



St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy
'With God's guidance, we love, learn, respect and forgive'

Armadale Drive
Netherhall
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE5 1HF
0116 241 6197

School.Office@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk



Friday 16th June 23

Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start we have had to the final few weeks of the school year. The children never fail to amaze me with their determination to succeed in all that they do. This week the school was treated to a class assembly from our EYFS children. The children have had an amazing year with the teaching team and they showcased their learning with confidence and enthusiasm. This was an incredibly proud moment for all. Thank You Mrs Bailey and your team for preparing the children for this. I cannot wait to see how they develop and grow as they progress through St Joseph's.

The children have also been busy participating in many sporting events these have included Sports festivals at St Pauls, swimming and girls football events. Today we have also participated in a Swimming Gala. I am incredibly blessed to have so many 'Sporty' talented children at St Joseph's, and I cannot wait to see you all competing for your houses in our school sports day in the final week of term. Fingers crossed that this good weather continues.

I am also incredibly excited for our girls' football team, and I am delighted to announce that the FA ladies filmed them at school this week. Since the Lionesses won last summer ladies' football is becoming as well recognised as men's football and I am very proud of the success of this team this year. Keep up the hard work girls.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your engagement with all the events at school. It is lovely to welcome you all into school to celebrate learning with us. Keep an eye on the diary and your emails for the up-and-coming events.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Dedman



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Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 20 th June	Year 6 Sports Festival at St Pauls
Thursday 22 nd June	Year 5 Taster Day at St Pauls
Friday 23 rd June	Year 1 Adults invited to have lunch with your children
Monday 26 th June	Artist in Residence (Whole School)
Tuesday 4 th July	Year 6 End of year production - Evening Performance
Tuesday 4 th July	Year 1 and FS Trip to Conkers
Thursday 6 th July	Year 6 end of year production afternoon and evening performance
Thursday 6 th July	Mrs Darby and Mrs Spencer's class trip to Bosworth Battlefield
Wednesday 5 th July	Transition Day for St Paul's - Children at St Joseph's will meet their new class teachers too.
Friday 7 th July	Drumming Concert (am) (All those who have drumming lessons) Guitar Concert (pm)
Monday 10 th July	Leavers Mass 2 pm (All Welcome)
Tuesday 11 th July	Sports Day 9.00 -10.00 a.m. Foundation Stage 10.00 a.m. -12noon Year 1 and 2 1.00 -3.00 p.m. Years 3/4/5/6
Wednesday 12 th July	Sports day reserve
Wednesday 12 th July	School Disco
Thursday 13 th July	Last Day of school 22/23

Staying Safe

This infographic provides a comprehensive overview of money muling, a crime where individuals are used to transfer money for criminals. It includes sections on 'What are the risks?', 'Legal repercussions', 'Online recruitment', 'Possible exploitation', 'Advice for Parents & Carers', and 'Meet Our Expert'. It also features a 'National Online Safety' logo and social media handles.

This infographic focuses on the risks associated with TikTok, including 'Age inappropriate content', 'Explicit songs', 'TikTok fame', 'Addictive nature', 'In-app spending', and 'Hazardous virality'. It also includes 'Advice for Parents & Carers' and 'Meet Our Expert' sections, along with the 'National Online Safety' logo and social media handles.

This infographic discusses the dangers of screen addiction, noting that '47% of parents said they thought their children spent too much time in front of screens'. It covers 'Smartphone addiction', 'Confidence support & acceptance', 'Apps can be addictive', 'It can cause sleep deprivation', 'Loss of interest in other things', and 'Top Tips for Parents'. It also includes 'Meet Our Expert' and 'National Online Safety' information.



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Use the links below to find free advice posters.

[E-safety Guides for Schools | National Online Safety](#)

<https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/a-parents-guide-to-fake-news/>

[Healthy Steps - Step this way. \(betterhealth-healthierfamilies.co.uk\)](https://betterhealth-healthierfamilies.co.uk)

DOGS ON THE PLAYGROUND: Advice to those bringing dogs to school at drop off and pick up times



St Joseph's is a DOG FREE SITE – Even if they are being held under your arm!

Dogs are an important part of family life for many in the school community, and as such are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school.

However, others may find the presence of dogs in the playground and school grounds stressful, even frightening particularly with younger children, and even well-behaved dogs can behave

unpredictably when placed in a busy, noisy and crowded environment.

Consequently, dogs are not permitted on St Joseph's school Site – even if they are under your arm.

