



End of Year Newsletter 2025



St Josephs RC Primary, Highfield - Work Hard, Live, Learn

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe we have reached the end of another school year! The half term has been very long and the children have done well to keep learning and stay friends in the hot weather we have been experiencing. They all deserve their holiday!

Goodbyes

We say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6: Zube, Harry, Rhys, Fenn, Eliza, Lucy, Mikayla, Alice, Cole, Alex, Noah, Thomas, William, Arthur and Isaac.

We say goodbye to the Johnson, Allenby, Briggs, Burkinshaw, Carney and Galbraith families as their youngest child leaves school. We also say goodbye to Jude and the Harper Hill family as he is moving schools and to Sofiia who is moving to the USA!

We also say goodbye to Miss Cairns who is starting teacher training in September and Miss Stocks who has a permanent job in a new school. Miss Cairns has been a fantastic TA over the years in her support for pupils and staff and her strengths in Upper Key Stage Two. Her first teaching practice is in Year 6, a role that she is made for! Miss Stocks has been a wonderful addition to our team covering Mrs Robson's maternity leave. I have found another experienced Early Years teacher Mr Harrison to cover the last few weeks of Mrs Robson's maternity leave in Autumn term.

We wish all our leavers good luck and lots of love from the St. Joseph's family.

End of Year Results

Data is often tricky in small, very inclusive schools such as ours as every child represents a very large percentage compared to normal sized schools. Every year we have pupils who do amazingly well in all tests but our data sometimes does not reflect that if there have been pupils with SEND who are unable to reach the standard through no lack of hard work or dedication on their part. It is what makes comparisons between schools unfair and misleading.

This year however our data is representative of the hard work of the pupils and staff and above national averages as follows:

Year 6

Maths 87% expected

Reading 93% expected

Grammar, punctuation and spelling 73.4% expected

Writing 80% expected

Combined writing, reading and maths 80% expected

Year 1 Phonics 89% passed

Year 4 Multiplication test average points score of **23.5** out of 25 with **47%** achieving 25.

Reception Good level of development Reception class **71%**

Well done to all our pupils who should be proud of their achievements and efforts no matter what 'score' they achieved. We are very proud of you all!

Mobile phones

As these become more widely used by younger pupils, it is vital that we have every safeguard in place for our children. Advice from our safeguarding officer is for families to use Family Link [Family Link from Google - Family Safety & Parental Control Tools](#) which allows you to have complete access and control over your child's phone. Ensure the search engine is set to **safesearch** and this cannot be turned off by your child. If in doubt delete the search engine and install a child friendly search engine. Avoid use of Whatsapp, Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok.

Internet Matters is great for advice on all aspects of mobile safety. [Keep Children Safe Online: Information, advice, support - Internet Matters](#)

A reminder that mobile phones are not allowed in school even turned off in school bags. If your child regularly changes parental households during the week and needs a phone for this or walks to and from school unaccompanied (Year 5 and 6 only) please let us know in writing or by email that they need to bring the phone to school and it will be locked in the safe during the school day. Mobile phones are not allowed on school trips or residential.

TERM DATES 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM		
Term	Start Date	Finish Date
Autumn One	Monday 1st September 2025 <i>Children return Tuesday 2nd Sept</i>	Friday 24 th October 2025 <i>Monday 20th October school closed</i>
Half Term	Monday 27 th October 2025	Friday 31 st October 2025
Autumn Two	Monday 3 rd November 2025	Friday 19 th December 2025
Christmas Holiday	Monday 22 nd December 2024	Friday 2 nd January 2026

SPRING TERM		
Term	Start Date	Finish Date
Spring One	Monday 5 th January 2026	Friday 20 th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 23 rd February 2026	Friday 27 th February 2026
Spring Two	Monday 2 nd March 2026	Thursday 2 nd April 2026
Easter Holiday	Friday 3 rd April 2026	Friday 17 th April 2026

SUMMER TERM		
Term	Start Date	Finish Date
Summer One	Monday 20 th April 2026 <i>Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday</i>	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 th May 2026 <i>Monday 25th May – Bank Holiday</i>	Friday 29 th May 2026
Summer Two	Monday 1 st June 2026 <i>Mon 22nd June School closed</i>	Friday 17 th July 2026
Summer Holiday	Monday 20 th July 2026	Proposed date of return Tuesday 1 st September 2026

Raffle

A huge thanks to our Friends for our great raffle prizes and for organising so many fundraising events throughout the year. We do so much with the contributions we receive from them every year. Any parent who could join the Friends to help would be greatly appreciated. Please ask at the office for details.

Raffle prizes go to:

1. Indi Bell 426-430 pink
2. Monty Turland 465 blue
3. Thomas Stephenson 201-205 green
4. Holly Holmes 491-495 green
5. Lydia Armstrong 41-45 green

School opens for staff only on 1st September and pupils on 2nd September at 8.30am

Inset days: Monday 1st September 2025, Monday 20th October 2025, 22nd June 2026 (Occasional day), 20th July 2026 (staff to take as twilights), 21st July 2026 (staff to take as twilights)

Have a wonderful break and thank you for the messages, cards and gifts you have sent in to me and my staff. Your children are a great gift to us already but we do appreciate the thanks.

With kind regards,

Joanna Bircham, Head Teacher

