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Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools **Parental Newsletter Friday 18th July 2025**

The Value for July – Freedom

**Autumn Term
begins for all pupils
in**

Years 1-6

**Wednesday 3rd
September**

**Nursery and
reception pupils
have individual
start dates.**

**Breakfast Club
will run**

**Wednesday- Friday
7:45-8:30 a.m.**

**Infant School Hall-
registration required**

After

**School/Homework
Club will run in the
Junior School**

**Wednesday- Friday
3:00 -4:15p.m**

Monday

**No outside provider
clubs the
first week back**

As we reach the end of another school year, we want to thank you all for your continued support, encouragement, and involvement in school life.

It's been a year full of growth, learning, and memorable moments, and we couldn't have done it without your partnership. From classroom activities to school trips, performances, and day-to-day routines, your support has made a real difference.

To those who are leaving us, thank you and we wish you all the best for the future.

Wishing you and your families a restful, fun, and safe holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new term!

Staffing

We bid farewell to Ms. Dunne who has worked in the junior school for the last ten years in Years 3,4 and 5. We also say goodbye to Miss. Ebanks currently in nursery and Ms. McFarlane currently in reception. We would also like to say good bye to Mrs. Tanna who has been in Saint Joan of Arc and Saint Catherine this academic year. We thank them all for their hard work and wish them well in their future paths.

Year 6 Leavers Masses

Thank you to Father Joseph Chacko who celebrated Mass with the pupils, staff and family members of Year 6. We wish all the Year 6 pupils farewell and good luck in their secondary schools.

Parental Prayer Group

The next prayer group will be in the autumn term on Friday 5th September from 8:30a.m.

Admissions Current Year Groups and September 2025

We currently have some vacancies in both schools in some year groups. If you know of anyone needing a school place, please ask them to contact the office.

Annual Parental Questionnaire

Please find the link and QR code to our annual parental questionnaire. I would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the form so that we can gather your views on any areas that you may wish to give us feedback on. This will help us to ensure that we continue to provide the best possible school experience for your child. Many thanks in advance for completing this. <https://forms.gle/JprMJZK9zS19qqU6A>



Sports Day

Sport's Day was an enjoyable event on Thursday. The children enjoyed the competitive events and sportingly supported each of their house team members. Saint John were crowned the overall winners and enjoyed an own clothes day today to celebrate winning the very special trophy which was presented to the House Captains.



OPAL Play Open Afternoons

Thank you to those of you who attended our OPAL afternoons this week. Tuesday was sabotaged by the rain, however Wednesday gave you an opportunity to see playtime in full flow. We hope that you saw what great improvement has been made across the year to improve playtimes. A big thank you to Mrs. Evans and Miss. Falconer who continue to lead on this initiative and a huge thank you to all of our amazing support staff who cover lunchtime and go above and beyond in order to put these activities in place.



We would appreciate any donations of scooters that you no longer require that are still in good condition.

Uniform Exchange



We will continue to offer a uniform exchange next year. We would appreciate you donating any uniform still in good condition to add to our store of clothes. If you donate and would like something in exchange do not forget to put a note in with your request.

Brent Library

We have also sent out the Brent Library Service Newsletter with this email. It is full of lots of free activities and events across the summer that would be great for the children to attend. They are running a special summer fun festival this year which the junior children heard all about on Tuesday. Click on the link below to access more details. There is also a poster with a QR code on page 8.

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/summer-in-brent/summer-fun-festival>

Summer Holiday Swimming

Vale Farm Sports Centre are offering free swimming sessions during the summer holidays. Please see the poster on page 8.

Equipment for new school year

Please see pages 9 and 10 for some information about equipment to have ready for the new school year.

Year 6 Leadership September 2025

I am delighted to announce the following children have been appointed to our Year 6 Leadership Team for September

Head Girl: Mylena Head Boy: Kian Deputy Head: Girl Rhea Deputy Head Boy: Jovan

House Captain Elections

The prospective House Captains made their speeches at assembly on Tuesday this week. Their campaign then continued until the ballot boxes were closed on Thursday.

