

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



*We belong to the family of St. Joseph's School. We love, live, learn and celebrate together,
building God's Kingdom with Jesus, Our Lord*

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21st March 2025

Events

Week commencing 24 March	Parents Evening
27 March	Y1/2 Liturgy
28 March	Y1/2 Trip to Shildon Railway Museum
3 April 2.45pm	Music Recital Liturgy
10 April 2.45pm	Rainbow Awards/Liturgy
11 April 2.45 pm	Stations of the Cross
11 April	Break up for Easter
28 April	Return to school
1 May 10.30	Feast Day Mass at St Joseph's Church
12 May all week	KS2 Sats
13 May 8.40am	School Nurse Drop in
4 - 6 June	Y6 Lakes Residential
20 June	Sports Day & Family Picnic
27 June	Y6 Youth Festival
9 July 1.30pm	Leavers Play
11 July 2.30pm	Leavers Assembly
Week commencing 14 July	Y6 Transition to secondary school
17 July 9.15am	Celebration Assembly
17 July 2pm	End of Year Mass
17 July	Break up for Summer

Dear Parents/Carers,

The sun is shining and the workmen have almost completed the work in our garden after some delay due to the rain.

You may have noticed the new flowerbeds and these will be planted by the children in the coming weeks. This is all about taking care of our environment and will also link to our recycling incentive. Watch out for posters around the school but we will recycle fruit from breaktimes into our new compost bins.

Y6 have been going national. In the last couple of weeks, they have joined online seminars linked to STEM and Space and from the hundreds of participating schools each time they were chosen to ask questions.

The school held a special liturgy for the Year of Hope with the arrival of the travelling pilgrim cross that will travel from one Trust school to another taking with it the prayers from each school. The cross was passed onto St. Bega's to continue the journey.

The children have been working hard learning songs for our musical recital next week to which you are all welcome. This will be followed the following week by Stations of the Cross as we finish the term and leading into Holy Week.

Mass times for Easter in the parish are attached in our newsletter.

Mrs D Hargreaves

Headteacher

Class News – Y6 Y6 have worked hard recently. We participated in a Teams call with Helen Sharman- the first British astronaut and were able to ask her a question. The children have started their new Reading topic which is about The Explorer by Katherine Rundell. They have worked hard on their predictions. We will be finishing up on our Selfish Giant writing topic, which the children have excelled in, and will be moving on to 'The Day the War Came' by Nicola Davies. Throughout Science, the children have begun to look at Gravity and Forces. Y6 have begun their new History topic (Victorian Britain: The Industrial Revolution) and will continue this after the next half-term. The children have sat some practise SATs tests and have been extremely motivated and focused. They are all doing so well and should be proud of their hard work.

Class News – Y4/5 It's unbelievable that the half-term is already halfway through! The children have finished creating their own adventure stories for their current English writing task. Chris Hadfield's The Darkest Dark, which tells the story of a youngster who overcame his fear and became an astronaut, is their next writing topic. In order to reinforce this theme, the children recently had the chance to participate in an online 'Rockets for All' session where they had the chance to meet the first British astronaut, Helen Sharman. In maths, they will continue to learn about fractions. The next topic that they will focus on in RE is Lent. In science, they will set up a test to recognise that soils are made from rock and organic matter and make careful observations. The children have started to practise their chosen song for the upcoming music recital.

Class News - Year 3 / 4. This week the year 3 / 4 have been exploring different Roman artefacts and carrying out research on archaeological sites including Hadrian's Wall, creating information brochures. Also, they have been using the skill of classification in science to categorise living things such as animals, plants and humans. Last week Year 3/4 liturgy was based around the modern-day saint Carlo Acutis which the pupils enjoyed learning about.

Class News – Year 1 / 2 Year ½ have been learning about Living Things in their science topic so far this half term. They have looked at different animal adaptations and been watching caterpillars grow. In English, they have been reading Little Red Riding Hood and retelling the story. They started an exciting History topic looking at George Stephenson. They are all excited to learn more about the railway and George Stephenson on their visit to Shildon next week. Year 1 have been focusing on place value and numbers to fifty in maths while year 2 have been learning about money. They have all had a great start to Spring 2.

