



# NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB  
admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk Tel: 01666 822331

**Friday 12th July 2024**

## Interim Co-Headteachers' message



## **Interim Co-Head-teachers message**

This week's Gospel asks us to think about God's call. How do we hear his voice above the hustle and bustle of our busy world? During worship on Thursday the children were led in meditation to enable a small piece of quiet and reflection during this busy week.

Myself and Mr Bacon look forward to seeing you all this evening at the Summer Fete from 4pm.

## **St Joseph's Nursery**

St Joseph's are exploring the possibility of opening a nursery in January 2025. In order for the Governors to make an informed decision we are launching a questionnaire opening today and throughout the summer holidays to enable us to see what need there is in Malmesbury and whether a nursery at St. Joseph's could meet that need.

## **This provision will:**

- cater for children between the ages of two and four
- be within the secure school building
- have purpose-built toilets and intimate care provision for the nursery
- have access to an established excellent early years (EYFS) outdoor provision
- have access to the school's extensive land and outdoor facilities
- be led by an experienced early years practitioner and overseen by a qualified teacher
- cater for a hot lunch at a small additional cost
- have access to wrap-around care before and after school for 3- and 4-year-olds.

## **Provisional times are:**

Breakfast club – 7:30am - 9am

Session 1: 9am – 12pm

Lunch session: 12 – 12:30pm

Session 2: 12:30pm – 3:30pm

After school club – 3:30pm – 6pm

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### **Funding options available**

15 hours Universal funding for 3 and 4 year olds

30 hours working parent funded hours for 3 and 4 year olds

15 hours working parent funded hours for 2 year olds (changing to 30 hours in September 2025)

Self-funding for 2 year old and 3 and 4 year olds

Please share the link for the questionnaire in order to gain as wide a response as possible.

<https://forms.office.com/e/XVt53wfrMd?origin=lprLink>



### **Chess**

A message from Paul Girdlestone, the Regional Organiser for Chess In Schools and Communities:

As the School year, and the Chess Club, nears its end, Chess In Schools and Communities (CSC) typically organise an end of year event which, at St Joseph's, has taken the form of a Club championship. For most children, this has been their first such organised event and a few notes and 'snapshots' follow:

- Each of the five weeks has been notable with children remaining silent whilst each round was in progress allowing other players to think on their moves.
- Re organising the tables and chairs has been a task that children set themselves to on arrival, equally returning the classroom back to how they found it.
- Successful players were able to implement those tips (I have given) to all since starting. Consideration for the other players who might still be playing was evident with setting up pieces once any game finished before moving away quietly until round time expired.

This tournament is ideal for children as it rewards point thresholds achieved with prizes, the more points the more potential prizes. Every child is sure of receiving at least 2 such prizes regardless of how successful they may have been.

Competitively this lived up to all these tournaments should be, with it remaining unclear until yesterday's final round, who would become the boys and girls champion. Potentially there were up to 7 who might have done so although Marcos would have needed to have been beaten in his final round to alter the destination of overall Champion. On the girls side this was hotly contested with final round matches giving every opportunity for several to win the Girl's trophy. In the end a win by Felicity earned her this place keeping just ahead of Qinyi who finished strongly.

In summary EVERY child did extremely well, they were well behaved and applied themselves well to this challenge the prizes of course were popular.

### **Y6 SATs results – Headline news**

This year's Y6 cohort have worked extremely hard throughout the year and we are very proud of all their achievements. The School's official SAT results will be published once all data has been validated and officially published in December.

However, the provisional results show that, based on the 2023 National Average (NA):

- \* In Reading, Writing, Maths and Grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) St Joseph's are in line or above the NA
- \* St Joseph's is significantly above NA at expected and greater depth in Reading
- \* St Joseph's is above the NA at greater depth in all subjects and significantly above in maths, reading and GPS

### **Malmesbury Carnival - 31st August 2024.**

As outlined by Kirsty Martin at the IEB Parent Forum Meeting on Thursday, we would like to enter St Joseph's into the Malmesbury Carnival as a walking float. The theme for this year is Athelstan and our plan is that we invite children from the school and from Oh Athelstan to join and either lip-sync or sing excerpts from the musical. Please note - all children are invited (along with any parents who would like to join us). Our plan is that the children will wear their costumes from our immersion week or Oh Athelstan.

So that we can assess interest in joining this, please complete the online form by Friday 19th July.

<https://forms.office.com/e/P5KnBXw61u>

### **Last Day of Term**

A reminder that school closes at 1.30pm on Wednesday 24th July, the last day of this academic year. Our Opportunities Club will be open for bookings from 1.30pm. Please contact the school office if you need to book after school childcare on that day.

