

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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24th January 2025

Facebook: St Josephs Catholic Primary School, Hartlepool

Events	
30 January 2.45pm	Liturgy - Cancelled
3 February morning	Y1/2 Hartlepool Museum visit
6 February 2.45 pm	Y1/2 Liturgy
13 February 2.45pm	Reception Liturgy
18 February morning	Y1/2 Art Gallery visit
20 February 2.45pm	Music Recital
21 February	Break up
3 March	Return to school
6 March	World Book Day
6 March 2.45pm	Y4/5 Liturgy
Week commencing 10 March	Parents Evening
11 March 8.40am	School Nurse Drop in
11 March 9.30am	Mass in School led by Y3/4
13 March 2.45pm	Y6 Liturgy
19 March 10am	Whole School at Church
20 March 2.45 pm	Y3/4 Liturgy
27 March 2.45 pm	Y4/5 Liturgy
28 March	Y1/2 Trip to Shildon Railway Museum
3 April 2.45pm	Reception Liturgy

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today we have started our theme of Pilgrim of Hope. In this Jubilee Year Pope Francis reminding us that hope is never lost because it is rooted in Jesus Christ and he encourages us to “restore a climate of hope and trust,” walking together toward renewal and rebirth. The Pope opened the Holy door in Rome, the Diocese has one at the cathedral in Newcastle and at St Joseph's Church in Hartlepool.

As a school we have our own Holy Door, our front door. When you walk through the door we invite you to say a prayer or think of someone who needs help. In school we will also have a display in the school hall and we will invite the children to do the same each time they walk into the hall.

This term we will be having a big push on attendance. We realise that children are ill from time to time but attendance should be over 95% to be at national average. If attendance falls below this we will continue to follow our procedure which include phone calls, visits, meeting and referral to the local authority. Missing school does impact of learning as the work missed may not be covered again that term.

Some of our older children have had falling out when using social media apps. We do remind the children about being safe online and thinking about what they say to each other. As a school it is very difficult for us to deal with matters that happen outside of school time. Our website has a number of links to support you and our children to stay safe when online.

Mrs D Hargreaves

Headteacher

Class News – Y6 Year 6 have begun their new topics of Spring term. Within Maths, they have already completed their Ratio topic and have now moved on to Decimals. Within English, they have moved away from the Windrush and are now looking at The Selfish Giant by Oscar Wilde- they will be writing narratives, descriptions and use figurative language devices such as personification. Within Reading, they are still looking at Oscar Wilde and reading the book 'The Happy Prince and Other Tales'. They will be focusing on using evidence from the text to support their inferences. Y6 have enjoyed using PowerPoint and Teams within Computing to present research to the rest of the class. They have used this within Geography and RE. The children have completed their Geography topic of USA and are now moving onto their History topic 'Victorians and the Industrial Revolution'. Within Science, the children have begun their Earth and Space unit. We have looked at the planets in our solar system and will be looking at the phases of the moon in our next lesson. They have all been working brilliantly and have begun their SATs booster classes every Monday after school. Keep up the good work Year 6

Class News – Y4/5 Welcome back, Y4/5! Every child in Y4/5 has returned from the Christmas holidays with a fantastic attitude towards their work. In maths, the children have looked at multiplication and division. In addition, they are practicing their times tables, as the year 4s will take up their times table test in a couple of weeks. The more they (including Year 5s) practice on a regular basis, the better; hence, please encourage them to practice at home. In English, we have completed Beowulf and Hansel and Gretel. Now, we are moving on to Arthur and the Golden Rope and Odd and the Frost Giants. The unit's mastery focus will be to write a myth: to create characters and settings. In RE, they are learning about the local church. We have completed the climate change topic in geography and are moving on to history, and the topic they are going to focus on is the home front. Within Science, the children looked at teeth and their function. They conducted an investigation looking at the effects of sugary drinks on teeth and recorded their results. Recently, some of the Year 5s went on a residential trip and thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learnt some essential skills of doing things independently.

Class News - Year 3 / 4. Year 3 and 4 have had a good start to 2025! Our class are having lessons on the importance of health and emotional wellbeing from Alliance, this half term. It is so important children understand how to keep healthy, both physically and mentally; and I am sure they will all benefit from outside agencies helping supporting them and showing them strategies to ensure their wellbeing. In History, the children are going to learn about the Romans and in Art, the class have contributed to our Holy Doors in school. As part of the RE Curriculum, we have been learning about our local parish and the many roles that help our community. In English, we are reading 'Our Tower' and the children are developing their vocabulary skills by clarifying unknown words using dictionaries. The 'Word of the Day' is proving popular with the class, and we are trying to include this in our English writing. Developing oracy skills is a whole school focus based on the principle; if you can't say it, you can't write it. It would be great if parents/carers could try and include more complex vocabulary at home and model it to the children. Even if you think the words may be too complicated to understand, through the use of adult example, it is amazing how the children take this on board. Reading bookmarks have been sent home at the start of this term, to help parents/carers to ask questions when reading, to develop many skills needed as part of understanding texts. I appreciate, as a parent/carer, it may be difficult to know what is expected of children when reading at home. This aid will hopefully support reading and give guidance as to what the children should be able to do. When you use the reading bookmarks, please comment on this in the children's reading records. In Lower Key Stage 2, children should be reading at least 20 minutes per day and this should be recorded, in the reading records, by adults who listen to them. This is monitored in school and unfortunately many children's reading records are still not reflecting this. I cannot stress the importance of shared reading at home, as this also helps children to develop their vocabulary in their writing. I would be most grateful if the bookmarks are used daily as it will really benefit the children.

Class News – Year ½ Year ½ have been very busy this half term learning about the local area in Geography. In Science, we have been learning about the different seasons and are conducting an investigation on our local weather. In RE, we have been learning about our local church and who is part of our parish family. In Art, we have begun to explore sculpture and have been beginning to experiment with creating paper sculptures using different techniques. Our class have enjoyed taking part in the Ruby Robin Award, where we have been completing different tasks to learn more about songbirds and how they survive in the Winter. In English, we have been reading 'The Dragon Machine' and have had a mysterious nest and egg appear in our classroom. This has helped to inspire our writing.

Class News – EYFS In Reception, we have been reading 'Whatever next', all about a little bear, a space rocket and his amazing imagination. We have ordered events of the story, talked about the characters and wrote a list for our own space adventure. The children have been celebrating Chinese New Year within the classroom by learning about the meaning of this special celebration through music, movement and creative art. We have continued mastering our use of numbers to 10 through nursery rhymes, practical activities and number formation. In our outside provision, we have been exploring signs of wintertime, whilst building our gross motor skills through the use of our bikes, trikes and scooters.

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, back 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/movemaniachallenge>



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 4th September 2024	Return to School
Thursday 24th October 2024	Break up for half term
Friday 25th 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 6th January 2025	Christmas Holidays:
Break Up – Friday 21st February 2025 Return – Monday 3rd March 2025	February Half Term:
Break Up – Friday 11th April 2025 Return – Monday 28th April 2025	Easter Holiday
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday
W/C 12th 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