



Executive Head Teacher Mrs. A. Whelan  
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Saint Joseph's Junior School, Chatsworth Ave, Wembley, HA9 6BE

## **Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools** **Parental Newsletter Friday 9th January 2025**

### **Value for January - Commitment**

**Breakfast Club Daily**  
**7:45-8:30 a.m.**  
**Junior/Infant School Halls-**  
**registration required**  
**After School Club**  
**Junior School**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**3:00 -4:15p.m**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Dance Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Year 5 Reading Club**  
**3:30-4:15**  
**Gym Club**  
**Chess Club**  
**Archery Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Football Club**  
**Film Making Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Year 3 Computing Club**  
**3:30-4:15 p.m.**  
**Fencing**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Gym Club**  
**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope that you have all had a very happy Christmas. The children have been thinking about the Epiphany this week and their mission was to think about what special gift they would bring for baby Jesus.

### **Curriculum Meetings**

Year group curriculum meetings will continue to take place in your child's classroom on the following days at 3p.m. These meetings will outline what your child will be studying across the spring term. We will also put the curriculum newsletters on the website after the meetings have taken place. Thank you to parents who have attended the curriculum meetings which took place this week.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 3 p.m. Year 5

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 3 p.m. Year 6

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 3p.m. Year 2 and Saint John Paul

### **Class Masses**

Class based Masses will begin from next week. Please join with your child and our staff for their class Mass which will take place at 2p.m. in your child's classroom.

The Masses scheduled for this term are as follows:

Saint Faustina Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Saint Vincent De Paul Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Saint Joan of Arc Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Francis Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Mary Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Saint Catherine Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Saint Jude Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

### **Class Assemblies**

Assemblies take place in either school hall from 9a.m.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January Saint George

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February Saint Joan of Arc

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March Saint Teresa

## R.E Newsletter and Ten Ten Newsletter for January

Information on the topics the children will be studying this term can be found on pages 8 and 9. You can also click on the link below to access the Ten Ten monthly R.E. Newsletter.

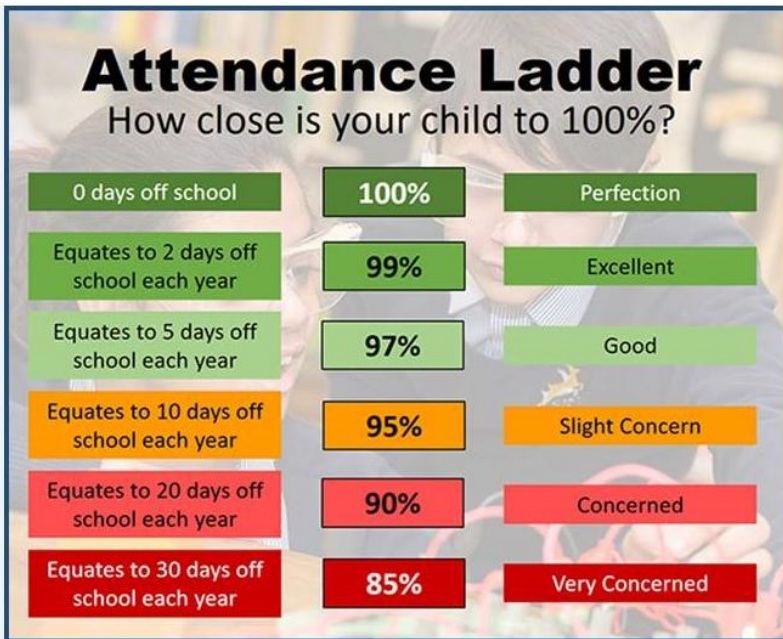
<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

## Monthly Value

The monthly value for January is commitment. Please see the value sheet on page 7 including the shared activity to complete together.

## Parental Prayer Group

Thank you to the parents who attended Prayer Group this morning. The next prayer group will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February from 8:30a.m.



## Term time leave and punctuality

As we begin a new year and term, I would like to again remind all families about not extending the holiday period and ensuring that you take leave during the holiday period only.

We sent letters before the holidays which informed you about your child's attendance and punctuality. Many families have left before the Christmas holidays and others have not returned this week. Many of you have not notified us about the travel and we have had to waste time calling to find out if all is well in case

there has been an accident or some other serious event. We have a duty of care to report any absences we have no notification about on the first day of absence. I have also had to visit homes to check in person if we have had no response. We then have to fill in a child missing in education form to Brent Council - all after only 24 hours absence with no contact so please let us know if your child is not in. Unfortunately, families may be fined for this extended absence.

The impact of absence on your child's learning is significant. Please discuss any leave with us before booking tickets.



**We will be contacting parents to arrange attendance review meetings over the next two weeks if your child's attendance is a cause for concern.**

Regular lateness also has a significant impact so please allow enough time to arrive at school on time.

