

St Joseph's Newsletter

23/01/2026

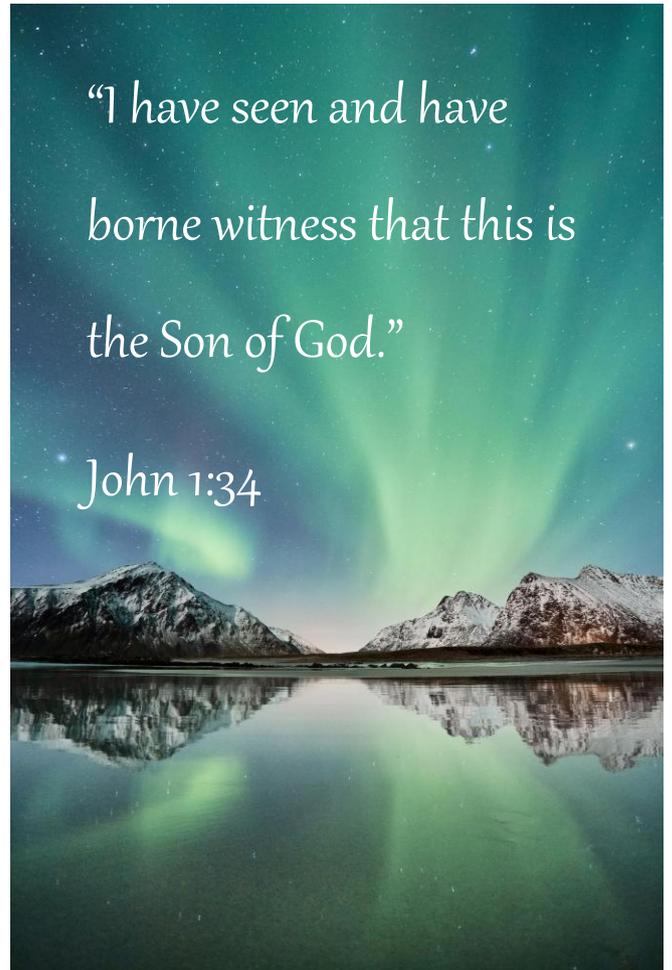
Buildings – the work is moving along quickly despite the rain!

Next week we have lots of visitors coming into school next week, please look at the calendar.



"I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

John 1:34



John the Baptist knew Jesus' true identity and it changed everything. When he saw Jesus, he recognised that the Son of God was among them! Knowing people well changes our response to them. As people got to know Jesus, like John they were inspired to follow Him, to live in His way, and tell others about Him – knowing Jesus changes us!

How then can we be witnesses for Jesus through our words and actions this week?

What Has Been Happening In Class This Week?

Nursery

This week in maths the nursery have been learning about subitising, this is where the children can instantly see "how many" up to 5. To help us develop this key skill we have been playing with dice and dominoes. The children have been making dice outside with pebbles and using our number tree to hang up number decorations and match them to the correct numeral. They are getting super speedy at recognising the dots on the dice without having to count them.



Reception

This week reception have been learning about the planets in our solar system.

We have learnt some new and very interesting facts about planets that we didn't know before.

The children then completed some amazing fact writing with beautiful drawings of their chosen planet.

Year 1

Since we have finished reading Dogger by Shirley Hughes, we decided to celebrate by having a teddy bears picnic. We brought our dinners to the classroom and ate with our teddies. We then wrote a recount of our lovely picnic. In history, we discovered what toys used to look like. We then compared our toys to old toys. Toys used to be made of wood, metal, or fabric. Now most toys are made of plastic and electronic.

On Thursday, we had an author Zoom call our room. It was Jane Riordan. She has written some sequels to the Winnie the Pooh books. She read a story about when Piglet lost his voice. She then showed the children how to draw Pooh.



