

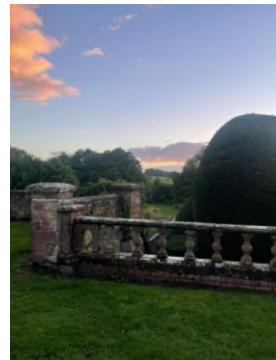


Friday 13th September 2024

Newsbite

Dear Parent's and Carers,

It's been a busy couple of weeks at St Joseph's: Our Nursery children have settled well and are enjoying making friends and having a super time learning with the EYFS team. Father David Cain came in to celebrate starting the new year with a wonderful whole school Mass and our year 6 children have been to Shropshire on their Year 6 Residential.



Arbor and Social Media

We are still in the process of updating all Arbor information and thank you all for working with us while we all get used to the new systems and processes. Thank you to all those who have responded to the Social Media Update; please could I ask that you all respond to this form so that we can share our learning experiences with you.

Uniform and the Weather

The weather has been inclement and cool this week. Please ensure that the children attend school with a coat and tracksuit for PE as we will always try to get outside if the weather is dry enough to do so.

Diary Dates

I have shared a few important dates for your diary of events that we would like to share with you. These dates are for the whole year, so that you can plan ahead and hopefully you will be able to join us.

Once again thank you all for your continued support, we have made a great start to the year; the children look smart and attendance is good. Let's keep this up going for the rest of the year.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
God Bless

Mrs Dedman

Prayer

Dear God,
Speak to our hearts and help us to see that we are one big family.
Old or young, short or tall, wherever we live, you made us all.
Help us to share, however, hard it seems, to make our world fair,
And live out our dreams.
Amen.



Year 6 Parents: Applying for Secondary School



Year 6 children moving to secondary school

You will be able to make an application for a secondary school place to start in Autumn 2025 from 9am on Monday, 2 September 2024.

You will receive an envelope for your year six student which contains a letter about the admission process. Closing date for applying - 31 October 2024.

If you are applying to St Pauls, please remember to complete the supplementary form and return this to St Pauls with the Baptismal Certificate.

[Apply for a secondary school place \(leicester.gov.uk\)](https://leicester.gov.uk)

Free School Meals



All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 classes automatically receive universal infant free school meals. However, if you meet the qualifying criteria listed below, completing an application for benefits-related free school meals could help your children's school get valuable extra funding through the pupil premium. There is no need to re-apply if your child is already registered for benefits-related free school meals and moving from one Leicester City school to another, e.g. if they are transferring to a Junior or Secondary school.

Who is eligible for benefits-related free school meals?

- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child tax credit (provided you're not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Working tax credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit.
- Universal credit with annual net earned income of less than £7,400

How to apply for free school meals

You should only apply for free school meals if you receive one of the benefits listed above. For universal infant free school meals, speak to your child's school.

What is the pupil premium?

The pupil premium is extra funding the government gives to schools to raise the achievement of disadvantaged pupils. The amount a school receives depends on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals.

Parents are encouraged to register their children, even if:

- they do not want to eat school meals
- they already receive universal infant free school meals.
- This is in order to raise extra money for the school, which can be used towards extra tuition, learning assistants or after school clubs.

Get in touch

If you have any questions on free school meals or need support with your application, please email: education-fsm@leicester.gov.uk or call 0116 454 1009 (option 3).

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/grants-and-allowances/free-school-meals/>

Travel Management (CTM) helpline on +44 (0)20 7429 9983.

Staying Safe Walking to school

What Age Can Child Walk to School Alone?



Years ago, it wasn't uncommon to see kids walking to school. However, nowadays people are far more wary about children walking to school alone. This is because there is far more traffic and the media convinces us there is an increase in danger.

If you're wondering if your child is ready and what age a child can walk to school alone, check out this simple guide on how to prepare your child for walking to and from school.

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/walking-to-school-alone/>

If you do wish for your child to walk home from school independently, please write an email / pop into the office to let us know.

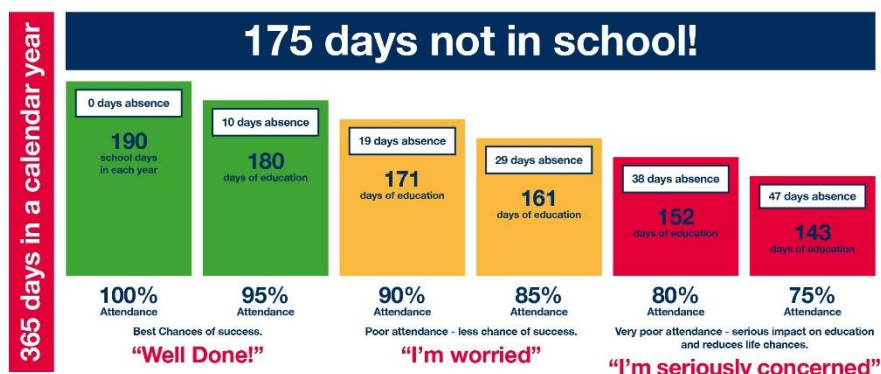
ATTENDANCE

Your legal responsibilities as a parent

By law, all children of school age (aged four to sixteen) must receive a suitable full-time education. For most parents, this means registering your child at a school or you may choose to make other arrangements to provide a suitable, full-time education.

Good attendance means...