Saint Matthew: Nathan & Deborah

Saint Mark: Jayden & Phares

Saint Luke: Linsey & Celton

Saint John: Ethan & Clarissa

P.E Timetable from September 2025

Please see below for a reminder of your child's P.E days. Children should wear their P.E kit into school on their P.E. days and also if they have a P.E after school club.

Year 1 Saint Teresa and Saint George- Tuesday and Wednesday

Saint John Paul- Monday and Tuesday

Year 2 Saint Christopher and Saint Angela- Monday and Tuesday

Year 3 Saint Catherine- Monday and Friday

Year 3 Saint Jude- Monday and Wednesday

Year 4 Saint Mary and Saint Francis- Wednesday and Friday

Year 5 Saint Joan of Arc and Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Monday (swimming) and Wednesday

Year 6 Saint Faustina and Saint Vincent De Paul- Tuesday and Friday

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we try our best to support you particularly in terms of the dangers that children may encounter online. If you have any concerns, please contact me. All school staff have regular training. I remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Staff who have had additional higher-level training in safeguarding.

Online Safety

Each week we will include a link to an information sheet. I have included the National Online Safety guide on 'Staying Safe Around Water'. Please see page 7.

Value Awards- July – Freedom

Saint Patrick – Stella and Waylan

Saint Teresa- Archie and Staisha

Saint John Paul- Adriel and Ellie

Saint Angela- Crizel and Orion

Saint Catherine- Avia and Cayden

Saint Mary- Lilly and Ashlar

Saint Joan of Arc- Iga and Benedito

Saint Faustina- Shayon and Kezia

Congratulations to all of the children who demonstrated an understanding of the value of 'Freedom'.

Saint Bernadette- Alida and Tristan

Saint George- Lintroy and Carmalita

Saint Christopher- Tristan and Veloshka

Saint Jude- Anaya and Veltroy

Saint Francis- Keann and Eliana

Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Alicia and Jeswal

Saint Vincent De Paul- Valenia and Horeb

 **Safeguarding**  **Saint Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools**

At Saint Joseph's we are committed to the safety and happiness of all our children and adults in our school family. If you are concerned about a child, please talk to our designated safeguarding officers.

 Safeguarding Governor Ms. A. Pilling	 Infant School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. J. Jones Deputy Head Teacher	 Junior School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Ms. T. Smith Deputy Head Teacher
 Deputy DSL Mrs. L. Roberts DSL Assistant	 Deputy DSL Mrs. J. Lee DSL Assistant	 Deputy DSL Mrs. K. Evans DSL Assistant

Copies of our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website along with links to the latest updates of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment). Paper copies may be found in the school office upon request.



Star Reader Award

Saint Patrick – Graycen Saint Bernadette- Shae
Saint Teresa- Chloe Saint George- Amayah
Saint John Paul- Cyrus Saint Christopher- Seanna Saint Angela- Denver
Saint Catherine- Keslin Saint Jude- Roseford
Saint Mary- Dilivio Saint Francis- Amora
Saint Joan of Arc- Muriel Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Adriel
Saint Faustina- Ethan Saint Vincent De Paul- Francio

Star Writer Award

Saint Patrick – Myssa Saint Bernadette- Cyrus
Saint Teresa- Amelia Saint George- Velrica
Saint John Paul- Renisa Saint Christopher- Alicia Saint Angela- Melisa
Saint Catherine- Kamille Saint Jude- Grace
Saint Mary- Leah Saint Francis- Natalie
Saint Joan of Arc- Phares Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Jayden
Saint Faustina- Pola B Saint Vincent De Paul- Ana