Class News – EYFS

In EYFS children have been introduced to our new focus book, Jack and the Beanstalk fairytale. They are learning to order the story and to retell it independently. We have been writing lots and learning how to pick up and hold a pencil with our 'nippers' so we can begin to master a 'tripod' grip with our thumb and first two fingers. We have been singing number songs, matching numerals to amounts and learning how to group items in different ways. We are finding out about odd and even numbers and their composition. In phonics we are practising writing small words with three letters and learning words 'on sight' which are tricky to sound out. We are practising forming our letters correctly every day. Nursery children are focusing on numbers within 5 and ordering them, and beginning to recognise amounts without counting. In RE we are focusing on the period of Lent, and all children have looked at growth through changes such as chicks hatching and seeds growing - they are linking this to their personal growth in making Lenten promises about how we can grow in our love for God through our words and actions.

HOLY WEEK - Last year, with the exception of the Easter Vigil, we celebrated the Sacred Triduum together as a Parish at St Joseph's Church. St Joseph's was chosen because of its centrality in the town and also because of its capacity. This year, at the Easter Vigil, we will welcome a number of new members into our community of faith. For this reason, it will not be possible to celebrate two Easter Vigils. So that each Church of our Parish can have a Mass on Easter Sunday, the times of the regular Sunday Masses will be adjusted slightly for Easter Sunday only. Please save these dates for your diary.

Date	Service	Church	Time
Maundy Thursday 17/04	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Joseph's	6.30pm
Good Friday 18/04	Solemn Passion of the Lord	St Joseph's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday 19/04	Easter Vigil Mass	St Joseph's	6.30pm
Easter Sunday 20/04	Easter Sunday Mass	St Patrick's	8.30am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St Joseph's	10.00am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St John Vianney's	11.30am

The School Day

The children need to be in school by 8:40am so that they are ready and in class to start the school day by 8.50am. The gates to the playground are locked at 8:45am. We would ask that the children do not play on the field or equipment before school, if it has rained the children will end up being wet and muddy for the day.

You will appreciate that we have procedures in place to keep the children safe in school and as they leave the building. If you are not able to pick your child up the school needs to hold details of who is collecting the child, their details and a safe word. Please return the form that has been sent separately.

Children who attend any after school clubs will be brought out onto the playground entrance at the end of a session and the not the front door for safety reasons.

Rashes and skin infections	Recommended period to be kept away from school, nursery or childminders
Athlete's foot	None
Chickenpox*	Until all vesicles have crusted over
Cold sores, (Herpes simplex)	None
German measles (rubella)*	Four days from onset of rash (as per "Green Book")
Hand, foot and mouth	None
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment
Measles*	Four days from onset of rash
Molluscum contagiosum	None
Ringworm	Exclusion not usually required
Roseola (infantum)	None
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment
Scarlet fever*	Child can return 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment
Slapped cheek (fifth disease or parvovirus B19)	None once rash has developed
Shingles	Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Warts and verrucae	None
Diarrhoea and vomiting illness	Recommended period to be kept away from school, nursery or childminders
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting

Attendance

We appreciate that from time to time that children are ill but attendance at school is really important.

Attached is an overview of some of the guidance regarding illness.

Uniform Reminders

All uniform MUST be labelled

School policy is that the children should **not** wear earrings. All long hair should be tied up. PE is on a Friday – PE kits needed in school (yellow t shirt, black shorts, black plimsols). We ask that children wear the correct school uniform and sensible shoes.

Fun activities to do whilst travelling to school!

Hartlepool Sport and Move Mania has created free resources for families and children, to use on their journey to and from school. The activities include games, quizzes etc and can be accessed by visiting.

<https://www.hartlepoolsport.co.uk/moveamaniachallenge>



For safety reasons please do not park in the school car park unless you have an appointment with a member of staff.

God of Life,

Help us to see how important and special everyone in our school family is– no matter who they are, or what they look like or where they are from.

Teach us to treat everyone in our global family with love and respect and help us to see something special in each person every day.

Amen

Prayer written by our Head Students January 2024

The Parish of the Holy Family, Hartlepool

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Term Dates 2024-2025	
Monday 2nd September 2024	PD Day School closed to children
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	PD Day School closed to children
Wednesday 4 th September 2024	Return to School
Thursday 24th October 2024	Break up for half term
Friday 25 th October 2024	PD Day School closed to children
Break Up Friday 25th October 2024 – Return – Monday 4th November 2024	Half Term
Break Up – Friday 20th December 2024 Return – Monday 6 th January 2025	Christmas Holidays:
Break Up – Friday 21st February 2025 Return – Monday 3 rd March 2025	February Half Term:
Break Up – Friday 11th April 2025 Return – Monday 28 th April 2025	Easter Holiday
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday
W/C 12 th May 2025	KS2 SATS
Break Up – Friday 23rd May 2025 Return – Monday 2nd June 2025	Half Term
Thursday 17th July 2025	Break up for Summer