



# St Joseph's Catholic Infant School



Website: [www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

Email: [office@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

## January/February

Year of Hope – Jubilee Year

The Year of Hope, also known as the Jubilee of Hope, is a Holy Year in the Catholic Church that began on Christmas Eve 2024 and will end on 6 January 2026. The theme for the year is "Pilgrims of Hope".

Our school will launch this with the children at the start of February and there will be activities and displays in school to mark this.



### Thank you

On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you all for your kind Christmas messages and gifts. We hope this will be a healthy and happy new year for you all.

### Cup Cake Sale Fund Raising

We are delighted to have been able to purchase:

- Laser Christmas light
- Inflatable Christmas decorations
- Christmas table covers for the Christmas lunch
- Paper for Christmas hat making
- Streamers and also
- Additional outdoor play equipment



### Staff News

We are currently advertising for casual Midday Supervisors. This is a really important role in our school and enables our lunchtimes to run smoothly. When staff are unwell or out on training we sometimes need to call in cover at short notice or as a planned cover. If you are interested in applying please see the advert on the school website. Link:



<https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/our-school/vacancies/>

### Attendance Update

Thank you for all for your efforts to keep your child in school. We care about your child's progress and well-being, but every child needs to have good attendance from Pre-School onwards to ensure they get the best learning opportunities.

We know many children have been ill but overall our attendance has shown an improvement.

This is shown in the graph below which compares 23/24 and 24/25 Autumn term.



80 children had 95-100% attendance last year and this year that stands at 96 children.

Thank you for keeping absence to a minimum. This really helps your child get the best from their educational opportunities.

### Questionnaire Results

Thank you for completing the parental questionnaire sent out recently. The form will close on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January and then we will be able to consider the responses and share the information with you.

We have had 117 responses so far from all across the school.



## Upcoming Celebrations/Masses/Events



This Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January we will be joining schools around the Diocese in launching the Year of Hope – Jubilee Year. This is a special time called by Pope Francis for the year 2025. You can read more about this here.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025/>

Throughout the year there will be special activities to help our school to be part of this big celebration and mission.



We will be celebrating the feast of Candlemas in school with a Mass on 31<sup>st</sup> January at 9.00am. All are welcome to attend. During this Mass we bless the school assembly candles and recall when Jesus was presented by Mary and Joseph in the Temple.

Year One Toy Museum Workshop takes place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Bucks Museum are coming into school to give the children an exciting learning opportunity to look at toys from the past.



## Behaviour Curriculum

Since returning to school in January we have been working with the children to remind them of the expected way to behave in school and what this looks like.

We have placed information on the website that you can use to talk to your child about how they are expected to behave at school.

<https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/curriculum/behaviour-curriculum/>



## Urgent - Emergency Contact Details

You **must** have someone who can collect your child in an emergency such as illness, accident/injury or school closure during the school day.

**The school must be kept up to date with your contact details and your emergency contacts details.**

## Naming Personal Belongings

**Please please please** can you make sure all items of your child's clothing and belongings are named. We try our best to reunite children with lost clothing but children often do not recognise their own items and without a name on we cannot get them back to the right owner.

Unnamed/unclaimed items that we are unable to reunite with their owners will be placed in the entrance hall monthly and given to families who need them as we do not have the space to store them around the school.

## Looking for Volunteers

Would you be able to spare some time to come in and talk to the children? Could you talk about life when you were their age, your hobbies, your occupation or perhaps to read a story in another language? It would be really super if this could be linked to your child's current class topic.

If you can spare the time please speak to your class teacher or email the office.

### Topics

PS & Yr R – Animal magic/

Growing plants

Year 1 – Toys/Amazing animals

Year 2 –Neil Armstrong/Famous Nurses

We also need parent helpers to help listen to children read. Please contact the office if you are interested in helping with reading in school.



## Please Help – YR, Y1, Y2 School Bags/Rucksacks

An increasing number of pupils are bringing large rucksacks to school which do not fit in the trays and boxes provided for storage in class. Please note that the Book Bag with logo/School Backpack are both available to purchase from our school uniform provider PL Schoolwear.