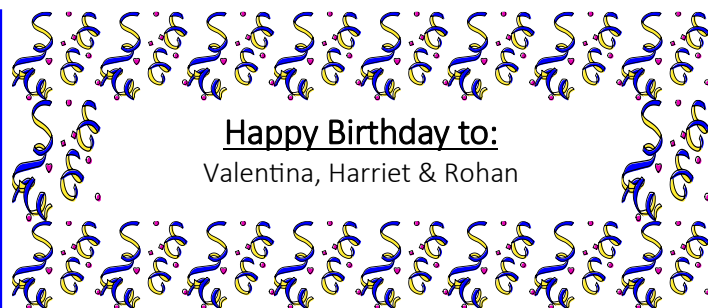


St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 04.10.24

Mission
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus
Vision
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.
Values
Hope Thankfulness Collaboration Compassion Friendship Resilience Empathy Creativity Justice Respect

A Message from Miss Dewhurst: There has been some amazing learning going on in school this week and I have been lucky enough to see, firsthand, the fantastic efforts of a number of children as they have been sent to me by their teachers to showcase their learning. It is so exciting to see how engaged and enthused our children are and, equally, to see so many of them rise to the challenges they are being set by their wonderful teachers. We are definitely hitting the ground running with our learning this year!

As we come to the end of a busy week, it definitely feels like Autumn is upon us and after the torrential rain at the start of the week, the sun is shining as we head into the weekend! I hope everyone enjoys their time together, whatever you may be doing.



Happy Birthday to:
Valentina, Harriet & Rohan

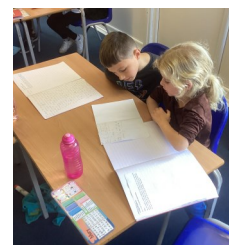
Pope Francis: *Let us walk together and listen to the Lord. May we allow ourselves to be led by the breeze of the Spirit*



Classroom Round Up: As always, we've been incredibly busy in **Class R/1** this week. In science, we explored how to look after our teeth. The children demonstrated a great understanding of the importance of brushing our teeth twice a day. Many of the children enjoyed sharing their experiences of going to the dentist. In English, we have moved onto our new topic of traditional rhymes. With Halloween approaching, our focus text, 'Room on the Broom' is proving very popular. Maths wise, Reception have been focusing on comparing size, mass and capacity while Year One have been focusing on comparing and ordering numbers within 10. A highlight of the week was making pizzas with Donna from PALS.



This week in **Class 2/3/4**, we have enjoyed learning about stewardship and Laudato Si in our RE lessons, creating information leaflets to explain our learning to Class 5/6. Everyone put incredible effort into their work and the Year 5's and 6's loved reading them. In English, we finished reading our story 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl' and wrote our own versions of Mary Anning's great fossil discovery. Year 4s enjoyed carrying out an experiment investigating dissolving and Year 2/3s enjoyed their experiment exploring the stretchiness of different fabrics.



It has been a very busy and varied week in **Class 5/6**. Between cookery classes, a brief visit from the Fire Service and a Let's Go Sing workshop, the children have been incredibly busy! In history, they have been learning all about the Ancient Greek system of democracy and how this differs to the UK today. In PE, the children produced some brilliant gymnastic routines on Monday where they focused on matching and mirroring their partner. In maths, Year 5 have been focusing on mental addition and subtraction, whilst Year 6 have continue to explore prime numbers, squared numbers and cubed numbers. All in all, another fun-filled week at St Joseph's!

School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	100%	98.6%
Yr 1	100%	98.4%
Yr 2	92.7%	97.3%
Yr 3	96.7%	98.4%
Yr 4	100%	98%
Yr 5	93.5%	95.7%
Yr 6	100%	99.6%
Total	97.5%	97.9%

Award Winners

★ Cl R/1:

★ Dojo Champion: **Bobby**
 ★ School Values/Mission: **Eve** — Friendship — she always a kind, caring and smiley friend to everybody that she meets

★ Cl 2/3:/4

★ Dojo Champion: **Hektor**
 ★ School Values/Mission: **Willow R** — Resilience—for never giving up on her maths work even when it was tricky

★ Cl 5/6:

★ Dojo Champion: **Lavinia**
 ★ School Values/Mission: **Charlotte**—Love—for demonstrating love of learning by always putting 100% effort into all that she does in order to fulfil her potential

Children's Liturgy: Sunday is 27th Sunday of Year B.

