



Dates For Your Diary

Monday 2nd June 2025- Children return to school

Monday 2nd June- Friday 13th June 2025- Year 4 multiplication check

Monday 9th June- Friday 13th June 2025- Year 1 phonics screening check

Friday 13th June 2025- Father's Day afternoon tea from 2.30pm-3.15pm

Friday 4th July 2025 – Summer fayre from 3.15pm-5.15pm (more info to follow)

Tuesday 15th July 2025- Disco from 3.15pm-5pm

Thursday 17th July 2025- Key Stage 2 production from 2pm-3pm (more info to follow)

Friday 18th July 2025- Leavers' mass and assembly from 9.15am-11.15am

Friday 18th July 2025- Sports day and colour run from 1pm-3pm

Friday 18th July 2025- Children break up for summer holiday

Tuesday 2nd September 2025- Children return to school

Happy Birthday

to pupils celebrating their birthday during May



Oliver B
Liwia

Oliver S
Simon

Logan
Xander

Jared
Ava Mae

Anna



May Highlights

Pilgrimage Cross-

On Thursday 1st May, we welcomed the pilgrimage cross into St. Joseph's. The cross, which was created by pupils (including Kirsty from our school), is travelling through all 35 of the schools in our Trust, beginning in Lent and concluding in Eastertide. This journey moves from darkness to light, from Lent to Easter, marking a transition of faith and hope across our Trust. The passing of the cross from school to school is a symbol of our unity as Pilgrims of Hope.

World Asthma Day-

On Tuesday 6th May, our student council led an assembly on World Asthma Day. They told us all about what asthma is and why using an inhaler is important. They told us about how an inhaler relaxes the airway muscles to help and open our airways. As a result, this then makes it easier to breathe.

VE DAY Celebration-

On Thursday 8th May, we had a great day celebrating VE Day. We began with a whole school assembly lead by the student council. They told us all about the importance of VE day. Father Cornforth brought a member of the parish, Lyn Leach, to speak to the children all about life in WW2. The children asked some fantastic questions and really enjoyed the visit. In the afternoon, the whole school had the opportunity to learn a WW2 dance. Thank you to Joanne Banks Dance Company. Mrs Carr made a delicious picnic for us to all enjoy for our street party. Mrs Palczynska was brilliant at the face painting! We ended the day with a game of bingo. Thank you to everyone who made this day a great success.

Visit to North East Land, Air and Sea Museum-

On Monday 19th May, Year 5 and 6 had a great time at the North East Land, Air and Sea museum. They had the opportunity to look at a range of different vehicles from WW1 and WW2. They even had the opportunity to sit in a plane. A great day was had by all.

Safety Carousel-

On Tuesday 20th May, Year 5 and 6 took part in a police safety carousel. They spent the day learning about different types of bullying online, anti-social behaviour, crime and consequences and online safety. At the end of the day, they even got a visit from the new police dog in training.

Visitor from Durham University-

On Monday 26th May, KS1 and KS2 children were given the opportunity to understand what degrees are available at university. They also explored different societies. Thank you to Matthew from North East Raising Aspirations Project- NERAP- who delivered the sessions.



Attendance

Children are required to be at school by 9am as our core subject lessons (English and Maths) begin immediately after registration.

Appointments should be made out of school time where possible please.

Holidays should be taken outside of term time.

The Department for Education deems that if a child's attendance drops below 90%, they become known as a Persistent Absentee. All absences are monitored thoroughly.

To celebrate great attendance, children with 100% in a week receive 10 dojos on a Friday. The class with the highest percentage will also receive 10 dojos per child.

Below are the percentages of attendance for each class for May:

Matthew (Nursery/Reception) – 92%

Mark (Year 1/2) – 95%

Luke (Year 3/4) – 94%

John (Year 5/6) – 96%

The government's target for attendance for primary school pupils is at least 95%.

Our whole school attendance for May was 94.1%.

A child is classed as late if they arrive at school after 9.20am.

0.5% of our pupils arrived late in May.

A child is classed as unauthorised absence if they arrive at school after 9.30am.

2.0% of our pupils had unauthorised absences in May.



Uniform

School uniform promotes a sense of pride in the school and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.

If your child is not in correct school uniform, we will ask for correct uniform to be brought in for your child to change into.

Our uniform is:

- Red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan



- White polo shirt



- Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore dress



- Sensible, plain black leather shoes/ trainers



Jeans and leggings are not permitted. Skirts and trousers should be grey not black.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our Year 4 pupils who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 17th May. They read beautifully and looked amazing!





Come and hold me
and my friends from
Animal Story!

FREE
ADMISSION
EVERYONE WELCOME!

FAMILY FUN FAIR



FRIDAY 4TH JULY

3:15PM TO 5:15PM



**Join us for a fun packed afternoon
at our wonderful school...**

- ✓ **PETTING ZOO**
- ✓ **BOUNCY CASTLE
& INFLATABLE SLIDE**
- ✓ **FACE PAINTING**
- ✓ **RAFFLE**
- ✓ **POLICE CAR
& FIRE ENGINE***

*Depending on availability

- ✓ **CIRCUS WORKSHOPS**
- ✓ **SPLAT THE TEACHER**
- ✓ **VARIETY OF STALLS**
- ✓ **REFRESHMENTS**
- ✓ **VARIETY OF GAMES**
- ✓ **NERF GUN WARS**



FIND US AT:

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School,
Garburn Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DE



ATTENDANCE Matters

Schools are legally required to work alongside the Local Authority to promote the importance of regular school attendance.

It is expected schools will monitor and share absence details with Local Authorities should legal proceedings be considered.

Pupils' attendance is monitored and parents of those who fail to attend the required time may face prosecution.

The Government expects all children to have 97% attendance.

Schools count each day as 2 sessions (AM & PM).

Your child has to attend 10 full session (5 days, morning and afternoon) each week to achieve 100% attendance.

If your child has a half day absence, they would have 90% for that week. One day absence would be 80%.

In each class, the teacher takes a register. The register is taken twice a day.

If your child is late for school after the register has been closed your child is marked as late after registration. The Local Authority recognise this as an absent mark.

Sustained lateness can result in prosecution so we ask parents who are having difficulty with morning routines to speak to Mrs Evans.

Non-urgent medical and dental appointments should be arranged after school.

If the appointment has to be in school hours, then your child must attend part of that day.

They should not have a full day off to attend an appointment.

