



# St Joseph's Catholic Infant School

Welcomes you  
Rated "Good" Ofsted 2019



"The glory of God is  
a human being fully alive!"

Part of the St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust

# Our Mission Statement



‘I am special in God’s eyes ‘

*We will be a happy, welcoming school  
with Christ at the centre, where  
everyone is recognised as special.*

“Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name, you are mine. Because you are precious in my eyes, because you are honoured and I love you.” Isaiah 43:2 –5

At St Joseph's each member of the school community and everyone we meet is valued and respected.



The school mission statement is to be:

‘a happy and welcoming school with Christ at the centre where everyone is recognised as special because they are loved and honoured by God’

The children know this as  
*‘I am special in God's eyes’*

“This is a happy school. The Headteacher emphasises the importance of positivity and praise. This runs like a connecting thread through the school. Pupils respond well to this ethos. They thrive and grow in confidence.”

OFSTED November 2019



# What do we offer....

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A rich education for children from Reception to Year 2 that develops the whole child and prepares them well for their next steps

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Spacious classrooms each with outdoor learning facilities and extensive outdoor space

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The opportunity for each individual to be valued and celebrated and be a part of our school family



- Dedicated staff at all levels
- The option of free hot meals for all pupils
- Before and after school care
- An on-site Pre-School for 2, 3 & 4 year olds
- A friendly relaxed atmosphere where children get to know each other and staff know all the children



# How well do children achieve at our school?



## At the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage 2023:

- 76% reached the expected level  
(66% National 2022)

## Phonics Screening (Year 1)

- 77%  
(75% National 2022)

## At the end of KS1 2023 (Year 2):

- Reading 74% reach expected level or above  
(69% national 2022)
- Writing 68% reach expected level or above  
(58% national 2022)
- Maths 85% reach expected level or above  
(68% national 2022)

*Children also achieve well in self-confidence and independence, as well as growing spiritually and in a range of areas such as PE, dance, music and singing.*



Why we think  
children do well  
here...





As a small infant school  
our children have the  
opportunity to develop  
as individuals.

Our whole school  
provides an environment  
suited to developing the  
the age and stage of our  
children





# We get involved early

- Before joining
  - Individual Parent Meeting for families new to the school, and Pre-School handover meetings
  - Drop-in play session for families
  - Visit day for children (transition)
  - Those attending our Pre-School have the benefit of additional opportunities for getting to know the school.

## During your child's time here

- Talk to you as soon as we have any concerns
- Listen to you as soon as you have concerns
- Work with you to address any needs your child has soon as they are identified
- Involve other agencies as soon as possible to support you or your child's learning



# We are a welcoming school

In September

- Class Introduction Meetings – routines and expectations
- Settling-in drop-in session
- Open door approach





# We have a Strong Progressive Curriculum



- We strongly believe in providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Topics such as Dinosaurs, Beside the Seaside, Explorers and Rainforests are used to teach subjects such as geography, art science and history.
- Learning is brought to life through special days and trips.





# Catholic Life & Religious teaching is central to all we do

- Children develop a strong sense of justice, and respect of others
- We follow a structured RE programme '**Come and See**' (Diocesan Religious Education programme)
- Religious knowledge and beliefs are developed through active prayer and worship.
- Understanding and knowledge of other faiths and communities is key to a cohesive community
- We foster the belief in helping others through good deeds and charitable works





# We involve Parents...

- 'Stay and Play' sessions in Reception and 'Stay and Learn' sessions in Year 1 & 2.
- Gives parents and carers ideas as to how they can support their child at home.
- Class led assemblies
- Parent helpers
- Friends Friday – encouraging parents to drop in meet each other and chat
- Open door – opportunity to chat to staff each day



# And keep parents informed

- We have weekly updates on our website so you can see what each class has been learning.
- You can then identify areas where you may wish to support at home.



Images provided by Google Images

## Reception Weekly Update



Information about some of the things we learnt in the week beginning 30th October.  
Thank you for attending Parents' Evening this week. We enjoyed talking to you all.

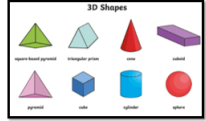
### English



We have been writing about what we did in half term. We are so pleased with how well the children are using their sounds in writing words. We really enjoyed hearing the children show and tell us all about Autumn. Thank you for helping with this.

### Maths

We have learnt the names of common 3D shapes. We talked about the properties of the shapes (corners, sides, curves and faces). We looked for them in around us in the environment. Now have a go at this at home or out and about.



### Phonics

This week we learnt some tricky words. These cannot be sounded out so we practise them as whole words.

the I go to no

Keep practising all the sounds and words you have in the book bags. These should be returned each in book bags each Friday for more to be added and learnt.

### RE



We celebrated All Saints Day this week, we talked about who saints are and how we can all be saints.

We also learnt about Diwali the Hindu festival of light. We learnt the story of Rama and Sita, we created rangoli and made patterns, and made Diya lamps out of clay.



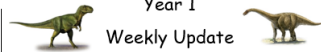
### \*\*\*Reminder\*\*\*

Please leave the school reading books and diaries in the book bag each day so they are ready to be read and changed on any day of the week.



