

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 28.02.25

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

## Headteacher's Weekly Round Up:

Well what a week it has been for Year 6! They have completed their residential at the Anderton Centre where they tried sailing, paddle boarding and rafting. Staff reported that the children were fabulous ambassadors for St Joseph's in the way that they conducted themselves sensibly and maturely during the stay. We are very proud of them! A huge thank you to Miss Bottomley and Mrs Edgerley for giving up their time so generously.

They then got to spend a day in London, visiting the Palace of Westminster, meeting Sir Lindsay Hoyle at Speaker's House, observing in both the House of Lords and the House of Commons and sharing a train with lots of other children from schools across Chorley. It was a long and tiring but very memorable day. The children were an absolute delight. I thoroughly enjoyed their company and was very impressed by their wonderful behaviour. Another big thank you to Miss Bottomley.

We also need to say a big thank you to Mrs Cox. Behind the scenes she enables these experiences to go ahead by taking care of all the admin, payments, bookings and correspondence.

We are very blessed at St Joseph's with a super staff team who, this week, are more than ready for a restful weekend!

Mrs Brownsey

### School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	91.5%	95.9%
Yr 1	99.2%	96.7%
Yr 2	98.2%	96%
Yr 3	97.8%	94.5%
Yr 4	96.4%	95.4%
Yr 5	93.5%	95.4%
Yr 6	98.7%	97.7%
Total	96.3%	96%

### Sunday Gospel: Jesus told a parable to his disciples.

"Why do you observe the splinter in your friend's eye and never notice the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your friend, 'Friend, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye,' when you cannot see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your friend's eye. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. You can tell what a tree is like by the fruit it produces. You cannot pick figs or grapes from brambles. A good person does good things out of the good stored up in their heart; a bad person does bad things out of the badness in their heart, Your words show what is in your heart."

Luke 6: 39-45 (Wednesday Word)

### This week spotted by pupils: Darcy F

For being a kind friend

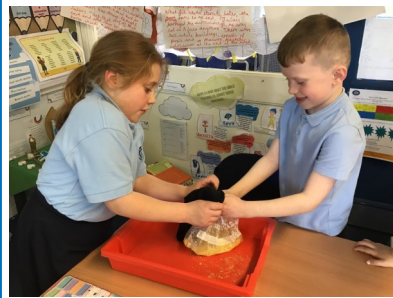
### Happy Birthday this week to:

Ava, Thomas, Arla & Rowan

### Forest School: There will no Forest School sessions

for pupils in Cl 2/3/4 and Cl 5/6 this half term. Forest School sessions will take place again after the Easter holiday but we will send a reminder out nearer the time. Pupils in Cl 5/6 should come in uniform on a Wednesday and Cl 2/3/4 on a Friday.

**Classroom Round Up:** It has been another busy week of fun-filled learning in **Class R/1!** Art week is always popular among the class. The children have been creating a range of different spiral themed pieces inspired by the work of outdoor artist, Molly Haslund. The children particularly enjoyed creating some continuous line spiral drawings on the playground using chalk and pastels. Hoghton Tower was the theme of this week's history lesson. The children worked hard to explain why the tower is a local landmark, as well as having a go at building their own Hoghton Tower in the construction area. Phonics wise, Reception have been focusing on Miss Oh No's 'oa' digraph in the words loaf, road, boat, soap, and



toad. Tricky Witch has not fooled Year One this week as they have been mastering the tricky 'are' and 'ph' sounds.

What a fantastic, busy week in **Class 2/3/4!** The children especially enjoyed our science lesson this week, where we created a model of the digestive system. It was very messy but a lot of fun! In English, we have read and enjoyed the play script, Julius Caesar and have started writing our own versions of Claudius' invasion of Britain. In RE, we learnt about the miracle of feeding the 5000, retelling the story through a letter to our friends. The children loved reenacting the battle of Boudicca and the Romans in history and retold the important events.



Well, what a week it has been! Fun, adventure and teamwork were all evident for **Year 6** this week as they embarked on their residential. The children were absolutely amazing in relation to both their behaviour and resilience. It was lovely to see them flourish when faced with challenges such as the leap of faith and tree climb. We also had our trip to London in order to visit the Houses of Parliament. Again, the children were fabulous and really did St Joseph's proud.

**Year 5** have also had a very busy week in school as they had play leaders training on Tuesday which they thoroughly enjoyed. They have also been busy with studying the 'Listeners' poem in English and working hard in maths, well done Year 5. All of the children also got one final treat on Friday afternoon as they watched the theatre production of Wizard of Oz. I am not sure how we are going to beat this week but hopefully some amazing memories have been made!



## Mutual Respect & Tolerance

We understand that each of us is unique. We all deserve to be respected and included, no matter our personal choices or how we choose to present ourselves.





