



Welcome to the new school year!

As we begin another busy school year at St Joseph's, it has been wonderful to see the children returning after the summer and to welcome all our new children and their families to our school.

Thank you for your support so far in ensuring that children are wearing the correct uniform and have their PE kit in school at all times. Please make sure your child's uniform is clearly marked with their name so that we can return items to their owners more easily. Please also remember to send your child with a coat, as we do try to get them outside when we can, and as you will know, the Rossendale weather can be rather unpredictable.

I feel very lucky to be looking after this wonderful school while Mrs Scott is away, and I have enjoyed meeting many of you on the school drive and at Celebration Worship. My door is always open and if there is anything you wish to talk to me about, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Mrs Mussell, Acting Headteacher

**COME FOR
COFFEE
AND
CAKE**

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

**WORLD'S
BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**

Friday 27th September

9.00am in the school hall

All welcome – please join us if you can.

Donations of cakes are warmly welcomed – please bring these into school from Wednesday 25th September.

We look forward to seeing you!

Congratulations to this year's Head Girl, Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl – Lola, Logan, Robert and Emily!



Pupil Council

Well done to our new Pupil Council members for 2024-2025, who will work with Miss Goodwin and make sure the pupil voice is heard at St Joseph's.



This week we enjoyed a visit from the Lancashire County Library Service Book Bus. Our Seeds and Gardeners (Reception and Year 6 children) had fun choosing a new batch of 200 books which everyone across school will be able to borrow this year.



We are once again taking part in the Penny Appeal for Rossendale Hospice. Your child will be bringing home a collection box – please fill this with any loose change you can spare, and return to school by Friday 18th October 2024.

Rossendale Hospice is a charity and has to raise 75% of their annual running costs of £1 million themselves. Every penny raised goes towards helping them deliver services for the people of Rossendale with life limiting conditions.



Rossendale
Hospice
Making every moment count



Spooky Disco

Wednesday 16th October

£4 per child

Tickets will go on sale on 23rd September and must be purchased in advance by Friday 11th October.

God wants me to be the best me I can be.

We are delighted with the report following our visit from the Catholic Schools Inspectorate in July. The main findings were:

- Catholic life and mission – **Outstanding**
- Religious education – **Good**
- Collective worship – **Good**
- Overall effectiveness – **Good**

The full report was sent home recently, and you can also find it on our website in the Faith Life section.



We are thrilled to have received the School Games Silver Mark for 2023-24.

The School Games Mark is a government-led awards scheme which rewards schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community.

Participating in this process allows us to evaluate our PE provision and assists us in developing an action plan for future progress.

Important Update

Changes to Education-Related Penalty Notices

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to Penalty Notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes came into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty Notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second Penalty Notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling three year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a Penalty Notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to five days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. (A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.) This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes (ie after 9.20am). The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of two Penalty Notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling three year period, so at the third (or subsequent) offence another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only Penalty Notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Starting school next September?

Ofsted say we are a GOOD school with OUTSTANDING early years provision

St Joseph's RC Primary School

OPEN DAY

Tuesday 1st October 2024

9.00-10.00am and 3.00-5.00pm

No need to book – come and see what we can offer you and your child



Huttock End Lane Stacksteads OL13 8LR - 01706 873177 - www.stjosephsbacup.co.uk

God wants me to be the best me I can be.