## **Admissions**

**A reminder that nursery, reception and Year 3 admission** forms should be submitted into school before the closing date of the **15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. Please also ensure that for reception and Year 3 admissions that you have also completed the online Brent e-admissions application as well as submitting a form to us in the office. Please come to the office if you need any support with this.

## **P.E. Days Spring Term 2026**

Please check the P.E days for this term. Your child will continue to wear their P.E kit in on their P.E. day.

Year 1 Saint Teresa and Saint George Monday and Thursday

Year 1 /2 Saint John Paul Monday and Tuesday

Year 2 Saint Angela and Saint Christopher Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 3 Saint Catherine and Saint Jude Wednesday and Friday

Year 4 Saint Mary and Saint Francis Monday and Wednesday

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

**Year 5 Swimming-** Year 5 children will be swimming lessons will begin again on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Wednesday

Saint Joan of Arc Friday

**Please note Year 5 have different P.E days so check if your child is in Saint Joan of Arc or Saint Maximilian Kolbe.**

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

## **Parental Workshops**

**Mathematics parental workshops will take place in either school hall from 9a.m on the following dates:**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January Year 1

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February Year 5

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February Year 2

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March Year 4

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March Year 3

## **Year 6 Sat's Parental Meeting**

There will be a parental meeting outlining the arrangements for the Year 6 Sat's on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 8:45 a.m. in the junior hall.

## **Reception and Nursery Stay and Play**

There will be another opportunity for parents to join their child in reception and nursery to get an insight into their daily learning experience.

Reception Stay and Play Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January from 8:45

Nursery Stay and Play Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January from 8:30 (morning nursery) and 12:15p.m (afternoon nursery)

## Request for Transportation

If anyone has a van and a spare hour, we would be very grateful for your assistance. We need help to pick up some crates and barrels for OPAL play. The company that has donated is local in Wembley. Please speak to the office or Ms. Gaynor, Mr. Nicklin or myself if you feel that you could help us.

## 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.

**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. Pilkington	 Infant School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. A. Gaynor	 Junior School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Ms. A. Gaynor	 Deputy DSL Mrs. A. Gaynor
 Deputy DSL Mrs. A. Gaynor	 Deputy DSL Mrs. A. Gaynor	 Deputy DSL Mrs. A. Gaynor	 Deputy DSL Mrs. A. Gaynor

Copies of our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website along with links to the latest update 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.

## Online Safety

Each week we will include a link to an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world, this week the National Online Safety guide is on 'Top Tips for Creating Family Rules for Devices' on page 10.

## House Points

	 <b>John</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1392 points	 <b>Mark</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1218 points	 <b>Luke</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 966 points	 <b>Matthew</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> 934 points
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**House point totals 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to the class winners for the last week of the autumn term.

Junior School- Saint Mary 97%

Infant School- Saint Teresa 93%



## Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Anaya  
Saint Patrick- Melantha  
Saint George- Joycee  
Saint Teresa- Anora  
Saint John Paul- Shawn  
Saint Angela - Carmalita  
Saint Christopher- Aeden

Saint Catherine- Alicia  
Saint Jude- Melissa  
Saint Mary- Leo  
Saint Francis- Prazio  
Saint Joan of Arc- Leona  
Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Messi  
Saint Vincent De Paul- Divine  
Saint Faustina- Iga





## Prayer for the New School Term

Loving God,  
as we begin a new term after Christmas,  
we thank You for the gift of family, rest, and joy.

Bless our children as they return to learning,  
and guide our staff with wisdom and patience.  
We place our school under the care of Saint Joseph,  
model of faith, strength, and love.  
May he protect our children and help us work together in  
kindness.

May the light of Christ, born at Christmas,  
shine in our classrooms, playgrounds, and homes.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Have a lovely weekend.*  
*Mrs. Whelan*





## St Joseph's Infant and Junior School Prayer Focus



### January 2026

The feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle is celebrated each year on **25<sup>th</sup> January** by the Church.

The **Conversion of Saint Paul** is an important event in the Catholic Church because it shows how God's love can change hearts and lives. Before his conversion, Paul did not believe in Jesus and even tried to stop Christians, but after encountering Jesus, he completely changed and became one of the greatest teachers of the Church. This feast reminds us that it is never too late to change, to forgive and to choose to live with kindness, faith and love for others. It teaches children that everyone can grow and become better with God's help.

***Heavenly Father,***

***You called Saint Paul to turn his heart towards you and to bring the Good News to all people. Help us to have open hearts like Paul - ready to turn, to learn, to love and to follow You. Give us courage to change what is not good, and wisdom to share kindness and truth with others. May we grow in faith, hope and love each day.***

***Amen.***



#### **Commitment**

Commitment means keeping on trying and not giving up. It means doing what we say we will do, even when it is hard.

