

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS



SAFEGUARDING

Summer Term 2026

Safeguarding in school is everyone's responsibility and we take the safety and wellbeing of all in our school family very seriously. Our safeguarding team in school is led by our **Designated Safeguarding Lead- Mrs Ashton** and supported by our **Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Mr Fannan and Miss Coxon**, who work closely with staff, pupils and families to maintain a strong culture of safety, wellbeing and trust across the school. We continue to promote safe practices in every classroom, teach pupils how to stay safe both online and offline and ensure all staff receive regular training so they can confidently identify and respond to concerns.

If you as parents or carers ever have a worry about a child's safety or wellbeing, no matter how small, you can speak directly to a safeguarding lead by contacting the school office, asking to meet a member of the safeguarding team, or emailing the school -

office@stjosephsblackhall.net addressed For the Attention of Safeguarding Lead.

All concerns are taken seriously, handled sensitively and followed up promptly to ensure every child feels safe, supported and heard.

ICECATS



As part of our continued commitment to safeguarding, we regularly review our procedures to ensure they remain clear, effective and reassuring for everyone in our school community.

To support this work, last week we welcomed Jo from ICECATS, a nationally recognised organisation who specialise in helping schools develop calm, practical and child-friendly approaches to lockdown and evacuation procedures into school. During the 2 days spent with us, the children learned how to stay safe in emergency situations and what to do to remain calm. All of the children enjoyed the activities and reported that they knew how to help themselves and others in an emergency.

YEAR 3 PEDESTRIAN TRAINING 2026

Year 3 pupils have been taking part in Pedestrian Training, developing essential skills to help them stay safe near roads. Through practical activities, children are learning how to cross safely, recognise potential hazards, and make sensible decisions as pedestrians. This training is an important step in building their confidence and independence, encouraging them to be aware of their surroundings and understand their responsibility for keeping themselves safe when out in the community. We look forward to further sessions.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We ask that you continue to keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers as they continue their faith journey towards making their First Holy Communion.

The children will make their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 27th June at St. Joseph's Church in Blackhall at 10am.**



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YEAR 6 SATS

Our year 6 children will be sitting SATs tests from **Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026**. They have been working extremely hard and we are sure that they will make themselves proud and show off all they can do during this time.



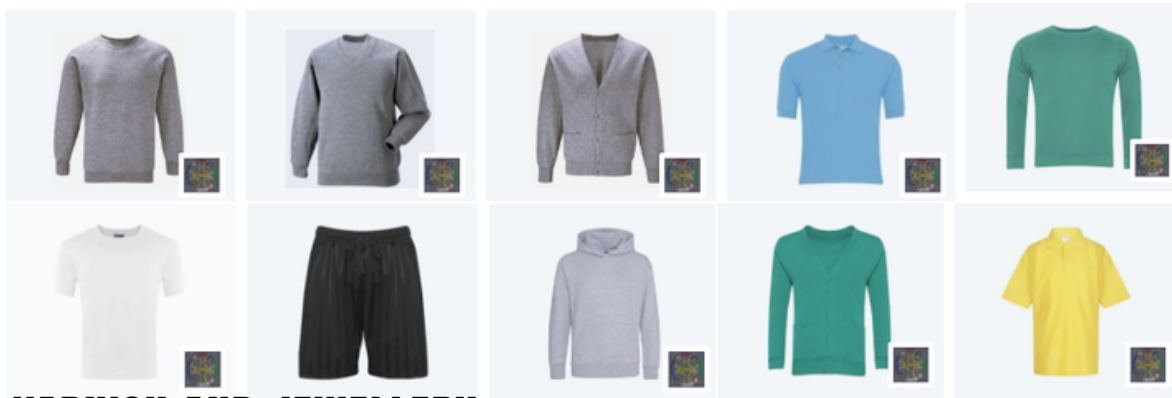
Summer Term 2026

CONDUCT ON SITE

A reminder for all parents and carers to adhere to the Parents' Code of Conduct at all times when on the school site. This helps ensure a safe, respectful and positive environment for our pupils, staff and wider school community. Please can we remind you there is to be no smoking or vaping on site and please be mindful of your choice of language. The full Parents' Code of Conduct is available on the school website, and we encourage all families to read and follow it. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we enter the Summer Term we would like to remind you to please ensure that children wear the correct uniform to school. During the summer term, summer dresses (blue and white dresses or green and white for Little J's only) and grey shorts can also be worn as part of our school uniform. Uniform items can be purchased from our supplier, if you wish, at <https://totstoteams.com/schools/st-josephs-catholic-primary-school-blackhall/>



NAIL VARNISH AND JEWELLERY

We ask for your cooperation in making sure that children do not wear nail varnish, earrings or any other jewellery to school. These items are not part of our uniform policy and when worn can be dangerous.

MAY MONTH OF MARY

The month of May is dedicated to Mary, the patron saint of our school, and this special month invites us to pause and reflect on her example of faith, kindness, and service. Throughout May, we honour Mary through prayer, reflection and simple acts of compassion, asking her to guide and inspire our school community. As the patron saint of our federated school, Mary reminds us to care for one another and to live out our values with love and generosity each day.



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SUMMER WEATHER

Summer Term 2026

As the weather becomes warmer, we kindly ask for your support in helping children stay safe and comfortable at school. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing suntan lotion, as staff are unable to apply it for them. Children should also bring a sun hat to protect them during outdoor activities. In addition, every child should have a water bottle so they can stay well hydrated throughout the day. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children happy, healthy and comfortable during the summer months.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 4th May- Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Friday 8th May - David Attenborough's 100th Birthday - a Picnic Lunch offered to pupils

Monday 11th May- Thursday 14th May- SATs Week

Monday 18th May -Piece of Mind Team Coffee afternoon (Theme of Anxiety)- 2.15-3.15pm
in the school hall

Wednesday 20th -Friday 22nd May- Year 6 residential to Robinwood

Wednesday 20th May- Class 3 Assembly 9:10am in the school hall

Thursday 21st May- Class 1 Mass

Monday 25th May-Friday 29th May- **School Closed for Half Term Holiday**

Monday 1st June- **School Re-opens**

Thursday 4th June- Class 3 Celebration of the Word 9:10am in the school hall

Thursday 11th June- Class 4 Careers Teambuilding Workshop

Friday 12th June- Class 2 educational visit to Hardwick Park

Thursday 18th June- Class 2 Assembly 9:10am in the school hall

Thursday 25th June- Careers Afternoon (Details to follow)

Friday 26th June- Sports Day (Details to follow)

Tuesday 30th June- Year 5 residential to Beamish

Thursday 2nd July- Careers Coffee Afternoon (Details to follow)

Friday 3rd July- **School Closed Teacher Training Day**

Tuesday 7th July- Reception Class Leavers' Assembly 9:10am in the school hall

Thursday 9th July -Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9.10am in the school hall

Thursday 16th July- Year 6 Leavers' Mass 9:10am

Friday 17th July- **Break up for Summer Holiday (Children finish at lunchtime)**



Children return to school on Wednesday 2nd September 2026