

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Newsletter 27.06.25

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

## Award Winners:

CI R/1:

Dojo Champion: **Reuben**

School Values/Mission: **Riley**—Resilience—for working really hard in lessons and at home. Riley shows great perseverance and patience when completing his work!

CI 2/3:/4

Dojo Champion: **Rory**

School Values/Mission: **George B**—Resilience—for demonstrating this school value, as well as creativity across the curriculum this week.

CI 5/6:

Dojo Champion: **James**

School Values/Mission: **Darcy**—Creativity—for demonstrating this value when creating her WW2 propaganda poster.

## This week spotted by pupils: Penelope

For making her friends laugh and just being brilliant!

***Pope Leo:** We are reconciled with one another, united and transformed by the love that flows abundantly from the #HeartOfJesus. Let us walk together humbly and resolutely in His footsteps, firm in faith and open to all in charity. May we bring the peace of the Risen Lord to our world, with the freedom born of the knowledge that we have been loved, chosen, and sent by the Father.*



## Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Shaw on the arrival of baby Jonah



## School Attendance:

	This Week	This Year
Yr R	91.5%	95.6%
Yr 1	96.7%	97.3%
Yr 2	91.8%	96%
Yr 3	90%	95.1%
Yr 4	95.5%	94.8%
Yr 5	94.1%	94.2%
Yr 6	94%	97.7%
Total	93.5%	95.8%

**Classroom Round Up:** The children have worked extremely hard this week, especially in their writing. We are on our final text of the year in English, a non-fiction book all about the jungle. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about different animals that live there. Year 1 are starting to prepare for their final piece of writing - a fact file about an animal. We have also been learning why the UK does not have any jungles! The children were very inquisitive to learn why the UK is not hot all year round! Reception children have been writing a sentence or a phrase about an animal from the book, using their phonics skills. They have all been working incredibly hard, we are super proud of them all! We have also been designing and planning for our fruit kebab making lesson in DT. **Miss McEvoy**

It has been another jam-packed week in Class 2/3/4! We have covered our armature's in Modroc ready to paint next week. This required lots of patience and care. We have also started our new class book - "Until I met Dudley" which is full of entertaining explanations. In RE we have started to discover the faith of Islam through music and art and will be learning more in our lessons next week. **Mrs Lawman**

It has been a very different but lovely week in Class 5/6. Year 5 have been incredibly busy in Forest School with the help of Ben, Adam, Paul and Boo from Stanley Grange. They have planted trees, tidied up the area and also completed a nature themed treasure hunt. Meanwhile, Year 6 have been focusing on all things production related and it is sounding AMAZING! Luckily, despite lots of extra-curricular activities taking place, we have still managed to squeeze in some time together as a whole class. On Tuesday, the children had a DT themed day where they worked in partners to create moon buggies - it was lovely seeing our values of collaboration and creativity shine through. And in RE this week, the children have been learning all about the Rosary and have created their own information booklets to share with visitors and younger children in school. All in all, a fabulous week at St Joseph's. **Miss Bottomley**

**Sunday Gospel:** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Then Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Christ," he said, "the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: Whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven." Wednesday Word: Matthew 16: 13-19

### PTFA News:

- The fabulous Scarecrows can now be taken down. Thank you to everyone who created a scarecrow or supported our festival by buying a trail map! We raised an amazing £417.
- The PTFA have donated £1,000 towards the purchase of new reading books to be used as part of our Accelerated Reader scheme. These books will be used by children across the school.
- The next two events will be taking place on Friday, 11th July—a uniform swap and Summer Sunshine non-uniform day. More details about both events will follow.

### Correspondence sent this week:

*School crossing patrol from 25/06*

*Yr 6 Photo Request*

*Wednesday Word: 25.06.25*

*Guitar Lessons: September*

*School Meals: Week commencing 30.06.25*

*Forest School sessions*

***First Communion:*** Congratulations to those pupils in Year 4 who made their First Holy Communion in church on Saturday morning supported by family and friends.



**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday is the feast of St Peter and St Paul. In our gospel today we hear about St Peter. Jesus asks the disciples who people say that he is. The disciples say that people think Jesus might be John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Simon says that Jesus is the Son of God. Simon believes in Jesus and he is not afraid to say so. Jesus gives Simon a new name – Peter. And Jesus tells Simon Peter that he will have the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Simon Peter was just an ordinary fisherman with his brother Andrew. But he was one of the first disciples of Jesus. Jesus gave Simon the name Peter which means 'rock' in Greek. Jesus wanted to build his Church on strong ground and rock is a strong material. Simon Peter's faith was strong here, like a rock, so Peter was a good name for him! Peter is one of the greatest leaders of the early Church. He believed in Jesus and wanted to follow him and serve him. Peter also spoke up about what he believed.

What does Simon Peter teach us about knowing Jesus?

What does he teach us about serving Jesus?

Simon Peter is considered to be the first pope. All the popes since then have followed on from Peter. Pope Francis called us to be 'Pilgrims of hope' in this Jubilee Year and our new pope, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that the Church wants always to seek peace and to be "close above all to those who are suffering." How do you think you might do that?

