Shining in the Light of Christ to be the Best that we can be

St. Joseph's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2026



Congratulations to our Term 1 Attendance Heroes, who have achieved 100% Attendance this term!

Donaldson Class	Reneah, Winter-Violet, Aiden, Otto, Clementine, Tabitha, Eva, Riley
Seacole Class	Hugo, Logan M, Viviana, Charlie,
Brunel Class	Joey, Jackson, Florence, Isobel, Scarlett, Lily-Rose, Frankie, Darcie-Lou, Billy, Khloe, Kolbie, Penny R, Celia, Jack-Daniel, Theo Sm, Felicity, Harley
Earhart Class	Tyra, Harmon, Arthur, Francesca, Theo H, Freddy, Delia, Blu, Marshall, Rose
Attenborough Class	Kudi, Shae, Penelope, Joshua, Megan, Toby, Harry, Mia, Jaime-Leigh
Peake Class	Laura, Hunter C, Caiden, Matilda, Imogen, Ivy-May, Margot, Wojtek, Evelyn, Fedora
Pankhurst Class	Spike, Charlie, Kwame, Starz, Hunter, Chloe, Clara, Owen, Eli, Lucy, Amira, Oliver, Baraa, Kupa, Thomas, Jax, Blu

Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Next week, we will be carrying out our termly Attendance check for pupils. When we look at your child's attendance, we will look at their attendance percentage and, more importantly, the reasons behind that attendance. At this time of year, we know that there are lots of bugs etc so we take this into account.

You will receive an Attendance Report informing you of your child's attendance percentage.
It is early in the year so don't panic if it is lower than you expected.

If we have a concern or feel that we may be able to offer you support, this will be outlined in your child's Attendance Report

What we need you to do to support good attendance:

Try to telephone the school before 8.45am each day of your child's absence.
Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport or you are ill- call on a family member, neighbour or friend.
If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!
Fridays and last days of term are just as important as every other day so please ensure the children are in, even if they're tired

What we will do to support good attendance:

Class teachers, myself and Mrs Cleaver (Family Link worker) can offer support, advice, signposting or simply a listening ear
We will work with you and your child if there are any barriers to attendance
You may be invited to a School Attendance Meeting to provide additional support



This week's Class Attendance:

Class	Attendance this week	Treat won?
Donaldson	95%	NO
Seacole	87%	NO
Brunel	98%	YES
Earhart	97%	YES
Attenborough	95%	NO
Peake	97%	YES
Pankhurst	97%	YES





It was lovely to see the school filled with sunshine on Friday for Hello Yellow Day!

Throughout the day the children took part in activities showing young people that they're not alone with their mental health.



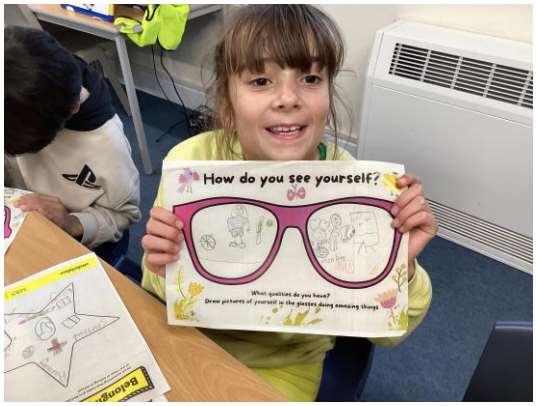


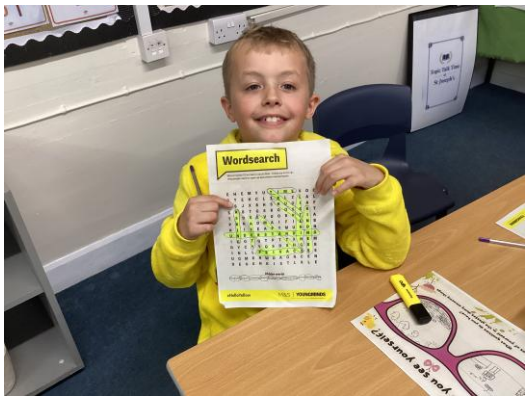












For more information and for helpful guides for young people and parents

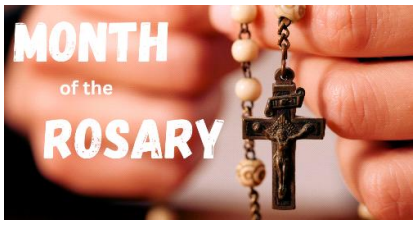
https://www.youngminds.org.uk/



On Tuesday, The Canal Trust came into school to deliver a Water Safety Assembly to the whole school around keeping safe along the canal and what to do in an emergency:







As October is the Month of the Rosary, Mrs Dale led the whole school in a Rosary Service on Monday:









I'm delighted to say that St Joseph's have once again been invited to take part in the Mayor's Carol Concert, one of my favourite events of the year!
The Mayor's Carol Concert will take place on **Thursday 3rd December 2026 7:00pm at The Corn Exchange, Devizes**
Prior to the concert, the children would need to be at the Corn Exchange by 6.45pm for a prompt 7pm start, and parents would need to collect their children from the basement of the Corn Exchange at 8.15 pm.
If you wish your child to participate in this great festive event, they would need to be able to come to my Carol Concert Club after school every Monday next term.
This is open to children in Year 2 and above.
If you wish you child to participate, please email me on head@stjosdevizes.wilts.sch.uk

Name Our Sheep!



Thank you to everyone who entered our 'Name the Sheep' Competition. The winning name was 'Abraham' suggested by Eris in Year 5 and the Runner Up name was 'Cotton Candy' suggested by Eva in Reception.