Star Mathematician Award

Saint Patrick – Spencer Saint Bernadette- Hanna
Saint Teresa-Shawn Saint George- Wiloshka
Saint John Paul- Oskar Saint Christopher- Stallon Saint Angela- Adele
Saint Catherine- Milosz Saint Jude- Kaleb
Saint Mary- Kacper Saint Francis- Kellan
Saint Joan of Arc- Steyn Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Divine
Saint Faustina- Heidi Saint Vincent De Paul- Augustin

Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Semenca	Saint Catherine- Leo
Saint Patrick- Alyssia	Saint Jude- Cora
Saint George- Brion	Saint Mary- Sofia
Saint Teresa- Shane	Saint Francis- Muriel
Saint John Paul- Mayzie	Saint Joan of Arc- Christiano
Saint Angela - Deidra	Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Johann
Saint Christopher- Lena	Saint Faustina- Year 6
	Saint Vincent De Paul- Year 6

Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to last week's winners.
Junior School Saint Faustina with 98%!
Infant School- Saint Angela with an incredible 100%!





A Prayer as the Summer Holidays Begin

As we begin the summer break,
we pause to give thanks for the school year gone by
for all the learning, laughter, and growth.
We are grateful for the teachers, staff, and families
who have supported our children with care and dedication.

Lord, we ask for rest and renewal in the weeks ahead.
May this summer be a time of joy, discovery, and
connection.

Keep our families safe and healthy,
and may we find moments to slow down, to cherish, and to
be together.

Watch over our children in their play and adventures.
Guide them in kindness, creativity, and curiosity,
and bring us all back refreshed and ready
for the new chapter to come.

Amen.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.

3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.

4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.

5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6 SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College

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Vale Farm Sports Centre - free swimming in school holidays for under 16s

Free swimming in school holidays (excluding Bank Holidays)

Mon - Fri, 11 am - 4 pm

Kids Swim For Free during the holidays

Vale Farm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) 11am - 4pm

Spaces are limited so arrive early.

If you are aged 16 and under and live in the London Borough of Brent then during the holidays you can swim for FREE at Vale Farm Sports Centre and Willesden Sports Centre. Register at www.everyoneactive.com. You will be issued with a kids 'Swim For Free' card, which must be shown each time you want to enjoy a free swim.

Children under the age of 8 and all non-swimmers must be accompanied in the swimming pool by an adult swimmer, with no more than 2 children per adult. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult to be admitted in the pool.



Painting/Gardening apron for school

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we start a new school year in September, more activities will be happening in the garden and creatively. Please can you send in an old large t-shirt or shirt for your child to keep on their peg. This will be for their own use to go over their uniform if we are completing a messier activity. It does not matter about the colour and can be turned inside out if it has a picture on it. Please ensure your shirt is clearly labelled with your child's full name to avoid confusion, as this is a messy shirt a sharpie would be fine to do this.

THIS DOES NOT HAVE TO BE A NEW SHIRT OR APRON; AN OLD ADULT SIZED PIECE OF CLOTHING IS FINE AS IT IS ONLY TO PROTECT THEIR UNIFORM.



★ Important ★ Reminder

To help us keep our classroom well-stocked and running smoothly, we kindly ask that:

- All children bring in a clearly labelled glue stick for their personal use.
- Each child also brings a box of tissues to be shared in the classroom.



Thank you for
your support!




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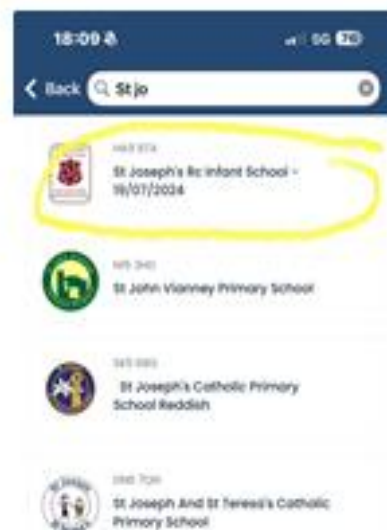
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St Joseph's Rc Infant School -
19/07/2024