### **Oh! Athelstan Reflection**

St Joseph's school choir performed Oh! Athelstan in Malmesbury Abbey on Friday 28th June to over 250 people to start the Athelstan 1100 celebrations in the town. Our children sang and behaved beautifully, made several audience members cry because their singing was so poignant, and received a standing ovation at the end. Well done to all the children who took part, you were a real credit to your school! Mrs Cambray-Smith



**This week's Wednesday Word is LISTENING.**

"Open up your heart and listen to what God is saying to you." Pope Francis.

The Wednesday Word is available on our website: [www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/](http://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/)



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## WOW moments across the school!

*"Pupils enjoy coming to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. They find lessons interesting. Pupils are eager to talk about their learning. They feel safe to make mistakes and to learn from them" OFSTED March 2023*

Here is just a snap shot of the exciting, wonderful work and activities going on across the school this week.

### St Teresa - Miss Just:

On Tuesday Year 2 had their end of KS1 graduation. They all read out a speech explaining what their favourite moments in KS1 have been and were all incredibly brave when up on the stage. Thank you so much to all of the families who came along and to everyone for all of your support over the last 3 years of the children being in our class. I am incredibly proud of all the year 2s and the journey that they have been on. Happy Graduation!



### St Scholastica - Mr Heavey:

Our Wow moments this week were:

Alisia - "Getting my SATs results and seeing how well I've done."

Lux - "Setting up for the school fete and designing our posters."

Alfie J - "Production practise because we are getting better and better each day."

Christina - "I enjoyed forest school because Alisia lit the fire on the second try and we got marshmallows."

### St Lawrence - Mr Wilkinson:

This week our WOW moment has been gathering together all of the information regarding what we have learnt about the Anglo Saxons in the past 3 weeks, and putting together a poster showcasing this information. The children have been working together in groups effectively and have created beautiful and informative posters as a result. They have also been researching more information on the iPads to develop an even greater understanding of the art and culture of the Anglo-Saxons.



### St Francis - Miss Thomson:

Over the last few weeks we have really enjoyed taking part in all the brilliant Athelstan 1100 activities. With those weeks coming to an end we finally got to share our answer to King Athelstan's question "Why was Malmesbury important during King Athelstan's reign?". In order to answer this we made models of Malmesbury to demonstrate why it was such a great place for Athelstan to live. The children worked together to make the models and shared a fantastic presentation with the rest of the school.



## Summer Holiday Club Bookings



There are only 8 school days left until the end of the academic year! Don't forget to book your holiday childcare in our Summer Holiday Club, running from 25th July to 9th August from 8am-6pm with the exception of Fridays when it will close at 4pm (26th July, 2nd and 9th Aug). The summer holiday club is always popular with both St Joseph's and non St Joseph's children so please return your booking forms to the office early to secure your place.

## Free school meals

Who is entitled to free school meals?

All infant school children, those in reception, year 1 and year 2 have been entitled to free school meals since September 2014. Just tell your school that you want your child or children to have free school meals.

If your infant child would have been entitled to free school meals under the old system, because you are receiving qualifying benefits (listed below) the government will give your school a Pupil Premium of £1,480 for primary-aged pupils (2024-2025). For children in year 7 and above, the government will give your school a Pupil Premium of £1,050.

*For the school and your child to benefit from this money we need to know that you are receiving a qualifying benefit. Please complete the claim form which is available from your school or you can download it from our downloads section.*

*For children in years 3 and above, free school meals are not provided automatically. They can be awarded only if you receive any of the following:*

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Apply online through Wiltshire Council. It is a simple process by following this link

<https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parents/free-school-meals>

If you do apply online, please can you also let the school office know, so we can assist with the application process.



The food card scheme for 2024 is now closed and all applications made have been processed. Parents / carers who have provided the foodbank with an email address, will receive an email from

**summerfood@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk on 10 July.** If they did not supply an email, we will send them a text message from **07483 107815** on the same date. They will only receive an email or a text message, they will not receive both and we encourage them to check their email spam/junk folders.

The email and the text will let them know, based on their chosen location preference, where to pick up the food cards and what times the foodbank team will be available on those dates. Which are as follows: -

Malmesbury Foodbank @ The Town Hall

Tuesday 16 July 11.30 – 12.15 and 19.30 – 20.00 Wednesday 17

July 19:00 - 20:00

Thursday 18 July 14.30 – 15.15 Friday 19 July 12:00 - 13:00

Please be reminded that teams are volunteers so, will only be available for the agreed times and dates communicated. The food cards will only be at the location they chose, and we will need them to bring identification and sign for the cards to be released. If parents/ carers cannot make any of the times and dates scheduled, please ask them to contact us, so that we can make other arrangements with them.

**If we have not been able to connect with the parents / carers, who have not claimed their food cards by 16 Aug their application will be cancelled.**

### Weekly Attendance Monday 8th — Friday 12th July

**St Teresa 98.2%**

**St Lawrence 96.8%**

**St Francis 98.1%**

**St Scholastica 94.6%**