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## Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools Parental Newsletter Friday 1st May 2026

### Value for May – Perseverance

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

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
**School Closed**  
**Bank Holiday**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Gym Club**  
**Chess Club**  
**Archery Club**  
**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Football Club**  
**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Year 3 Computing Club**  
**3:30 - 4:15 p.m.**  
**Fencing Club**  
**Computing Club**  
**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Gym Club**  
**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

Today is the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. It is lovely that we are all rewarded with an extra day off from work this weekend! I hope that you enjoy the bank holiday on Monday. School will reopen as usual on Tuesday.

### School Dinner Menu Change

Due to the bank holiday the school menu has changed for this week only. Monday's menu will be served on Tuesday. This will be macaroni cheese or chickpea curry and rice. For dessert it will be banana mousse or the usual options of fruit and yoghurt.

### Class Assemblies

We had two wonderful class assemblies this week. Saint Francis led a very reflective assembly on Earth Day. They reminded us about all of the things that we can do to be caring stewards of God's Earth. Our mission was to think about how to discard rubbish and recycle connecting with creation not screens!



Saint Bernadette's assembly was focused on Eastertide events and Pentecost. Our mission was to find the Holy Spirit at work in our joyful day to day actions.



## Summer Term Class assemblies – 9 a.m. in either school hall

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May - Saint Catherine

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Saint Mary

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Saint Jude

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Saint Patrick

## School's Association Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Schools Association on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 8:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room in the junior school. This meeting will focus on planning the summer event. Please try to attend so we can get lots of ideas to make this a really enjoyable event for our school community.

## Ten Ten Newsletter for May

Please click on the link below to access the Ten Ten monthly R.E. Newsletter for May.

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

## Ascension Day Mass

The children will be attending Mass on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 1:30 p.m. in Saint Joseph's Church.



## May Procession

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May Prayer Leaders will be leading a May Procession. If possible, we would like every child to bring in one flower to lay before Mary during their class procession. Please only send in one flower on the morning of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

## Parental Prayer Group

Thank you to the parents who attended this morning. The next prayer group will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June from 8:30 a.m. in our Prayer Room or the Prayer Garden depending on the weather.

## Sun Safe School



As you know we are a sun safe school. We are now in the summer term and we will again be encouraging the children to be sun safe and to raise their awareness. **We would also ask for your support with this by making sure that your child has their hat (with their name on) in school every day and ensuring that your child has sunscreen applied** each morning before school. Please also send in a bottle of sunscreen lotion with your child's name on which will stay in school for them to use. They will apply this as necessary



so please practice with them.

**A reminder if the UV index is 3 or above the children must wear their sun hat at playtimes if they do not have a hat they have to stay in the shade.**

Please click on the link below to give permission for your child to be involved in this important health and safety initiative. If you have any questions please talk to us at the gate, email or call. Many thanks.

Please complete the permission form using the link below: <https://forms.gle/LCREoDS7w5A7YUis8>



## Coming Soon- School Council Eco Hero Shop

The School Council have been very busy preparing to open their very own Eco Shop. They will be encouraging all of us to purchase their eco hand wash, body wash and bubble bath. They will be selling these products in 100ml bottles. If you have any empty 100ml bottles that you could donate for the eco shop please send them in to school. There will be one gold coin – 100 house points for every donated bottle. Many thanks

## Year 6 SAT's Testing

Year 6 tests will be taking place from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> -Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Year 6 pupils will be able to come in to the Junior school from 8 a.m each morning of that week to enjoy a snack and a chat with their friends ahead of their tests. This will help them to be relaxed and hopefully not too anxious about their examinations. There will be no charge for any Year 6 pupil who wishes to attend SAT's Week breakfast club.

## Safeguarding Online Safety



Each week we will include an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world. This week's National Online Safety guide is on 'Online Safety for Under Fives.' Please see page 7.



## Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to the class winners for last week  
 Junior School - Saint Francis 99%!  
 Infant School - Saint John Paul 98%!



## Value Awards- April- Empathy

Saint Patrick – Milosz and Pearl  
 Saint Teresa - Alida and Myler  
 Saint John Paul- Nestor and Jinal  
 Saint Angela - Velrica and Rylan  
 Saint Catherine- Elkan and Eva  
 Saint Mary - Sofia and Aleks  
 Saint Joan of Arc - Lysha and Ethan  
 Saint Faustina - Clarissa and Aiden

Saint Bernadette - Dylan and Yasmin  
 Saint George - Venisha and Amos  
 Saint Christopher - Levin and Immaculada  
  
 Saint Jude - Milanka and Filton  
 Saint Francis - Anaya and Jakub  
 Saint Maximilian Kolbe - Kaion and Sofia  
 Saint Vincent De Paul - Krisha and Adriel

Congratulations to all of the children who demonstrated an understanding of the value of 'Empathy'. Our value for May is '**Perseverance**'. The Prayer Focus sheet can be found on page 6.