Catholic Life

<https://www.stjoseph-leicester.co.uk/>

FAMILY MASS AND CELEBRATION

Saturday, 24 June 3.00 pm

Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick, plus BBQ, Entertainment at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Leicester LE5 3HS

[FAMILY FAMILY FAMILY FAMILY FAMILY \(cdn-website.com\)](#)

ONLINE COURSE - Believe in Brief

Tuesdays, 10:00am-11:15 am, beginning 12th Sept 2023

(3rd Oct, 7th Nov, 5th Dec, 16th Jan, 6th Feb, 27th Feb, 19th Mar, 23rd Apr, 21st May, 11th June, 25th June)

An online course for parents and carers to explore the Catholic Faith and Parenthood.

[Belief in Brief Poster Draft \(cdn-website.com\)](#)



Pupil Premium

What is the pupil premium?

The pupil premium is a government scheme that was introduced in 2011 to improve the education of underprivileged children. It was launched after several research papers suggested that there was a significant gap between the educational performance of disadvantaged children and their classmates. In contrast to the rest of their classmates, many children who are eligible for pupil premium have to face extra challenges daily. These challenges can include attendance issues, lack of confidence and difficulty communicating with others.

The scheme aims to grant schools extra funding so that they're able to provide additional support for children who are faced with these types of challenges. Its objective is to help schools unlock the learning potential of their pupils and provide them with a better education. It also aspires to narrow the gap in educational development between children of underprivileged backgrounds and their peers.

Who qualifies for the pupil premium?

Children can be eligible for the pupil premium for a variety of reasons. These include their family circumstances, such as their income or occupations, and whether or not they're in care. If a child is eligible, a school will receive the necessary amount of funding for each child per school year.

- Primary schools receive £1345 for each pupil that is currently eligible for free school meals based on their family income.
- Primary schools receive £1345 for every pupil that has previously received free school meals based on their family income. Pupils are eligible for funding for six years since they last received a free school meal.
- All schools receive £2345 for every pupil that is currently in some form of care.
- All schools receive £2345 for every pupil that has previously been in some form of care and has since been adopted or placed into a child guardianship order.
- All schools will receive £310 for every pupil that has a parent currently serving in the armed forces or receiving a pension from the Ministry of Defence.

How do schools spend the pupil premium?

Schools are allowed to spend their pupil premium funding in whatever ways they see fit. This is because teachers and educational leaders are the most qualified at identifying what their pupils need most.

However, the government advises that schools carefully plan their spending and ensure that the funding is not simply absorbed into the mainstream school budget. They are encouraged to ensure that spending is carefully targeted to increase the achievements of their disadvantaged pupils.

Research has continued to show that, if spent in the correct ways, pupil premium funding can help to increase the academic ability of underprivileged children, particularly in core subjects such as maths and English.

Some of the most common ways that schools can spend their funding include:

- Hiring teaching assistants that can provide additional support during lessons.



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- Investing in technology and resources that will benefit a child's learning, such as computers and tablets.
- Providing additional one-to-one tutoring for core subjects such as English and maths.
- Paying for English lessons for pupils who speak a different language at home.
- Funding school trips for children who otherwise would not be able to afford them.
- Providing transportation for children who live far away from school to increase attendance.
- Paying for school equipment and uniforms for disadvantaged children.
- Providing children with extra tuition that can help to support them at home, such as cooking lessons.
- Funding anger management sessions for children that struggle with their behaviour.
- Paying for counselling or family support sessions for children who have a difficult time at home.
- Organising extra-curricular activities such as music, drama and sports clubs.
- Providing support for children who require speech and language therapy.

The pupil premium can increase the educational quality that a school can provide to their disadvantaged pupils. More often than not, other members of the school community will also benefit from the investments made with the pupil premium funding. For example, teachers will be able to spend more one-to-one time with children in class due to the additional support of a teaching assistant.

How can a child receive free school meals?

As stated previously, any child that is currently receiving free school meals is eligible for pupil premium funding. It's incredibly important that parents make the school aware that their child is eligible for this as it will automatically allow the school to receive extra funding that will go towards the betterment of their child's education.

A child's family circumstances are taken into account when determining whether or not they qualify for free school meals. To be eligible, they must be receiving one or more of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support as a result of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (If a household is earning less than £7,400 per year.)



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It's also worth noting that if a child receives these benefits directly, rather than a parent or guardian, they are also entitled to free school meals. This can be the case if the child is in care or some form of guardianship programme.

If you think that you may be entitled to free school meals, please do get in touch with me cdedman@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk or the School Office school.office@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk