St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

# Newsletter

*'We Work, We Care, We Pray, We Share'*

Web: www.st-josephs-withnell.lancs.sch.uk

**9th October 2026**

## October – Month of the Holy Rosary



The month of October is traditionally dedicated to Our Lady and the Holy Rosary, giving us a special opportunity to reflect on the life of Jesus through the eyes of Mary. Throughout October, we will be encouraging our children to spend time in prayer and to learn more about the Rosary. Junior children who have their own Rosary beads are warmly invited to bring them into school so that they can use them during our times of prayer.

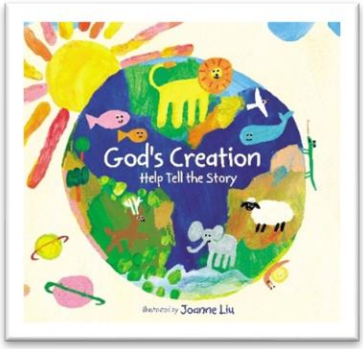
Each Wednesday lunchtime, children will also have the special opportunity to visit church and pray the Rosary alongside our parishioners. This is a lovely way for our school and parish community to come together in prayer and devotion to Our Lady.

## Harvest Food Bank Collection



During this special Harvest season, we are once again collecting donations for Chorley Food Bank to support families and individuals in our local community.
As we give thanks to God for all that we have, Harvest is a wonderful opportunity to put our faith into action by thinking of others and sharing with those who may need a little extra help.
We would be very grateful for donations of tinned food, packets and other non-perishable items. Please leave any donations in the collection box at the entrance to Church.
Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity. Every donation, however small, can make a difference.

## Save The Date – Class 1 Creation Assembly




**Wednesday 14th October 9.10am** – please join Class 1 for their first class assembly which they will lead. All welcome.

## CAFOD – Brighten Up the Harvest! - Friday 16th October




On Friday 16th October, we will be supporting CAFOD's 'Brighten Up the Harvest' fundraising day as part of our Harvest celebrations. To help us brighten up our school, children are invited to bring in a voluntary donation and wear bright items of clothing for the day! 🌈

This could be:

- Bright socks
- A colourful tie
- A bright T-shirt or jumper
- A colourful hairband or accessory/bright hairspray

All donations will support the important work of CAFOD, helping communities around the world and reminding us of our responsibility to care for one another as part of our global family. Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support

## Harvest Display in Church



If any families missed our Harvest Family Mass last Sunday, our beautiful display will be in place for another week - can you count the squirrels on there? There are still plenty of harvest themed activities for children and there's always a drink and a biscuit available at the end! Everyone is welcome. Mass is Sunday 9.30am

## Spooky Harvest




Tickets now on sale for our PTA Spooky Disco – Wednesday 14th October 3.25pm – 4.45pm.

Children can come to school dressed up. Please also ensure that children have a coat and trainers for their PE lesson if it falls on this day. Class 1 need to come to school in their school uniform as it is their assembly and then get changed after.

## Attendance

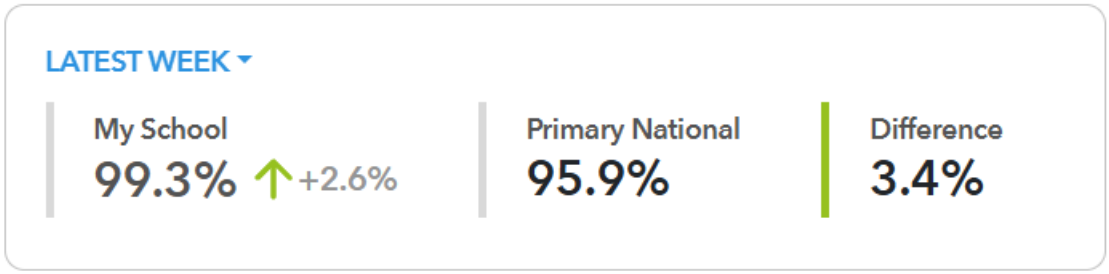
Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your children attend school regularly and on time. Last week, our attendance was 99.3%.

Regular attendance is essential for children to achieve their full potential. Every school day provides valuable learning opportunities, and even a few days of absence can have an impact on a child's progress, confidence and friendships.

Attendance is also a key area that schools are judged on by Ofsted. It is assessed as a separate area of school performance, with inspectors carefully considering attendance figures, persistent absence and the actions schools take to ensure pupils attend regularly.

We understand that family holidays are important, but we ask all parents and carers to support us by booking holidays during the school holidays wherever possible. By working together, we can improve our attendance figures and ensure that every child has the best opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority




## Christmas Fair – Friday November 27th June

Please keep the date free!

Every Friday in November will be a non-uniform day in exchange for an item to help support our PTA Christmas Fair. We are always so grateful for your support. We are also in need of raffle items if you are able to provide any raffle gifts.



## *Follow* Us on Social Media!

Don't forget to take a look at our **Facebook** and **Instagram** pages to see what has been happening in school. We regularly share photographs, celebrate our pupils' achievements, highlight special events, and keep you up to date with the exciting learning taking place across the school.

Be sure to follow us so you don't miss any of the wonderful moments from school life!

https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsWithnell?locale=en_GB

https://www.instagram.com/stjosephswithnell/

## In the Line At Ten to Nine

⏰ In the Line at Ten to Nine!
A little reminder that children should be in the line and ready to come into school at 8:50am.

Being on time means that children can come into school calmly, settle quickly and be ready to start their learning alongside their classmates.

Please help us by aiming for 'In the Line at Ten to Nine!' each morning.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us make every minute of the school day count.

## PE Days – Earrings Reminder

Just a polite reminder regarding earrings on PE days. Small stud earrings are fine to be worn as part of our usual school uniform. However, for health and safety reasons, we kindly ask that earrings are removed on days when your child has PE.

Where earrings cannot be removed, please ensure that they are securely covered with a plaster before your child comes to school, so that they can participate safely in their PE lesson. We would really appreciate your support with this, as it helps us to keep all of our children safe while enjoying their PE and sporting activities.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation