

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 06.06.25

Mission
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus
Vision
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.
Values
Hope Thankfulness Collaboration Compassion Friendship Resilience Empathy Creativity Justice Respect

## Sports Day Practice:

Don't forget, weather permitting, we will be having our annual whole school Sports Day on Tuesday afternoon. This week, pupils in CI R/1 and CI 5/6 came together to have a trial run of our different sports day activities which will be taking place throughout the afternoon. Once everyone has taken part in each event, we will run the sprint races for each year group and finish with our Big Friends/Little Friends race. We look forward to seeing you from 1pm.



## Award Winners:

### CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Ginny**

School Values/Mission: **Joshua**— Resilience—for trying really hard in writing and phonics lessons, showing great resilience and determination!

### CI 2/3/4

Dojo Champion: **Olivia**

School Values/Mission: **CI 2/3/4**—Friendship—from Mrs Shaw—for being amazing this year, showing Mrs Shaw and each other true friendship. You have been incredible

School Values/Mission: **Elliott**—Creativity—for producing some excellent descriptive sentences linked to the story of Oliver Twist

### CI 5/6:

Dojo Champion: **Peggy**

School Values/Mission: **Freddie**—Collaboration—for being a great friend and role model to CI R/1 pupils while practising for sports day

## This week spotted by pupils: Fawn

For helping others in school

## Happy Birthday this week to:

Vinnie & Florence

*Pope Leo: Even when it seems we are able to do little in life, it is always worthwhile. There is always the possibility to find meaning, because God loves our life. Taken from X*



**Classroom Round Up:** We have had an incredible first week back in class! We have started our new units in geography and DT. The children are thoroughly excited to start learning all about the jungle, also about food and preparation. We have been out on the field practising for sports day, the class enjoyed learning some new skills with the Year 5 and 6's! In maths, Year 1 have been learning their left and rights, quarter turns, half turns and three- quarter turns, while Reception have been focusing on sharing equally between different amounts, we have been practising using items for a Teddy's bears picnic. **Miss McEvoy**



Class 2/3/4 have had a very exciting week with two teachers! Mrs Lawman would like to thank all the children for giving her such a lovely welcome and helping her to settle in. We have continued reading Oliver Twist, discovered the origins of the Jewish festival of Passover and logged into the new Accelerated Reader scheme. **Mrs Lawman**



It has been a wonderful start to our final term this academic year in Class 5/6. We launched our new history unit this week - WW2! The children completed an artefact hunt where they had to identify different objects linked with the war e.g. gas masks, air raid sirens etc. We then returned to class and learnt more about each of the objects. We had a lovely afternoon and the children were thoroughly engaged. R.E. wise, we have been looking at artistic imagery linked with the Holy Spirit this week ahead of Pentecost. As always, the children's mature responses blew me away. Maths wise, Year 5 have been focusing on decimals, whilst Year 6 have been completing a project linked with a bakery which has involved ratio and finding percentages of amounts. **Miss Bottomley**

**Coin Jar Champions:** Many thanks to all those who helped support our CAFOD Lenten fund-raiser. It has been quite a challenge to work out the winning class! However, thanks to Mrs Lat-ham, one of our school volunteers, who went through every jar to count the points, we can reveal that CI R/1 won! A grand total of £168 was raised and will be donated to CAFOD.



**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday is Pentecost. We remember that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with his disciples. Pentecost means 50 in Greek as the Holy Spirit came to the disciples 50 days after Easter.

Jesus asked his disciples to love one another as he has loved them. And he says that God will send the Holy Spirit to be with them forever and to help them. The Holy Spirit will teach the disciples everything they need to know once Jesus has left and will remind them of Jesus' words while he was with them. Jesus also says that if we love him, his Father will love us and live with us. Do you think God will live in our house with us, sleep in the spare room and sit down with us to eat dinner like a guest?

Maybe not, but God lives with us in our hearts. God is always there and the Holy Spirit is always guiding us to do what is right.

This week let's remember that God is always with us and try to listen to God's words to us. Let us be guided by the Holy Spirit, who was given to the disciples on the first Pentecost and is still with us today, to show our love for God and for other people.

How will you show your love for God in the coming week?  
How will you show your love for others?

We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass - Children's Liturgy Room

### School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	96.2%	95.6%
Yr 1	97.5%	97.3%
Yr 2	99.1%	96.1%
Yr 3	95.6%	94.9%
Yr 4	82.7%	94.9%
Yr 5	95.3%	94%
Yr 6	<b>100%</b>	97.8%
Total	95.5%	95.8%



**Sunday Gospel:** Jesus said to his disciples, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father and he will send you the Holy Spirit, the Helper, to be with you forever. Those who love me will listen to my words and keep them, and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them and make our home with them. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you, but the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all the things I have said to you."  
Wednesday Word: John 14: 15-16. 23-26

**Scarecrow Festival Update:** Many thanks to all those of you who have offered to make or display a scarecrow or our new PTFA event. Your child should also have brought home a colouring sheet today to help promote this new community event. Completed sheets should be returned to school on Monday. They will be put on display in school and around the local community.

### Correspondence sent this week:

Spots Day  
Sports Day: Team colours  
End of Year Show  
School Meals@ Week commencing 09.06.25  
Scarecrow Festival reminder  
Nut allergy: Information  
Year 6 Leavers Photo

**School Meals:** Researchers have found that just 1.6% of packed lunches met the same nutritional standards set for school food. A team from the University of Leeds discovered that 17% of packed lunches contained any vegetables and salad, while more than half had too many sweet snacks.\*

Pupils at St Joseph's can choose to have a school meal any day of the week. If you have not managed to complete the School Spider form in advance, dinner registers are checked every morning so children can choose one of the options on the day.

\*[schoolfoodmatters.org](http://schoolfoodmatters.org)



## Individual Liberty

We all have the freedom to try new things and discover our interests.

We can take inspiration from the courage and bravery of others to believe in ourselves and follow our dreams.



**Year 6:** We have sent a photograph of our Year 6 group to the Lancashire Post to be included in a special School Leavers' 2025 edition on July 10th.

**LEAVERS  
2025  
CLASS**



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

### SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

### RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

### MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍃 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

### NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥🍷 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like [emojipedia.org](https://emojipedia.org) or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



### CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

### ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



### PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who's watching them.



## EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

### COMMON EMOJIS:

- 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around
- 😎 (Cool face) Cool, stylish or ruthless
- 😏 (Smug face) Intense attraction or excitement
- 🐏 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
- 🧑 (Person) Stone-faced, unbothered
- 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great
- 😘 (Kissing face) (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping'
- 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
- 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
- 👉 (Pointing right hand) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
- 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour

### POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- 🌽 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)
- 🌨️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine
- 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use
- 🍃 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis
- 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse
- 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
- 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
- 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
- ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
- 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles)

## Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of [emojipedia.org](https://emojipedia.org), the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College