Being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days



Class	Class Attendance Average Year to date	Attendance National Average year to date	Persistent Absence (School)	Persistent Absence (National)
Mrs Bailey FS1	98.0%	92.8%		
Mrs Bailey FS2	95.5%	94.7%		
Mrs Abel	100%	95.6%	0%	12.9%
Mr Crewe	98.5%	95.8%	0%	12.3%
Mrs Spencer	98.4	96%	6.5%	11.9%
Mr Challoner	97.1%	95.9%	8.8%	12.3%
Mrs Darby	99.1%	95.9%	3.1%	12.6%
Mrs Stack / Mrs Franklin	96.4%	95.7%	10.0%	13.4%
Mrs Murray				
Whole School (This year so far)	95.9%	95.5%	5.3%	13.6%

Congratulations Year 1 on your 100% attendance to date

Half Term Holiday Club

LACY's BIG SING 2024

After the success of last year's **Big Sing**, we at Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth (LACY) are holding another **Big Sing 2024** at The Immaculate Conception Church, Oadby on Sunday 6th October 2024 at 4pm. This is a fantastic opportunity to share our faith and celebrate our talents through music and singing.

We are inviting all young people, families, friends and parishes with their own music groups and choirs, to come along and be involved in the liturgy with their voices and instruments.

We welcome anyone who plays an instrument to join our folk group and bring along percussion instruments to use during the event. School choirs/orchestras are welcome to sing/play favourite hymns. If you have any questions about the event or would like to be involved in playing with the folk group or singing as a choir, please contact:

Pauline Payne email - paulinepayne@hotmail.com - tel number: 07885 187374 or Jo Shearer- joshearer@hotmail.com.

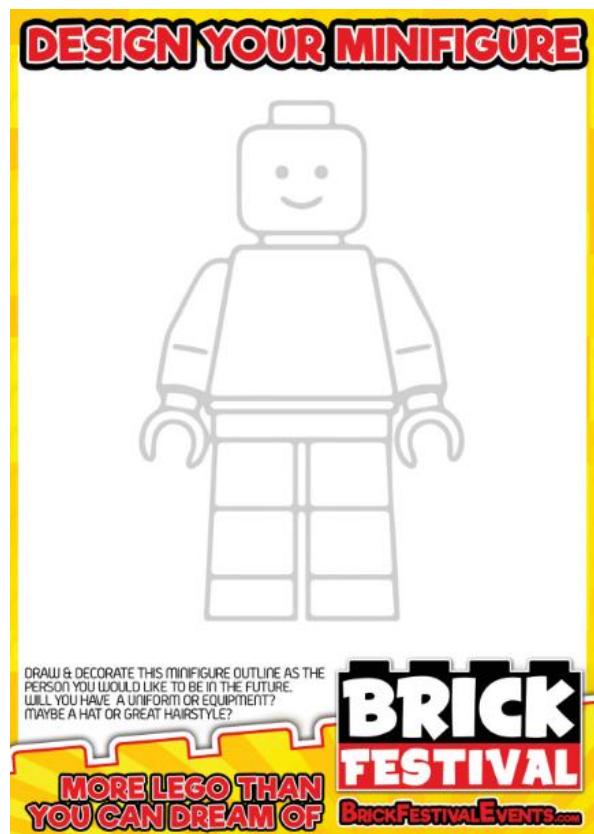
Leicester Children's Holidays



Don't forget to buy your tickets (£9 adults, £7 for children - under 2's free) to the fantastic Flourish Family Festival which is being organised by our charity partner LCH (the colour dash) the event promises a great value day out for the family, once you have bought your tickets all activities and attractions are free, so the children can enjoy the inflatables, crazy golf, circus workshop, fairground rides, lawn games, arts and crafts, tag rugby and much more as many times as they wish... all whilst listening to 4 live music acts on the main stage - including a Taylor Swift tribute! Held at the beautiful Gorse Hill City Farm all farm attractions are also included. All funds raised help support local children too. Buy your tickets here: [Flourish Festival Ticket -](https://www.flourishfestival.co.uk)

[Leicester Children's Holidays \(leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk\)](https://www.leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk)

The Leicester Brick Festival: Braunstone Leisure Centre, on Sunday 29th September



The Leicester Brick Festival is an exciting celebration of all things LEGO, but it isn't just about fun - although it is absolutely packed full of that too! Brick Festival events also invite visitors to explore a range of STEM and creative subject skills through the medium of LEGO bricks. And this time we are encouraging visitors to explore their future potential by designing a minifigure. We have provided the outline of a LEGO Minifigure, but this can be changed in any way that the students would like. They can use any art medium to design the character - adding uniforms or outfits, accessories or equipment, funky hats or crazy hair. Whatever they need to show us who they would like to be when they are older.

We have distributed the design sheet to students in the classroom. Once they have their design, they just need to bring it along with them to the Ipswich Brick Festival at Braunstone Leisure Centre, on Sunday 29th September. Our crew members at the Activity Sign Up Desk will put up their creations in a special art gallery, take down their details and every entry will be entered into a draw to win a £50 LEGO Gift Card.

Full details of this Design Challenge, and event information can be found on our website, www.BrickFestivalEvents.com

St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy
WITH GOD'S GUIDANCE WE LOVE, LEARN, RESPECT AND FORGIVE
Head Teacher: Mrs Clair Dedman
Armadale Drive, Leicester, Leicestershire LE5 1HF
Tel: 0116 241 6197
Email: Office@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk

