

St Joseph's Newsletter

27/02/2026

As ever this has been a busy week with children going on trips, attending sporting events and Year 5 taking part in the Minds On A Mission escape room which focussed on Anti-social behaviour and street crime.

The children in years 4 and 5 have completed their fencing lessons, from Monday children in Years 3 and 6 will be starting theirs.

World Book Day is next Thursday 5th March. The children can come into school dressed as a book character. If you have any old costumes that no longer fit your children, please don't throw them away, we will gladly have them to share with any children who haven't got a costume. They can be given to class teachers or to the main office.



Last week, Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of Lent - a time to prepare ourselves to remember Jesus' death on the Cross on Good Friday and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. We are invited to give, act and pray to help us to grow closer in our friendship with God.

'Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.' Matthew 4:1-2

The gospel story illustrates how Jesus' temptations fit with the Lenten observances of fasting, prayer and almsgiving. We are at the beginning of our Lenten journey, how can we say 'Yes!' and trust in God this week as we give, act and pray?

Throughout Lent the children will be thinking about how they can help others less fortunate than themselves.

What Has Been Happening In Class This Week?

Nursery

Nursery have made a great start to the new term. This half term we will learning all about castles. We have turned the role play area into a medieval castle with a great hall and even a dungeon. The children are enjoying being kings, queens, princesses, knights and even dragons. We are



reading lots of books about castles, some information books and some story books. In maths, we are learning about shapes and using the shapes to help us make castle pictures.

Reception

This week reception has learnt about sea turtles.

We learnt lots of new and amazing facts such as turtles have see-through eyelids, and their eggs and soft and bouncy.

We have painted amazing pictures of turtles and even had a go at making turtles out of playdough and seashells.

Happy Birthday To...

Shay

Year 1

This week we started a new story in English. We are now reading Handa's Surprise by Eileen Brown. This story follows a girl delivering some delicious fruits to her friend Akeyo in Kenya Africa. To help us come up with adjectives to describe the fruits, we got to taste each of them. We ate creamy avocado, juicy pineapple, tangy passion fruit and many more!

In maths we have started learning about subtraction. Subtraction is a decreasing quantity. To help us understand this concept, we read Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons. In the story, Pete slowly loses his buttons on his shirt. In class we acted out the story with our own Pete the cat, then practised other subtraction sentences as well.

In science we are learning about everyday materials. We explored the different attributes of metal, plastic, fabric, glass, and wood. We noticed that some were more durable than other materials, some were more transparent, and others were more waterproof.

Year 2

This week year 2 have had a fun week, we had a lovely time with our visitor Branwyn, who came into class and planted some edible flowers with us. We will look after them by watering regularly and keeping them in the sunlight. In English, we started our new story, Meerkat Mail. Sunny is a meerkat who wanted to find the perfect place to live, after all his travels he realised the perfect place was home with his family. In history, we have been leaning about polar explorers, Matthew Henson and Felicity Aston who both faced different difficulties on their journeys.

Year 3

Year 3 have travelled back in time once again with our new book in English, Stone Age Boy. We have been writing in first person and explored using fronted adverbials. We will be writing a recount as we ourselves were cast back in time, putting ourselves in the character's shoes. We were very lucky to have a visitor from the organisation Incredible Edibles, where we discussed the advantages of growing our own food. The children all got to plant a seed and hopefully by summer they could be enjoying the fruits of their labour. We would also like to welcome Ms Groarke to Year 3, who has been helping out in our lessons and offering fresh perspectives. What an excellent start to this term with all the fantastic work already completed. Well done Year 3.

This Week's Attendance

Nursery	91.5 %
Reception	93.5%
Year1	96%
Year 2	96.7%
Year 3	97.9%
Year 4	98.2%
Year 5	97.9%
Year 6	95.4%
School Total	95.9%

WORK OF THE WEEK

	Reception	Divikska	
Year1	Jada	Year 2	Frankie
Year 3	Daniel	Year 4	Thea
Year 5	Kebron	Year 6	Tandi

STAR OF THE WEEK

	Reception	Hazel FAITH	
Year1	Sharon-Louise CONFIDENCE	Year 2	Kai RESILIENCE
Year 3	Hilda RESILIENCE	Year 4	Asher EMPATHY
Year 5	Kory RESILIENCE	Year 6	

Year 4

What a busy first week back!

In English, we planned our letter to the Brazilian Ambassador to the UK, Antonio Patriota, urging him to support efforts to save the Amazon Rainforest. We carefully considered our arguments to make our case as persuasive as possible.

On Wednesday, we went to the Manchester Museum. We took part in Time Odyssey - a blended learning adventure which was played on a tablet. We met characters lost in time - Revna - the Viking of the Sea, Cheng - a Trainee Scribe from Ancient China, Felix - future Centurion from Roman Britain, and Hori - a tomb painter from Ancient Egypt. We chose a character, then took on a series of challenges to help send them back home.

Children represented school really well and had a lot of fun!



Year 5

It has been a rather busy first week back with Year 5 this week. The pupils have been working very hard on their Hamlet performances ready for their upcoming performance. They have also enjoyed learning about area in maths where we compared the area of the basketball court, football pitch and tennis court on our playground. The pupils were also challenged by an escape room on Wednesday morning, by working together, half the class managed to get out and learnt some valuable lessons about violent crime. As we have entered the season of Lent, Year 5 have also reflected this week on actions they can take to be a better person during this time and created new prayer for our Lord's support and guidance.

Another busy and exciting week for Year 6! On Tuesday, they continued to write their scary stories with Emma from The Lowry and they are genuinely terrifying! The final stories are going to be well worth a read ... if you are brave enough! We continued to welcome visitors into school, on Thursday when we were joined again by Michelle, who is a professional artist. Michelle helped the children to create some amazing artwork based on the work of Lowry but with their own take on what you might see through the railway arches that are so prominent around Greater Manchester. The children showed great focus and creativity to produce some wonderful artwork. They have also continued to work hard in other lessons too, with fractions in maths and finishing our Electricity topic in science. The week has flown by! Please keep reading with your children - it is amazing to see so many children working through the scheme and getting onto the Top 100 books.

Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day 8.45am – 9.30am – Breakfast and a Book – EY and KS1
Tuesday 10 th March	Y5 – Shakespeare Festival Performance – Contact Theatre
Wednesday 11 th March	Y5 Transition at All Hallows Y6 Crucial Crew Trip
Thursday 2 nd April	School closes for the Easter Holidays

Science Week Investigation Sessions

Date	Year Group	Time	Location
Monday 9 th March	Year 3	2:00 – 3:00pm	School Hall
Tuesday 10 th March	Nursery	9:00 – 10:00am	Classroom
Tuesday 10 th March	Year 2	2:00 – 3:00pm	School Hall
Thursday 12 th March	Reception	9:00 – 10:00am	Classroom
Thursday 12 th March	Year 5	9:00 – 10:00am	School Hall
Thursday 12 th March	Year 6	1:15 – 2:15pm	School Hall
Friday 13 th March	Year 4	9:00 – 10:00am	School Hall
Friday 13 th March	Year 1	9:00 – 10:00am	Classroom



World Book Day 5th March 2026

Only

20

days
to go!

In this the National Year of Reading, we once again will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The children are welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite book character as part of the celebrations on this day.



Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will welcome parents and carers into their classrooms on Thursday 5th March from 8.45am – 9.30am to join together for Breakfast and a Book.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be taking part in Young Readers Programme events during the day to celebrate the wonderful world of books.