Can you speak up for what you believe in, like Simon Peter, this week? Can you be strong in your faith and show others what you believe?

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

Children's Liturgy Team

**Can you help?:** On Monday, 14th July, our Year 6 pupils—with the help of children in Year 5—will be performing "The Island That Rocks". Mx Lane is busy organising the staging of this production and would like some very large pieces of cardboard for the backdrop and scenery. If you are having any large items such as televisions delivered over the next week or so, please let us know as we would love the boxes. If think you can help, please speak to Mx Lane, Mrs Cox or Miss Bottomley.

**Class 2/3/4 PE & Swimming:** On Monday, Year 4 pupils need to bring their usual swimming kit, as well as shorts and a tshirt for their lesson.

As Mrs Lawman is also planning some additional PE lessons next week, **all pupils**

should also bring their kit in on Monday, and if possible leave it in school all week.



### Dates for your diary:

Tuesday, 1st July	Adrian Warrell—talking historian; workshops with CI 5/6 & CI 2/3/4*
Wednesday, 2nd July	Moving Up Morning
Friday, 4th July	SRSP Rugby sessions in school
Monday, 7th July	Whole school golf day*
Wednesday, 9th July	Ukulele and guitar concert at 9.30am
Thursday, 10th July	Jam Coding showcase at 9.30am
Friday, 11th July	PTFA Nearly new uniform swap*
Monday, 14th July	Yr 6 production dress rehearsal at 2pm
	Pilgrims of Hope Morning*
	Street Party lunch*
	End of year reports sent home
Tuesday, 15th July	Yr 6 production at 6pm
Wednesday, 16th July	Leavers' Mass at 10am
	Rock Steady concert at 2pm
	Yr 6 trip to Hollywood Bowling
Thursday, 17th July	Yr 6—choice of lunch, shirt signing & water fight
Friday, 18th July	Yr 6 Leavers' assembly and coffee morning at 9am
	School closes for summer at 1.15pm

*\*more details will follow about these events. Should we need to change any dates we will give as much notice as possible.*

## Forest School:

Pupils in Class 2/3/4, as well as those in Year 5 have done a fantastic job of looking after our Forest School area this week under the watchful eye of Ben from Stanley Grange. They have planted, weeded, tidied and moved cut tree stumps. On Friday, Ben organised a special outdoor themed treasure hunt for Year 5 to test their knowledge of the outdoors. We want to say a massive "thank you" to Ben, Adam, Paul and Boo for giving up their time this week to help us.

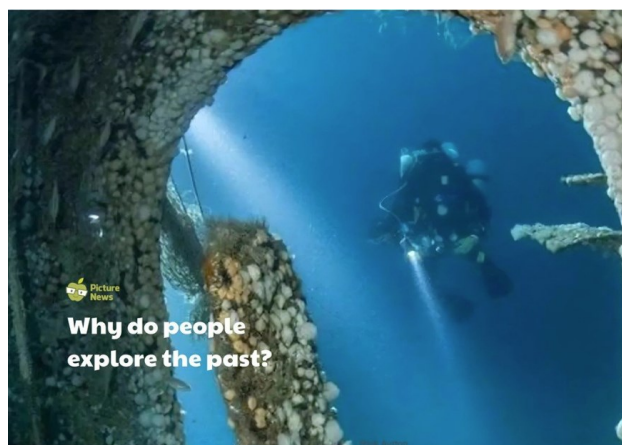


British  
Values



## Individual Liberty

Individual liberty means that we each have the freedom to learn about things that interest us. We can think of and ask our own questions to find out more about historical events.

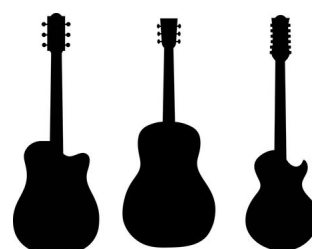


**Guitar lessons:** There will be a beginners ukulele/guitar group starting in September on Wednesdays at 11.30am.

The lessons will be provided by Carmel Galea who teaches at many local primary and high schools.

Beginners guitar / ukulele letters have gone out to the present pupils in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5.

Should anyone require extra letters please email [carmel@cmg-guitars.co.uk](mailto:carmel@cmg-guitars.co.uk) or speak to Mrs Cox.



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18  
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

### IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

### UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 4* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

### GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

### CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

### POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *'The Super Mario Bros. Movie'* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

### REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

### REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

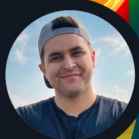
Good profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's child practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of *Daily Star* and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including *IGN*, *TechRadar*, and plenty more.



The National College®



# CLAYTON BROOK SUMMER SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUB!

Fun Activities for children aged 4-12 years

**WEEK 1: 28/07 - 31/07    WEEK 2: 04/08 - 07/08**

 **Clayton Green Sports Centre, PR6 7TL**

**WEEK 3: 11/08 - 14/08    WEEK 4: 18/08 - 21/08**

 **Clayton Brook Primary School, PR5 8HL**

**10am - 2pm  
Mon - Thurs**

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