In the Gospel we hear how special and important children were to Jesus. People were bringing their children to Jesus for his blessing, but the disciples tried to stop them. Why do you think they did this? Perhaps they thought the children would bother Jesus, that he would find them too loud or lively. Or maybe the disciples were worried that Jesus was tired or hungry and that it was time for him to rest. How did Jesus feel when he noticed what the disciples were doing? What did he say?

Jesus is angry and tells the disciples to let the children come to him. He says that the kingdom of God belongs to children like these. He says that they have a special way of looking at the world and of understanding things, which adults can learn from. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus thinks all children are important and that he wanted to listen to them? Jesus welcomed and blessed the children who came to see him. He loves us all. No matter where in the world we live. Whether we are old or young, big or small, rich or poor.

In the gospel, Jesus welcomes the children and shows the disciples how important they are. We are also called to care for children everywhere whenever we can, because we are all brothers and sisters. What will you do this week to show your love for God's children around the world

We would love to see you at 9:30am Mass on Sunday for Children's Liturgy.

Children's Liturgy Team

This week spotted: Dexter

Being a friendly to the younger children in school

Last week spotted: Evangelina

For caring for other pupils, not wanting them to be lonely

Forest School: In Forest School this week, pupils enjoyed making handmade bird feeders which were placed around different areas of Forest School.



Diary Dates:

Friday, 11th October	Hello Yellow Day—marking World Mental Health Day by wearing something yellow
Wednesday, 16th October	Open Morning from 9.30am to 11am
Friday, 18th October	School closes at 3.15pm for half term
Monday, 28th October	Inset Day
Tuesday, 29th October	School re-opens
Wednesday, 30th October	Open Morning from 9.30am to 11am
	Open Evening 5pm to 6pm—places must be booked in advance
Friday, 1st November	All Saints Mass in school at 11am
Monday, 4th November	Individual and sibling photographs
Tuesday, 5th November	Guest speaker from the Royal British Legion with Yr 6
Friday, 8th November	M&M Productions “Snow White”



Stanley Grange: Our Year 4 pupils cleared the allotment plot, harvested potatoes—they brought a large bag full back to school. They also prepared the soil for the next crops using manure.



Recent Correspondence

Please find below a list of information that has been sent out this week.

Remember to check School Spider for all communication from school:

Wednesday Word

Staff car park

CI R/1 Stay & Play 4.10.24

Online Safety Newsletter: October

PALs cookery promotion

School Meals: Week commencing 07.10.24

Cool Milk

Sunday Gospel: People were bringing little children to be with Jesus. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was annoyed and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” Then he put his arms round the children and gave them his blessing.
Mark 10: 2-16 (Wednesday Word)

Uniform for Week Commencing 07.10.24

There are **no changes** to uniform next week.

PE is on Monday for CI 5/6, Tuesday for CI 2/3/4 & Thursday for all classes.

Forest School is on Wednesday for Class R/1, Year 2 and Year 3 and Class 5/6 .

Year 4 will be going to Stanley Grange on Thursday.

Paper work: Your child may have brought home a purple Data Collection sheet. Could we ask you to complete all the details and return it to school so that our records are up to date with any changes.

Class photographs have also been sent home. Orders can be placed online or via the school office.



DOUGHNUT SALE FRIDAY 18TH OCT



£1 each
or 12 for £10

EMAIL YOUR ORDER TO
BRINDLESTJOSEPHSPTFA1@GMAIL.COM
BY FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER

PLEASE PUT MONEY IN AN ENVELOPE AND GIVE TO MRS COX





SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SECONDARY SOUTH

Do you have a child starting
secondary school in September 2025
and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 31 October 2024

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school. Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call **01772 532109**.

**HAVE
YOUR SAY**

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.

[lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk)



Lancashire
County
Council





SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

SOUTH

Do you have a child starting
primary school in September 2025
and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2025

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery. Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning
the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call **01772 532109**.

**HAVE
YOUR SAY**

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRcon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.10.2024