Jesus showed commitment by always loving, helping and caring for people, even when it was difficult.

#### **Homework**

This month, choose one small promise to keep every day, such as tidying your toys, saying a kind word, or helping at home. Draw a picture of yourself doing this and be ready to tell your teacher how you showed commitment by not giving up.



# EYFS – Reception and Nursery 'Galilee to Jerusalem'



## Religious Education

### Key Idea: 'Jesus the Christ'

Catholics believe (Believe Lens) that Jesus' birth, celebrated at Christmas and in the visit of the Magi brought about a new era – one in which Jesus would be a kind of King who would rule a world with kindness, justice and inclusion. Although Jesus is called God's Son, Catholics believe that Jesus was God, in human form. To call Jesus' 'son', reminds us that he was of the same 'substance' as God.

### Content areas of this topic

Scripture passages about Jesus (Hear Lens)  
The visit of the Magi  
Welcoming the Children

Feeding of the 5000  
Jesus' life in prayer and Liturgy (Celebrate Lens)  
Jesus modelled a life of care of others. (Live Lens)

### Activities to try at home

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs. Read the following passage as a family. Jesus welcomes the children. Mk 10: 13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus so that he might meet them. But the disciples spoke firmly to them, and told them not to.

When Jesus saw this, he was cross and said to the disciples, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for the kingdom of God belongs to little ones just like these. Truly I tell you, whoever does not welcome God's kingdom like a little child will never enter it.' (a simplified version)

And he took the little children up in his arms, placed his hands gently on them, and blessed them.

- Wondering questions about the text: I wonder when we found out that Jesus was a king? (Can you remember?) I wonder what you would have said to Jesus if you have been one of those little ones? I wonder if sometimes people tell you to 'go away', and how that feels?

### An idea for prayer at home



#### Prayer Activity

God who is with us every day. May we be open to your warmth as the sun on our backs, your love as the hug of a friend, your joy as the smile of a stranger. Help us to remember that you are with us every day and in all things great and small. Amen

## Galilee to Jerusalem Linking School, Parish and Home Ks1



## Religious Education

### Key Idea:

Jesus showed people how to love God and love others through his teaching, actions, and sacrifices.

### Unit Content

This half term, children will be learning about 'Galilee to Jerusalem' as part of the Catholic RED curriculum. They will explore stories from the Bible such as Jesus calling the disciples (The Fishermen), The Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus calming the storm, The Lost Sheep and Palm Sunday. Through these stories, the children will learn how Jesus showed love, kindness and forgiveness, and how they can follow His example by caring for others in their daily lives.

### Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

It is hoped this framework will help pupils develop kindness, empathy and respect for others, alongside a growing sense of wonder, gratitude and reflection. Children will be encouraged to think about their own actions, make positive choices and recognise the importance of forgiveness, generosity and caring for their community. Through prayer, storytelling and discussion, pupils will begin to understand how faith can guide everyday life.

### Activities to try at home

Talk together about how you can show kindness and forgiveness at home.

Read a Bible story or children's book about Jesus and discuss what it teaches about love and helping others.

Create a kindness chart at home and celebrate kind actions.

Say a short thank you prayer together each day.

Help your child do a small act of service, such as helping to set the table or sharing with a sibling.

### An idea for prayer at home



#### Prayer Activity

Dear God,  
Thank you for Jesus, who teaches us to love and care for others.  
Help us to be kind, to forgive and to help people every day.  
Amen.



# Galilee to Jerusalem

## Linking School, Parish and Home



### Key Idea: Creation and Covenant

This branch explores the public ministry of Jesus, from his preaching and healing in Galilee to his journey to Jerusalem, where he freely embraces his Passion, Death and Resurrection. Pupils learn how Jesus reveals the Kingdom of God through his words, actions and relationships, and how he calls people to conversion, discipleship and love.

### Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

**Spiritual Outcomes:** *It is hoped that pupils will develop:*

- Who Jesus is and how he reveals God the Father
- What it means to follow Jesus as a disciple today
- How Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem shapes Christian belief, worship and moral living.

### Activities to try at home

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs.

Discuss how we are Jesus' modern day disciples and what things we can do to follow Jesus' example.

### An idea for prayer at home

#### Prayer Activity



Loving Jesus,  
you call us to follow you,  
just as you called the first disciples  
to leave what was familiar  
and walk in your ways.

Help us to listen to your voice  
in the choices we make each day.  
Give us courage to stand up for what is right,  
kindness to care for those in need,  
and humility to serve others with love.

**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](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screen time. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

## 1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

## 2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

## 3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

## 4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices – especially smartphones – are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

## 5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key – so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

## 6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

## 7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online – such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

## 8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

## 9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screen time, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

## 10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices](https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices)

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

