

St Joseph's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER

September 2026



Acting Headteacher: Mrs Cawtherley • Parish Priest: Fr Stamp • Tel: 01706 873177 • www.stjosephsbacup.co.uk 

Dear Families

What a wonderful start to my time at St Joseph's. I have really enjoyed my first few weeks here — the staff and children have been so welcoming and friendly. I am beginning to meet more and more parents and very much look forward to meeting many more of you over the coming weeks, especially at our upcoming Parents' Evening.

Last week we received some lovely news: Mr Timson and his family welcomed a beautiful daughter, Mabel, into their family. Welcome to the world, Mabel! We wish Mr Timson and his family all the very best and look forward to seeing him back in school soon.

It has been a privilege to lead this lovely school and to spend time in classes and around the playground getting to know the children. Our School Mass on Wednesday was especially moving — the children were so well behaved and respectful, and their singing of "Here I Am to Worship" was beautiful.

I have been impressed by our Year 6 pupils, who are already stepping up into their roles as pupil leaders. They enjoyed a recent team-building session and represented St Joseph's really well.

This term we want every child to SHINE — to be kind, caring and respectful so that everyone feels safe, included and happy at St Joseph's. Please contact the school if you need any support at any time.

With best wishes,

Mrs Cawtherley, Acting Headteacher



School Website

www.stjosephsbacup.co.uk



Don't forget you can find lots of useful information on our school website, including term dates, who's who, policies and more.



Our Facebook page is where we share regular news and updates about life at St Joseph's — make sure you're following us for the latest news straight to your mobile.

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

Pupil Leaders

Congratulations to all of our pupil leaders who were successful in getting special roles in school. They all put forward some amazing applications and we know they will all do a fantastic job in their extra responsibilities this year.



Head Girl
Melodie



Head Boy
Alfie



Deputy Head Girl
Layla



Deputy Head Boy
Daniel



Office Helpers
Ava and Zayn



Prefects
Tyler, Jessica, Murphy, Braidy, Dakota



A massive thank you to everyone who came to our coffee, cake and classrooms morning.

Together we have raised £205.84 – thank you for your support!



Attendance

Thank you to all our families who have helped us make a great start to the year in terms of attendance and punctuality. Every minute matters when it comes to school attendance and the evidence shows that children who are in school and on time every day make better progress.

A reminder that our doors open at 8.40am and all children need to be in school by the time the doors close at 8.50am. Children arriving after this time are late and will get a late mark on their attendance record.



This year we have a new Star Badge incentive for attendance. Children can earn badges for 100% attendance each term:

- **One term full attendance – Bronze**
- **Two terms full attendance – Silver**
- **Three terms full attendance – Gold**

A reminder that Calpol can be given in school for minor ailments such as coughs and colds. This can be arranged through the school office.

If your child is too ill to come to school, you must telephone the school office before 8.50am with the reason for their absence. The office can be very busy at this time so if nobody is able to answer the phone, please do leave a message as this will be picked up.

The school day finishes at 3.20pm and all children should be collected at this time unless they have been booked into Star Kids After School Club.

Every Minute Matters

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



Congratulations to the first group of children who have represented St Joseph's at the Rossendale Schools Sports Partnership inter-schools competition. As always, you did us proud!



Year 5&6 Football



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY
EAST**

Do you have a child starting primary school in September 2027 and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2027

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

Apply for a school place now by scanning the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools



Have your say

If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call 01254 220747.

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.



lancashire.gov.uk





**Wednesday 7th October
2.00-5.00pm**

Don't forget to book a slot with your child's teacher – letters were sent home last week. If you have lost your letter, please contact the school office or speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day.



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
SECONDARY**

APPLY NOW!

at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2027

You must apply if your child is in their last year of primary school (year 6) from September 2026.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

School transport 

If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.

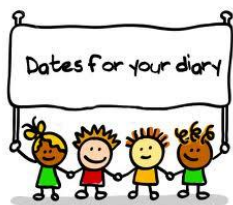


**CLOSING DATE
31 October 2026**

lancashire.gov.uk



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



Wed 7 th Oct	Parents' Evening
Thur 8 th Oct	Harry Potter Day
Mon 12 th Oct	Flu Vaccinations
Fri 23 rd Oct	School Closes 3.20pm
Tues 3 rd Nov	School Reopens
Tues 10 th Nov	Individual School Photos
Fri 27 th Nov	Lancashire Day
Thur 10 th Dec	Whole School Pantomime Trip
Fri 18 th Dec	School Closes

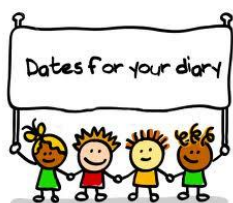
2027

Tues 5 th Jan	School Reopens
Fri 12 th Feb	School Closes

Mon 22 nd Feb	School Reopens
Thurs 25 th Mar	School Closes

Mon 5 th April	School Reopens
Mon 3 rd May	School Closed – May Day
Fri 28 th May	School Closes

Mon 14 th June	School Reopens
Tues 20 th July	School Closes



Free School Meals

Important Information for Families

From September 2026, the Government extended eligibility for Free School Meals. This means that more families may now qualify for support, even if they have not previously been eligible.

What this means for you

- If your household income is lower, your child may now be entitled to free school meals at school
- Schools receive additional funding (known as Pupil Premium) for every eligible child, which is used to support learning, resources and enrichment opportunities
- Even if your child prefers a packed lunch, applying can still bring valuable benefits to both your child and the school

What you need to do

- If you think you may now be eligible, we strongly encourage you to submit an application.
- Applications are quick, confidential and securely processed
- If your child is already receiving Free School Meals, you do not need to reapply

Why it's important to apply

- Ensures your child receives all the support they are entitled to
- Helps the school access additional funding to support pupils

If you would like further information or support with your application, please contact the school office.

Happy Birthday to the children who are celebrating during September

Mitzee, Annie, Blake, Alfie, Millie, Lisha, Kyro, Jacob, Prince, Layla and Anya



GREGGS

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our FREE Breakfast Club, sponsored by Greggs, starts at 8.00am (last admission 8.30am).
No need to book, just turn up!

STAR KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Star Kids is available to book from
3.20–5.30pm every day

Prices

Half session - 3:20-4:20pm or 4:20-5:30pm* £4.50

Full session - 3:20-5:30* £7.00

*Late collection charges apply

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