## House Points



**House point totals 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

## Star of the Week

Well done to the children below for their positive approach to learning and to school life in general.

Saint Patrick - Chrissy  
 Saint Bernadette - Jake  
 Saint George - Jake  
 Saint Teresa - Philiana  
 John Paul - Joycee  
 Saint Angela - Valanka  
 Saint Christopher - Chloe

Saint Catherine - Keeon  
 Saint Jude - Vinoya  
 Saint Mary - Rayven  
 Saint Francis - Grace  
 Saint Joan of Arc - Aldrin  
 Saint Maximilian Kolbe - Luz Amelia  
 Saint Vincent De Paul - Adriel  
 Saint Faustina - Nathan



## Prayer for the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker

Dear Saint Joseph,  
you worked hard and cared for your family with love.  
Help our children to do their work well,  
at school and at home.

Teach them to be kind, patient, and helpful each day.  
Bless all families and all who work to care for others.

Saint Joseph, pray for us.  
Amen.



*Please keep all the children, making their first holy communion over the next two weekends, in your prayers.*

*Saint Joseph pray for them.*



*Have a lovely  
bank holiday weekend.*

*Mrs. Whelan*





# St Joseph's Infant and Junior School Prayer Focus



## May 2026



Throughout the month of May, we would like you to remember that it is the month of Our Lady Mary. This is a time when we should take time to think about Mary and reflect on how she is the Mother of Jesus and Mother to us all. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary their prayers.

All through this month, please say the Hail Mary with your family.

### THE HAIL MARY

HAIL MARY, FULL OF GRACE, THE LORD IS WITH THEE, BLESSED ART THOU AMONG WOMEN, AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF THY WOMB, JESUS, HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, PRAY FOR US SINNERS, NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH, AMEN.



### Perseverance

Perseverance means keeping going even when something is hard and not giving up, just like Jesus teaches us to do. In the Gospel, Jesus shows perseverance by helping people, being kind, and trusting God even when things were difficult. He teaches us to keep trying and do the right thing.

### Homework

Try something tricky at home  
Choose one thing that feels a bit difficult. For example:

Reading a tricky word

Learning to tie your shoelaces

A regular safeguarding update will be provided with this newsletter to ensure that you have access to current useful information and guidance.

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 Carers

## ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5S

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. There is an increase in parents of 3-5-year-olds who say their child uses social media apps or sites. In 2021 and 2022 about a quarter of 3-5 year olds whose parents have said their child used social media apps or sites has risen to three in ten (29%) in 2023, and almost four in ten (37%) this year. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is now more than ever essential that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers going online. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

### 1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. Co-viewing also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they are seeing, discussing content – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

### 2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content they have access to and can support, rather than replace, active supervision. Social media and AI toys should be avoided. If your child uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

### 3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day without devices. According to the new guidance, you need to limit total screen time for young children, wherever possible. Under 2 years: screen time should be avoided, other than for shared activities with family that encourage bonding, interaction and conversation. 2-5 years: should try to keep screen time to 1 hour a day and even less if possible.

### 4 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

### 5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too. Try to keep routines such as meals or before bedtime screen-free, alternative suggestions can be background music, simple conversations, table games, colouring or "I Spy" with colours or letters.

### 6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

### 7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading and app and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it. Choose slow-paced, age-appropriate content and being mindful of risks such as autoplay features, algorithm-driven content, and in-app adverts or purchases.

### 8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage your whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

### 9 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

### 10 SUPPORT CREATIVE AND ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos. Screens should not replace key aspects of early development, such as sleep, physical play, and interaction with adults.

## Meet Our Expert

Konstantina Moustaka is an Early Years Mentor and in-house Trainer at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 16 years.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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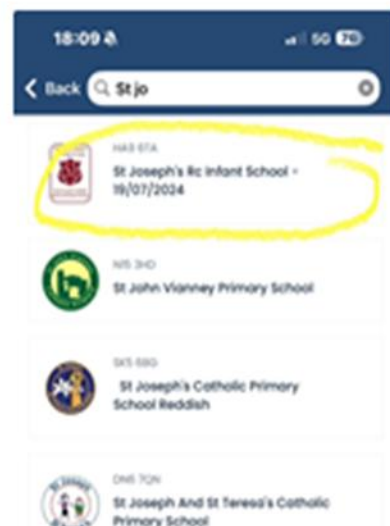
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HA9 6TA  
St Joseph's Rc Infant School -  
19/07/2024