**Award Winners**

**CI R/1:**

Dojo Champion: **Cal**

School Values/Mission: **Oscar**—Kindness—for always looking out for his classmates and making sure that they are safe and happy, particularly on the play-ground

**CI 2/3:/4**

Dojo Champion: **Bobby**

School Values/Mission: **Alice** —Resilience—for demonstrating excellent resilience in maths and producing fantastic work to the best of her ability

**CI 5/6:**

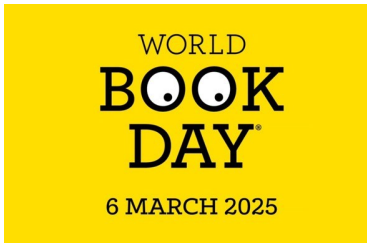
Dojo Champion: **Florence**

School Values/Mission: **Isla** —Resilience—for having the confidence to take on new challenges during the Year 6 residential to the Anderton Centre!

**World Book Day:** Thursday (March 6th) is World Book Day and we will be celebrating this annual event in school. Our theme this year will be nature, space and universe.

Pupils who would like to dress up can wear something which follows our theme or links to a character, or a book whose universe or world they would like to be part of. If pupils have the book which has inspired their costume, they can bring it into school to share with their classmates.

Children in Year 1 can bring their Forest School kit with them to school to get changed into. As usual, pupils will also be taking part in PE so will need to bring their kits with them.



**Reminders:** Just a reminder that on PE days, pupils should come to school in their uniform and bring their kit with them to get changed into. **For CI R/1 this is on Wednesday and Thursday; for CI 2/3/4 on Thursday & Friday and for CI 5/6 on Thursday and Friday.**

As stated in our Uniform Policy, children should not be wearing any jewellery—earrings, bracelets or necklaces. However, children can wear an inexpensive watch.



**Pope Francis:** I urge you to continue your apostolate with joy and to be a sign of a love that embraces everyone. May we transform evil into goodness and build a fraternal world. Do not be afraid to take risks for love!

**Travel Agents:** if you have any of the following items that you no longer need and would be willing to donate to school, Miss Ollerton would be grateful of them for the class role play area:

- Globes & maps
- Sunglasses, hats, flipflops
- Old suitcases or luggage bags
- Holiday brochures, leaflets or books
- Old or broken cameras



**Stanley Grange:**

Our Year 1 pupils tidied up our Forest School area on Thursday with Ben, Paul and Adam from Stanley Grange. They talked about why it is important to look after this area and thought about the different habitats that appeal to hedgehogs, birds and other wildlife. Together, they also thought about other ways to enhance this space with plants and bird boxes.



## Recent Correspondence

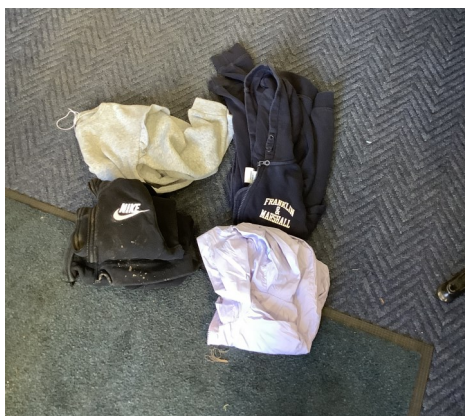
Please find below a list of information that has been sent out this week:  
Yr 6 London trip information  
Dance Club: 04.03.25  
Cl 2/3/4 Multi Sports  
Cl R/1 space-themed activities  
Jam Coding Club  
Multi-Sports Club  
School Meals for 04.03.25

**Ash Wednesday:** Fr Raphael will be leading our service in school on Wednesday morning at 11am. Parents and family members are welcome to join us. Please make your way to the main gate and we will let you into the school hall.

**PTFA Events:** The next fund-raising family event is Easter Bingo which will take place on Friday, 28th March. More details about tickets will be sent out soon. There will be a non-uniform day on Friday, 21st March. In exchange for coming in their own clothes, we would like pupils to bring in an Easter egg which will then be used as prizes for the bingo.



**Lost Property:** The items pictured have all been left in lost property box in the entrance hall. If you spot anything that belongs to your child, please come and collect it as the box will be emptied completely next Friday (March 7th) and anything left will be put in the recycling container or thrown away. Can we remind you to put your child's name in any clothing items that come into school, as well as on lunch boxes and water bottles too.



**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday is 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year - Jesus is talking to the disciples – he talks about seeing a tiny speck of dust in someone else's eye, but not seeing the great wooden log in our own. Can anyone guess what Jesus means here? Jesus is saying it is much easier to notice the mistakes that others make, than it is to realise when we have made a mistake or done something wrong ourselves.

Jesus tell his disciples that they must take the log out of their own eye before they can take the speck out of someone else's. He is saying we must change the way we act before we can expect anyone else to change.

It's not always easy to change the way we act but perhaps we can all try this week.

Who do you think can help us to make this change? God can help us. If we let him, God will fill our hearts with goodness and love, hope, courage and generosity.

This year is a special Jubilee Year and we are called to be "Pilgrims of Hope". There are all kinds of problems in our world, like poverty and hunger and climate change, but through our actions and the way we speak to others we can share hope as we all work together for a better world.

How will you use the store of goodness in your heart? How will you speak out and make changes to be the best person you can be and make the world a better place for others?

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

Children's Liturgy Team



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
12

ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

### IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a £10 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict whom your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

### VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendos and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

### FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Hela, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

### MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



### DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.



### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor at the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.