Please note that once the book is returned to school we are happy to change it.

## Year 1 Weekly Update



Information about some of the things we learnt in the week beginning 30/10/17.  
Thank you for attending Parents' Evening this week. We enjoyed talking to you all.

### Topic

This week we have been looking at the structure of trees and learning that we can identify a tree by its leaves. We never knew that leaves came in such different shapes and sizes! We have also been understanding the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.



deciduous trees



evergreen trees

### Literacy

We have been reading 'The Fossil Girl' and learning about Mary Anning and why she is famous. The children have been pretending to be Mary and writing a diary entry all about the day she discovered the first dinosaur fossil. They have been using the pronoun 'I' in their writing.



You can find out more about her by following the link below.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/famouspeople/mary\\_anning/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/famouspeople/mary_anning/)

### Maths

We have been solving missing number problems this week eg

$$14 = \square + 4 \quad 4 + \square = 9 \quad \square + 12 = 20$$

We used cubes or a number line to help us work them out.

### Spellings

put, the, to, I

## Year 2

Information about some of the things we have learnt in Year 2 the week beginning 30th October, 2017



**English** In English this week we have looked at the story of Bob the Man on the Moon by Simon Burton. We learnt the story well using a story map and were able to innovate the story with our own ideas such as Max the man from Mars, Jackson the man from Jupiter. The children came up with wonderful stories with a focus on using different sentence openers eg Next, Then, A little while later, When...

**Maths** In Maths this week we have been using blank number lines to add and take away. The children then went on to solve worded problems thinking carefully about whether it was an addition or subtraction question, writing the number sentence and working it out on their own blank number line.



### RE

Our new RE topic is Signs and Symbols. This week we looked at the symbols in Baptism. The children designed their own Baptism candle.

**Topic** Remember: Remember the 5th November! This weekend is Bonfire night, in class this week we have learnt about the Gunpowder plot where we learnt all about Guy Fawkes and his plot! We sequenced the story and completed a reading comprehension.

In our Art lesson this week we created spectacular firework displays. We used crayons to colour the paper. Then we painted over it with black paint. When it dried we etched in our firework designs to create really effective pictures.



Remember to check your child's book bag every Friday for their new spellings.

Thank you for attending Parents' Evening this week. We enjoyed talking to you all.





# We are an Active School

We encourage children to be active and healthy in a variety of ways too.

Olympian visits

Mile a day

Active lessons

Sports Clubs





# We have strong Early Years provision

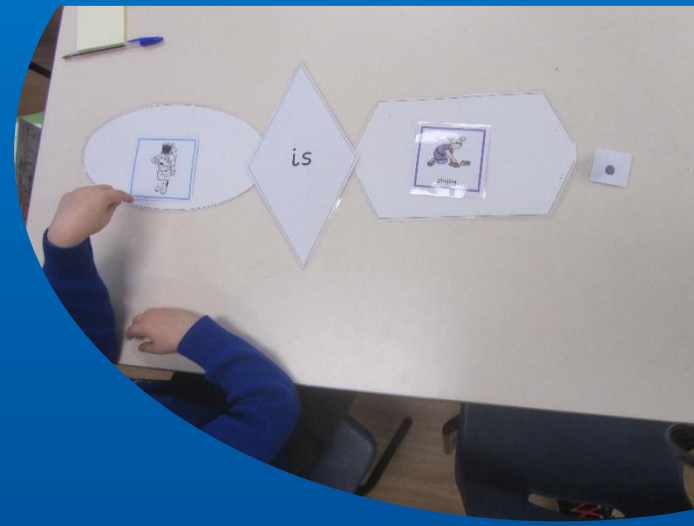
- Learning through playing and exploring, being active, and creative and critical thinking
- Indoor and outside learning
- Equip children with the skills to become effective learners.
- Strong Focus on learning to read – Read Write Inc Scheme



# Personal, Social & Emotional Development







# Communication & Language





# Mathematics





# Literacy





# Physical Development





# Understanding The World

A strong focus on developing skills to be able to observe, predict and discuss their first hand experiences.





Creative Development

# We have carefully planned transitions at all stages



Starting Preschool

Preschool into Reception

Reception into Key Stage 1 (Year One and Year 2)

Infant school into Junior school



# Don't just take our word for it!



"I like learning about God. I love writing and drawing about what makes us special in God's eyes"

Elena

"St Joseph's is special because we learn lots of new things and make great friends"

Jenson



"I love everything about being in Year two. I love finding out about space"

James

"At St Josephs all of the teachers really care about you. There are lots of kind friends to make"

Evie



"I love maths lessons because you get to challenge your brain"

Paulina

# Continued.....

"I have lots of friends at this school"

Dylan



"It is lots of fun at this school. I love Maths!"

Ibrahim



"PE is fun because you play lots of games"

Beau



"Everyone is kind and honest at St Joseph's"

Sebastien

"I loved going in the Science Dome. I saw a raptor tooth – It was cool"

Tadhg







# A Tour of Our School

Take your time to look at our online tour or come and visit us