St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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January 2026

www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Dear Parents

Please click on the links below to access calendar events and after school clubs:

School Calendar: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Diary/
Term Dates 2025/26 https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2025-2026_Calendar.pdf
After School Clubs: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Spring_2026.pdf

We hope you had a lovely Christmas and would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Spring Curriculum Overviews



Please find attached (via email) the curriculum overviews for your child's year group. These are provided so parents can encourage and support their children's studies at home. In addition, all curriculum overviews are also posted on the school website.

Cold Weather



Please ensure that your child wears a warm coat to school, preferably waterproof with a hood and sleeves. It would be most helpful if all garments are labelled, including gloves, scarves and hats.

Should there be adverse weather conditions, please find listed below the system to inform you that the school is closed or will be closing early due to poor weather.

To check to see if the school is open, the 'Open Check' service can be viewed on-line by following a link on the school website. The autotext system will be used if the school needs to close early during the school day.

For parents without access to the internet, the status can be checked by calling 0208 408 7508 and keying in our DfE code which is 3033502.

Primary Reception Places – September 2026



The Bexley online site has now opened – www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions (for Bexley residents) and https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places and closes on 15th January 2026).

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2026. The school welcomes applications from Catholics and non-Catholic families (who are sympathetic to our values and practice).

Please note, if you are Catholic, Fr David, will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice (available from the school office or from our website) by appointment only. However, if you are not religious, you must still complete the Supplementary Form and return it to the school office.

School Council Christmas Charity
Please find detailed below a message we received from Bexley Foodbank:

Bexley Foodbank would like to extend our sincere thanks to your wonderful school for its continued support of this vital cause. Your generous donations truly make a meaningful difference to individuals and families experiencing food poverty across Bexley.

Your recent collection totalled an impressive 232kg. To put this into perspective, Bexley Foodbank distributes an average of 5,000kg of food each month to those most in need, highlighting both the scale of the challenge and the importance of your contribution.

We are incredibly grateful to you all - your generosity and kindness are deeply appreciated. Have a lovely and blessed 2026.

Too Good To Go
With the cost of living rising and the recent expense of Christmas, some families may be struggling with food shopping bills. On top of this, 2.5 billion tonnes of food is wasted every year.

We dream of a planet with no food waste. Every day, unsold food from your favourite restaurants, supermarkets, cafes and shops goes to waste simply because it hasn't been sold in time. The Too Good To Go app makes it easy to make a difference, allowing you to save Surprise Bags of good food at an even better price.

Simply download from an App Store or by scanning the QR code

Homeless Sleepover – Friday 6th February 2026
Our children have been learning about injustice in the world. They feel passionate about the number of people in our country who have no homes and are forced to sleep outside.

With this in mind, we will be doing a charity event for DePaul, this is a youth homelessness charity helping young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Our School Council chose this charity as they agree with their mission and want to support them further.

To raise money and empathy for homeless people, we will be hosting a homeless sleepover in school on Friday 6th February from 7.00pm overnight to 7.30am on Saturday morning.

Last year was really inspirational and the children (and adults) did manage to get some sleep! A letter giving more details will be sent out shortly.

Children's Mental Health Week: 9th – 15th February 2026 - Theme 'This is My Place'
The theme for 2026 is 'This is My Place', focusing on the importance of feeling a sense of belonging in schools, communities, and homes.

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 10th February 2026 – Theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'
With many children hearing about and using AI online, it is important for them to have the skills and confidence to make safe choices and use technology responsibly.

Keeping Safe Online
If your child received a device as a Christmas gift, you will want to know how to keep them safe online. Here are some links providing useful information for parents:

- Keeping children safe online
  https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/
- A safe digital world for children
  https://www.internetmatters.org/
- Online Safety and Gaming
  https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/online-safety-and-gaming.pdf
- Help, advice and resources for parents and carers
  https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/
- Screentime for children under five
  https://safeblog.lgfl.net/screensinearliestyears

Yours sincerely

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School