Year 2

This week year 2 enjoyed an online author event. Jane Riordan read us her new book Winnie the Pooh, Tales from the Forest. The story is about one of the characters, Piglet, who gets sick and the other characters look after him and make him feel better. After listening to the story we drew the characters and wrote about our favourite. In maths we have been looking at multiples of 2 and solving problems. In art we started looking at artists who make different sculptures and the children drew their plans for a hand sculpture. In geography we started looking at maps and we drew a sketch map of our local area, including a key to show the different parts of the map.

Year 3

This week our major themes have been right angles and the dark. We have been exploring vertices in different shapes and how to recognise them. In our English lessons we have been discussing the dark and thinking about why we need the dark. We also had a look at places in the world where it can stay dark for months at a time. It makes you appreciate every sunrise. The children had a really great time using primary colours in art and produced some fantastic pieces. We cannot wait to see what else they produce. The children finally got to use some magnets in science to explore how they work and what they work on. They were very impressed by making a paper clip float with the power of science. We can't wait to see what great work you do next week.



Year 4

Year 4 children have been working incredibly hard this week, and Mrs Afolabi and I are extremely proud of them.

In English, we have begun writing an informative leaflet about Brazil. I have been truly impressed by the children's resilience, creativity and eagerness to support one another as they organised their ideas.

In Maths, we have been focusing on the 7 times tables, both during our usual Maths sessions and in our Mastering Number sessions. We have been using this knowledge to solve problems and further develop our reasoning skills.

As you may be aware, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check will take place between Monday 1 June and Friday 12 June 2026. We encourage parents to practise times tables with their children as often as possible. More information on how to support your child will follow.

Year 5

It has been a busy week in Year 5 as we cast our characters for our production of Hamlet. I was impressed by all the auditions and have no doubt that it will be an amazing performance. We started to stage this and had fun in English lessons putting Hamlet on trial for the murder of Polonius in which the jury unanimously found him to be guilty. They produced some brilliant prosecution and defence arguments and questions for witnesses and created a very dramatic court scene. In Maths this week the pupils have been improving their abilities with multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. We enjoyed testing the properties of different materials in science and learning about the suffrage movement of the late 19th and early 20th century in History. Along with this, the class have also been getting creative by exploring the works of Andy Warhol and Pop Art in their Art lesson. We also spent some time reflecting on Jesus beginning his mission of spreading the Good News to everyone in RE.

Year 6

This week, year 6 have been inspired by their residential to Lledr Hall and have started writing persuasive letters requesting increased funding for experiences like the one they were fortunate enough to have. Many of the children felt it was unfair that some children miss out due to lack of funds or available centres like the one we are lucky enough to have access too. Others felt it was unfair that they only get to go once! Either way, they are busy using their persuasive skills to change the world! In Maths, the children have been tackling long division and their resilience and determination has shone through. Busy in science and RE too, working on presentations in RE and learning more about circuits in science - apologies if they have been looking for your fuse box at home! Please keep supporting your children with their home learning.

Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Monday 26 th January	Take Action workshop @ Salford Quays. 12.30 – 3.20pm Year 4 & 5 Fencing, 2.30pm – 3.30pm (in school)
Tuesday 27 th January	The Lowry Creative Writing Challenge Year 6, 9.30am – 2.30pm (in school)
Monday 23 rd February	School opens
Thursday 2 nd April	School closes for the Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April	School opens
Monday 4 th May	School closed for Bank Holiday

STAR OF THE WEEK

	R	Lucas Resilience	
Y1	Prithvik Confidence	Y2	Rashmika Empathy
Y3	Daisy Empathy	Y4	Brodie Resilience
Y5	Bella Respect	Y6	Samuel Resilience

This Week's Attendance

Nursery	85.6%
Reception	89%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	85.6%
Year 3	93.6%
Year 4	99.3%
Year 5	94.1%
Year 6	95.9%
School Total	92.9%

Happy Birthday To...

Mia

Gelila

Pio

Lameck

WORK OF THE WEEK

	R	Vishnu	
Y1	Ksanet	Y2	Lauryn
Y3	Karlos	Y4	Hadi
Y5	Alfie	Y6	Alice