Monday 2nd November	First day back for children
Tuesday 10th November 3:30pm-6:30pm	Parents Evening 1
Thursday 12th November 3:30pm-6:30pm	Parents Evening 2
Friday 20th November	Individual School Photos
Tuesday 24th November- Monday 30th November	Book Fair
Friday 27th November	Devizes Lantern Parade
Sunday 29th November	Family Mass in Church 11am
Thursday 3rd December 7pm	Mayor's Carol Concert, Devizes Corn Exchange
Tuesday 8th December 9:30am	Key Stage One Nativity in the Hall
Wednesday 9th December 2pm	Key Stage One Nativity in the Hall
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner Day (children can come into school in Christmas clothes)
Thursday 17th December	Carol Service in Church 2pm
Friday 18th December	Last Day of school
Tuesday 5th January	First Day of Term 3



Congratulations to our wonderful Netball Team for their 5-0 win against Trinity School.

Thank you Miss Linsley and Miss Hartley for preparing them so well!





Star Pupil Award

Congratulations to our Term 1 winner of the St Joseph's Star Pupil Owl Award! This award was gifted to us by the Army and recognises those children who **always** try their best to SHINE!

THE WINNER IS:

Khaled in Seacole Class



Khaled truly shines in every one of our SHINE values! He shows respect for the thoughts and feelings of others, understanding that everyone is unique and may have different views. He listens carefully to others and treats their ideas with kindness, helping to make our classroom a place where everyone feels valued. Khaled SHINES brightly through his gentle and caring nature, also showing care for the world around him, demonstrating stewardship in action! Since starting year 1, Khaled has shown wonderful willingness to learn new things. He asks thoughtful questions, tries hard with his work and listens carefully to feedback and uses it to make improvements! Even when he encounters something tricky, Khaled approaches it with a smile and a quiet determination. His positive attitude and growing confidence are a joy to see, and he is showing that with perseverance and joy, he can achieve so much! His cheerful attitude is infectious, and his enthusiasm helps to make our classroom a wonderful place to learn, explore and discover new things together. We are so incredibly proud of the progress he has made; the kindness he shows to others and the enthusiasm he brings to everything he does.



Star Pupil Award

WELL DONE TO ALL THE NOMINEES:

Donaldson Class: **Millie**

Millie, thank you for bringing a ray of sunshine to Donaldson class every day. You are joyful, nurturing, thoughtful and have the most wonderful sense of humour.

You are so attentive and caring towards others, always making sure they are included and helping them manage their big feelings in a calm, mature way.

You are such a good friend to everyone and play so creatively and imaginatively with others.

Thank you for making our classroom a happier, smiley place just by being with us!

Brunel Class: **Deneris**

Deneris is an absolute joy to have in our classroom! Every morning, without fail, she comes in with a big smile on her face and a cheerful good morning, instantly brightening my day. She has such a kind and caring nature, always showing beautiful manners and treating everyone around her with respect. She is a thoughtful friend who is always willing to help others and truly lives out our SHINE values and Catholic Social Teaching in everything she does. One of the things I admire most about Deneris is her genuine love of learning. She has such an inquisitive mind and is always full of questions and wonderful ideas that she cannot wait to share! What makes this even more special is that her curiosity doesn't stop when she leaves the classroom.

Deneris always tries her very best and isn't afraid to challenge herself, make mistakes or ask for help when she needs it. She approaches everything with such a positive attitude.

You bring so much happiness to our classroom, and I feel very lucky to be your teacher. Keep shining!

Star Pupil Award

WELL DONE TO ALL THE NOMINEES:

Earhart Class: **Marshall**

Marshall always shows kindness and compassion to not only his peers at St Jo's but the wider community. He lives out our catholic social teaching values by supporting those less fortunate than himself, shining brightly wherever he goes. He has a strong work ethic and is a curious learner , always wondering why ? Marshall spreads joy wherever he goes . He truly demonstrates that a little action can have a big impact. Keep striving to make everybody's day a little brighter, shining your light and thinking of others .

Attenborough Class: **Charlie D**

Mrs Jones says:

You are a super **Spiritual** power in our classroom - a gentle hero who always listens carefully and quietly absorbs what is being taught
You are our **Harmony** captain! Bringing calm along the way to all who work with you and benefit from you as a loyal and kind friend.
You are an **Inquisitive** thinker! Quietly searching for every clue in all we do.
You **never give up**! You show such brave determination which carries you through our learning and is growing all the time.
And you are my amazing King of the Maths stem sentences - showing how you **enjoy** your learning and outshining everyone, in chanting those fabulous facts.
Well done for an absolutely great start to Year 4 - I am blessed to be able to be teaching you .

Star Pupil Award

WELL DONE TO ALL THE NOMINEES:

Peake Class: **Hunter C**

Happy to be in school.
Using all his knowledge to help his learning.
Never gives up and always has a go.
Takes all the learning on board and uses it in his work.
Enjoys learning new things.
Responds to others in a kind way.

Cares about others and the environment
Open minded and open hearted.
Understand the gospel values and uses them in school.
Comes into school with a spring in his step.
Helps others when they need it.

Pankhurst Class: **Charlie:**

Charlie is a wonderful member of Year 6 who truly embodies our SHINE values. He shows great Spiritual reflection and respect for others, while bringing Harmony to our classroom as a kind and inclusive friend. His Inquisitive mind makes him a joy to teach - a phrase which here means he asks the sort of brilliant, baffling questions that keep me on my toes! When faced with a challenge, Charlie shows a fantastic Never Give Up attitude, working with great resilience to succeed. Above all, he brings a brilliant sense of Enjoyment to school every single day. Well done, Charlie!