



St Joseph's Catholic Infant School

Welcome you
Rated "Good" Ofsted 2019



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

Our School

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'

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



"Parents go out of their way to bring their child to St Joseph's. They are absolutely right to feel their child is happy, safe and well cared for. Pupils confirm they feel safe and enjoy learning."

OFSTED May 2016

"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....

A rich education for children from Reception to Year 2 that develops the whole child

Spacious classrooms each with outdoor learning facilities

The opportunity for each individual to be valued and celebrated...



What do we offer...

- 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



How we welcome you and your child.

- Before September
 - 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.



How we welcome you and your child.

In September

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



The School Curriculum

- We strongly believe in providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Topics such as Dinosaurs, the story 'The Queen's Knickers', Explorers and Rainforests are used to teach subjects such as literacy, geography, science and history.
- Learning is brought to life through special days and trips.



Religious Education

- As a Catholic school our faith underpins all aspects of school life from how we behave to the curriculum we teach.
- We follow '**Come and See**' (Diocesan Religious Education programme)
- Religious knowledge and beliefs are also developed through active prayer and worship.
- Awareness and respect for other faiths and communities is fostered



Stay and Play & Stay and Learn

- 'Stay and Play' sessions held every half term 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.

"Parents find the way staff help them to understand how to support their children's learning helpful. For example, in the 'stay and play' session seen during the inspection, staff carefully explained to parents what skills the various activities were intended to develop."

Ofsted May 2016





PE and Sport

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

Developing a sense of Community

A sense of community plays an important part in developing a child's self-esteem. Children need to know who they are and how they fit into the world around them, and they need to be aware of others and the community in which they live.

At St Joseph's we aim to develop a sense of community both inside and outside of school.

"The gospel values of respect, honesty, caring and truth and the school's aims of developing self-confidence, independence and responsible social behaviour are seen as interwoven with wider British values."

Ofsted May 2016



Early Years Foundation Stage Reception Classes

- Learning through playing and exploring, being active, and creative and critical thinking
- Indoor and outside learning
- Opportunities for children to learn in different ways equipping them with the skills to become effective learners.

“Children get off to a good start in the early years.”
Ofsted May 2016





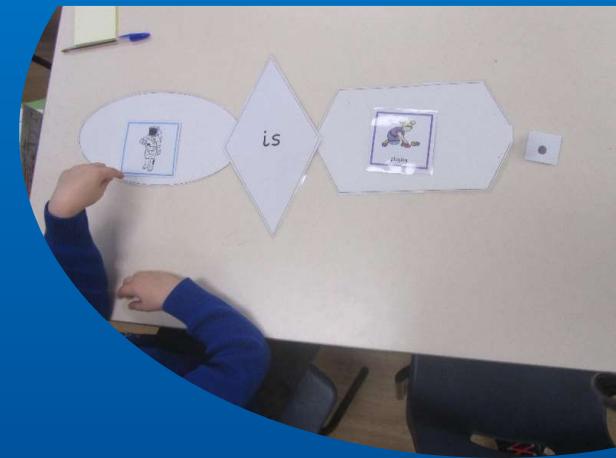
Personal, Social & Emotional Development



We actively promote PSED in all areas and aspects of the curriculum.



“Developing pupils’ social, moral, spiritual and cultural skills and understanding is at the heart of day-to-day life in school. Pupils are well behaved, confident, caring and respectful.”
Ofsted May 2016



Communication & Language

This area of learning focuses on speaking, listening and attention. Children are provided with many opportunities throughout the day.



Mathematics

- Counting, working with numbers, shape, space and measures.
- Stories, songs, games, imaginative play and structured activities.



Literacy

- Developing children's reading and writing skills
- Phonics (the sounds letters make)
- Reading books
- Visits to the school library
- Letter formation and handwriting
- Writing their names
- Using sounds to write simple sentences



Physical Development

Physical Development is about

- Improving co-ordination and control
- Being and staying healthy
- Fine and gross motor skills
- Indoor and outdoor opportunities





Understanding The World

Children develop skills and understanding to help them make sense of the world.

They explore, observe, predict and discuss their first hand experiences.



Creative Development

This area of learning includes
music, art and dance .



National Curriculum

In Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) children follow the National Curriculum.

- A creative and subject based curriculum which builds on the learning and teaching of the Early Years Curriculum.
- Children learn a range of skills and knowledge through a variety of subjects.

“Attainment at age seven in reading, writing and mathematics is high. Almost every child reaches the level expected for their age. The proportion reaching the higher level is above average.”

Ofsted May 2016



Keeping 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.



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 come in such different shapes and sizes! We have also been understanding the difference between deciduous and 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/

Maths

We have been solving missing number problems this week eg
 $14 = \square + 4$ $4 = \square - 9$ $\square + 12 = 20$

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

Spelling

put, the, to, I

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

RE

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

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

*****Reminder*****

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

RE

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

Year 2

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

English

In English this week we have looked at the story of 'Guy Fawkes on the Moon' by Simon Bartram. 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 monkey and 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. The children took part in our Bonfire Night competition. We learnt all about Guy Fawkes and his plot! We re-enacted the story and completed a reading comprehension.

In our Art lesson this week we created spectacular fireworks 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.

Stay safe on Bonfire Night

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

How Well Do our Pupils Do?

At the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage 2022:

- 71.2% reached the expected level
(64% Bucks 66% National)

At the end of KS1 2022 (Y2):

- Reading 65% reach expected level or above
(67% Bucks 69% national)
- Writing 64% reach expected level or above
(57% Bucks 58% national)
- Maths 67% reach expected level or above
(68% Bucks 68% national)

Pupils at St Joseph's are doing well and we are rapidly closing the gaps in learning resulting from the pandemic.



And they are not just making good progress academically....our children are doing well socially and love learning...



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



Pre-School

Children enjoy learning in an engaging environment.



Reception Classrooms

Children enjoy learning in an engaging environment.



KS1 Classrooms

Children enjoy learning through a range of topics.



The Hall

This is the hall we use for lunch and indoor PE lessons.



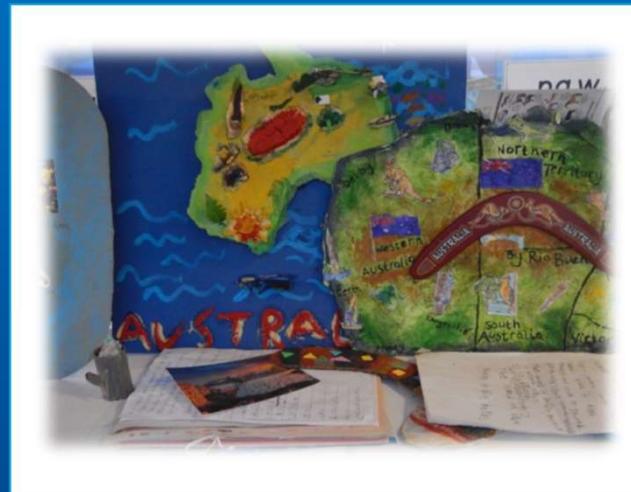
Outside Learning

Outside Learning and play



Care Club

Children have fun sharing meals and playing together.



The Cabin

Extra classroom space is available in the cabin.



Our Prayer Garden

Children are able to use the prayer garden for quiet time and reflection