

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

October 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this month's newsletter. The new school year has well and truly started and the children have been working very hard in lessons. It has been a pleasure welcoming our new families in Early Years and those families who have joined us in other year groups. I hope that you will enjoy being part of our special school community.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Parent Consultation Meetings. It was a wonderful opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher and share key information about your child's learning. I am sure that you are all looking forward to a well-deserved two week half-term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 03 November**.

Please note we are continuing to work very hard to get our new website back online and we hope to achieve this as soon as we can after half-term. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs M Murphy

The Rosary:

October is the month of the Rosary. In school during assemblies and class collective worship, we



have been exploring and praying parts of the Rosary with the children. We ask parents and children to continue to pray the Hail Mary at home as a family.

Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen



Diocesan Schools' Mass

The annual Diocesan Schools' Mass was celebrated on **Friday 10 October** with **Canon Michael Harrison**. Pupils and staff representatives from all the schools in the diocese gathered together in St Mary's Church, Dunstable.



This was a wonderful opportunity to gather together to share our faith and to celebrate our Catholic Schools.



High School Applications!

As the deadline for applications is fast approaching we would like to remind you of the following if you have not already sent in your application:

- ◆ Please state **3 different school preferences** to ensure that you are not allocated a school you do not want.
- ◆ Complete the supplementary form and obtain the certificate of Catholic Practice from your local priest.

Your application must be submitted by 31 October, otherwise it will be deemed a late application and will impact on your choice of school.

Apply for your
secondary school
place



Let's Get Cooking!

Spinach, Mushroom and Onion Lasagne

While traditional Italian lasagne features ragù, béchamel and Parmigiano-Reggiano hugged between layers of pasta, Italian immigrants brought their favourite variations to America beginning in the late 1800s. While some prefer a meatier sauce made with pork or ground beef, others added roasted vegetables and spinach to the layers. Please send a review and any photos to familyworkers@stjosephs.primaryluton.co.uk

The recipe is attached as a separate PDF as our website is currently unavailable.



Harvest

Millions of families continue to face a food crisis due to a range of factors, such as climate change, conflict and other factors which means that food prices are skyrocketing. All around the world including here, in the UK, families are finding it harder than ever to put food on the table.

As part of our school Harvest celebrations we asked for donations of non-perishable foods so that we can deliver to NOAH, a Luton based charity who seek to help the most disadvantaged in the local community and Caritas who rely heavily on donations. Thank you as always for your generosity, as we understand how difficult it is for all families at this time.

Every donation is gratefully received and will make a real difference to those



Year 6 Norfolk Lakes and Activity Week



Year 6 have had a busy half term. The children who attended the residential to Norfolk Lakes had a great time and really enjoyed the variety of activities which were on offer. Firm favourites were stand up paddle boarding, giant canoe, climbing and fencing.

Meanwhile back at school the remaining children enjoyed a day at Mead Open Farm, a visit to Cineworld and pizza making.

What a great start to Year 6!



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ParentMail:

ParentMail is our main source of communication to parents and carers and we would advise, for ease of access and instant notifications, that the **ParentMail App** is downloaded to all mobile devices.



We would also like to remind parents and carers to update any changes to their email or mobile numbers via the app, just open the main menu, click on your name and choose settings, personal details and you can then amend your details.

Please note that all Parent Evening appointments must be booked through the ParentMail App and not via the class teacher. The booking system is open for one week in order for parents to book a convenient appointment. We do our best to accommodate parents however, we are unable to make appointments on the day.

If you are having any difficulty accessing ParentMail then please contact the KS2 office who will be happy to help you.

Contact details, pupil medical and food allergen information:

Please ensure that all your telephone numbers and address details **are correct** and **regularly updated**, in particular changes to mobile numbers. **This is extremely important in the event of an emergency.**

It is also essential that you advise the school of any medical conditions relating to your child and that you keep the school updated of any changes to medication for our records.



We also need to ensure that allergen information/intolerances to certain foods are current and would ask parents and carers to keep us updated for any changes as the caterers prepare individual menus for children who have been highlighted. This is extremely important and we thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Black History Month:

Black History Month is widely regarded as one of the most prominent cultural celebrations of the year. Honouring the contribution made to society by people of Black heritage and their communities, Black History Month is a time to educate and enrich the world with the importance of Black history.

The theme this year is **"Standing Firm in Power and Pride,"** focusing on the resilience and achievements of the Black community. We are proud to celebrate Black identity and excellence whilst recognising the power of collective action and progress.

In school we have been taking part in a range of activities to promote awareness.

