



## Head-lines

It is an odd quirk the way the dates have fallen this year: we finish the week before Holy Week, whereas usually we are in school for this week. Easter is the high point in the Church's calendar, and Holy Week is a time of reflection, where we can all take time to think about the journey we are on. Working alongside the children, we get to join them on their journey each and every day, watching them grow and develop. As we finish this Spring term, I wish you all a very Happy Easter and hope it is filled with blessings, joy and life. Best wishes, Mr Turner.

### Good luck Miss Langley!

Easter is a time of new life, so it is very fitting that as we finish the term, we say goodbye and good luck to Miss Langley as she starts her maternity leave ahead of the arrival of her second child. Good luck, Miss Langley and we can't wait to meet your new arrival!

We welcome Mrs Rafferty who will be working alongside Mrs Marland in Year 1 for the remainder of the year.

As you will be aware, at the start of the term we said goodbye to Mrs Langan as she started her new role at the Element Centre. Mrs Langan is really enjoying the role and says hello! We welcome Mrs Boden who has joined us, working alongside teachers and children. Welcome and thanks to you both.

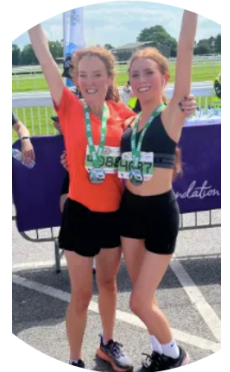
### 2025-26

When we return after the Easter Holidays, we begin our third and final term! The Summer term always seems to whizz by, as there is so much going on! Examinations, trips, visits, concerts, Year 6 Leavers, Sports Day, Fairs....! It will go particularly fast as the first half of the term is only 5 weeks, and two of those weeks have Bank Holidays! So when

we return, there will be lots to do and organise. All of our key events (such as concerts, Sports Day etc) were shared at the start of the year and are also on the home page of our website. We have also set the term dates for 2025-26 and these are also available on the website. We will begin the process of staffing and class structures, as we continue with the transition to one form entry, but with our second year

### Keep on running....

You may also remember that we shared the news that Mrs Lester will be running in this year's London Marathon! Not only is this an amazing achievement to be at the standard to run such a gruelling distance, Mrs Lester is raising money for a charity very close to our hearts - Claire House. Mrs Lester chose this particular charity as a few years ago, very sadly one of our former pupils passed away, and she and her family were supported by this wonderful organisation. Mrs Lester recently held a fundraiser and so far has raised over £1,700! If you want to sponsor Mrs Lester or make a donation to Claire House, she has a Just Giving page set up



[https://2025tclondonmarathon.enthouse.com/pf/claire-lester?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=qr](https://2025tclondonmarathon.enthouse.com/pf/claire-lester?utm_source=share&utm_medium=qr)

Good luck, Mrs Lester!

of our planned two-year mixed Y5/6, so the current Y4 children will be allocated into their groupings ready for September. As always, we will also build in transition time, so that the children can meet their new teacher and visit their new rooms. This usually takes place around early July, so we will let you know around that time who your child's next teacher will be.

A warm welcome to Enrique who has joined us this half term. I hope you have settled in, made lots of new friends and are enjoying being part of St Joseph's.



### Attendance

Attendance for the year stands at 94.3%

The level of Persistent Absence (number of children with attendance less than 90%) is 14%

Please do ensure your child continues to attend school regularly as each school day is important.

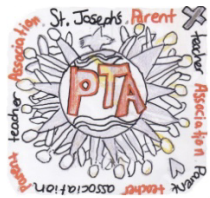
We will write to families we want to alert regarding attendance next term.



### Follow us on Instagram!

You may be aware that we have run our X (Twitter) feed for several years now and have over 1,000 followers! We now also have an Instagram profile: follow us at stjosephsbirkenhead

Both of these social media profiles give us the ability to share with you some of the amazing things going on during the school day. Please do follow us and enjoy seeing what is happening in the classroom, during events and things we want to celebrate!



### PTA

It's been another half term full of fantastic enrichment opportunities provided by our PTA. From Bingo and Bonnet parades to Non-uniform and fundraisers, we remain incredibly grateful to our PTA members and the time they give, so thank you. There are a lot of exciting things planned for the Summer Term ahead, so lots to look forward to. The PTA is always on the look out for helpers, so if you can give

any time at all, even only at certain times, they would be very grateful. Our Chair, Janine, is also looking to 'hand over the reins' soon, so anyone who would be interested in exploring this further, please do contact her. Thank you

### Pokemon Cards

We are aware that many children are currently bringing Pokemon cards into school, and then swapping them on the playground. Our approach has always been that we don't mind card/sticker exchanges as this has always been a playground favourite. However, we will remind the children about some ground rules, including cards must be kept away during lessons, no money is ever exchanged, and 'deals' must be fair. It is very difficult for us to 'undo' any swaps or unfair deals. If you would prefer cards/stickers are not brought in, that is of course your decision. We will remind the children of the rules, keep it under review, but would have to have a different approach if bringing cards or stickers in starts to cause issues.

### *Prayer for the Term....*

*As mentioned, the term dates have fallen quite unusually this year, with us finishing two-weeks before Holy Week, and returning on the Tuesday after Easter Sunday. Holy Week is the journey through darkness before we rejoice in the light of the Resurrection. This Easter, let us welcome the light of Jesus into our lives, and be assured that whenever darkness feels overwhelming, the light is never extinguished, and brighter times will return. Wishing you a joyous Easter.*

*"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14*