect of learning that has been given to them! I have watched as they have shown empathy to another child and was so proud when Mrs Wickens told me what kindness and patience a child had shown to a new member of our class.

May this positivity continue, as it makes our learning environment such a special and welcoming place to be.

Maths champion: Nico
Writing champion: Ava
PRAISE award: Amara
Gospel Values; Charlie-John



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Polite Reminder

Please remember **not to bring fidgets or toys** into school.

They are highly **distracting** and often get **lost or broken.**

Let's keep our school a focused, calm and happy place to learn! ❤️

Attendance

Lourdes – 96%
Knock-89%
Fatima-92%
Walsingham 96%-
Mejugarje –98%

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

Today, Tomorrow, Together!

Aim for at least **96%** attendance

Every school day counts!

HOW ABSENCE IMPACTS LEARNING

Missing just a few days each year can have a big impact on your child's learning. Here's how much learning time is lost at each key stage if your child's attendance is below 96%:

Year Group	Attendance Level	Learning Time Lost
EARLY YEARS (FS1 & FS2)	Less than 96% attendance	Equals up to 25 DAYS of lost learning each year
YEAR 1 – YEAR 2 (KEY STAGE 1)	Less than 96% attendance	Equals up to 37 DAYS of lost learning each year
YEAR 3 – YEAR 6 (KEY STAGE 2)	Less than 96% attendance	Equals up to 55 DAYS of lost learning each year
YEAR 7 – YEAR 11 (KEY STAGE 3 & 4)	Less than 96% attendance	Equals up to 70 DAYS of lost learning each year

GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS:

- Better progress
- More confidence
- Stronger friendships
- Greater chance of success
- More opportunities

BE HERE, ACHIEVE ANYTHING!

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

Let's work together for **96%** and above!

Important Dates:

3rd July – Sports Day (Including Family Picnic – please await further information)

15th July – Whole School Mass 9.30 at St Joseph's

16th July- iRock Concert

17th July – End of Term 1.15pm

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.

10th June- Walsingham & Medjugorje

17th June- Fatima

24th June- Knock

1st July – Walsingham and Medjugorje

8th – Fatima and Knock

15th July – Whole School Mass



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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.

UPDATED - Summer Term Clubs

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.00pm	3.15 - 4.30pm
	BOARD GAMES with Mr Dillon	GARDENING with Mrs Lyon	ART CLUB with Mrs Hamilton	MOVIE CLUB with Mrs Carder
	MINDFULNESS with Miss Buckingham	TEA TIME CLUB with Mrs Wickens & Mrs Cameron	FASHION CLUB with Miss Chatfield	LONGER FRIDAY FUN!

Please note: on Mondays, we will offer after school club care, **but there will not be a structured activity any more.**

Payment is essential between 4-5pm.



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Abingdon & Witney College

Open Farm Sunday

Common Leys Farm

OPEN FARM SUNDAY

Sunday 7th June
11:00am - 3:00pm

KIDS UNDER 3 FREE*

Entry £3 per person Sat Nav: OX29 9UU

Common Leys Farm | Hailey | Witney

Make it simple - pay by cash

Hot food and drinks available

Indoor and outdoor activities:
Meet the Animals | Plant sale | Pony rides
Face Painting | Vintage Tractors | Sheep shearing

*Children under 3 free with a paying adult

KIDS UNDER 5 GO FREE

FAM FEST LIVE

CHELtenham, IT'S 'ALMOST TIME

YOUR FAMILY FESTIVAL DAY OUT IS NEARLY HERE

GET READY FOR

TRIBUTE ACTS • INFLATABLE THEME PARK • STUNT SHOW
ZORB BALLS • HERF WARS • FACE PAINTING • CHARACTERS
FOAM PARTY • KIDS YOGA • FIRE ENGINES • KIDS DISCO
& SO MUCH MORE

SUNDAY 22ND JUNE | CHELtenham BACKWATER, OX51 4HH

GET TICKETS NOW

CARTERTON FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

VEGETABLES, FLOWERS, BAKING, CRAFTS, PHOTOGRAPHY, CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Carterton WI Hall
SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST

6TH & 7TH JUNE

Millets Big Farm Vehicles weekend

Come and join us!
Kindly raising money for SSNAP
We hope to see you there!

Games
Farm Vehicles
Face painter
and more!

Another great site – <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/things-to-do/family-days-out-oxfordshire/>

Family day out in Oxfordshire

Take your child to [Crocodiles of the World](#) where you can see different crocodile species and learn all about them – you can even become a keeper for a day!

For younger children, [Fairytale Farm](#) is a great option, with a range of farm animals and plenty of activities. Fairytale Farm is also fully accessible and specially designed with disabilities and special needs in mind. Enjoy a unique sensory experience with their Enchanted Walk – a magical journey inviting you to look, touch, smell and listen along the way.

At [Blenheim Palace](#), the Walled Garden is a joy to visit for all ages, with the Marlborough Maze, Pizza Café and exotic Butterfly House. With plank bridges, ladders, swings, slides and even a sand pit, it is a great place to unwind after a day at the Palace.

Travel back in time to the golden age of the Great Western Railway at [Didcot Railway Centre](#). Savour the sights, sounds and smells of steam as you explore this 25-acre living museum with trains dating from Victorian times to the 1960s.

Near Didcot in Aston Tirrold, [Ridgeway Adventures](#) offers activities for ages 8+, with archery, laser maze heist and more.