# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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**October 2025**

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 2025/25** https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2025-2026_Calendar.pdf
**After School Clubs:** https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Autumn_2025.pdf

**Relief Midday Supervisor Post**




We have a vacancy for a Relief Midday Supervisor. Are you available to work from 12.15 pm – 1.15 pm, or do you know someone who might be suitable? The position involves supervision of children on the playground and in the dining hall. Please contact the school office for further details.

**Parent Helpers**



The school would greatly appreciate parent help, especially with hearing children read. If you have a few hours a week spare, please consider volunteering your time. Please write, care of the school office, expressing your interest. Parents do not usually support their own child's class. Parent support is also needed for occasional class trips, please write and let us know if you are able to volunteer. All regular parent helpers need a DBS check which requires proof of identity and a police check. The school will pay for this check to be carried out.

**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 school is holding a number of Open Events on the following dates:

- Tuesday 16th September 2025 - 9.15 am
- Monday 13th October 2025 - 1.30 pm
- Friday 21st November 2025 - 9.15 am
- Monday 8th December 2025 - 5.00 pm
- Thursday 8th January 2026 - 9.15 am

A presentation by the Head of School will be followed by a guided tour of the school. Please remind friends and neighbours to put these dates in their diary. 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.

*Learning and growing together with Christ*

**Harvest Donations**



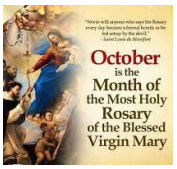

Thank you for the marvelous response to our harvest collection. The harvest display reminded the children to give thanks for the wonderful bounty God gives us. The food that you have generously donated will be collected by the Salvation Army for their food bank. The last day for donations is Monday 6th October 2025.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning – Thank You!**




Thank you to all who attended our Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' last week by staff and parents. Cakes and refreshments were enjoyed by all. Particular thanks to parents who contributed cakes for this event. The total money raised was £124.32 and will go to Macmillan to support someone affected by cancer.

**October the Month of the Holy Rosary**




Parents and children are invited to join Fr David and one of our parishioners in saying a decade of the rosary before school. The prayer group will meet on Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd October at 8.30 am in the school prayer room.

**Hello Yellow Day**




The wellbeing and mental health of our children is incredibly important. On Friday 10th October 2025, we are asking the children to come to school wearing an additional yellow coloured item (still wearing full uniform) to brighten up the school for the day. Each class will take part in activities in their classes to reflect on the different ways that we can look after ourselves better. #HelloYellow.

**Black History Month Project**




The theme for Black History Month this year is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride'. Our school is proud of our diverse community and celebrate the important contributions which have shaped history through our curriculum. Mrs Meeking will soon be announcing on Google Classroom an exciting project (optional) for the Half Term where you can also earn St Joseph's University Points.

**School Fund and School Funding in General**




Thank you to those parents who have already paid the school fund. If you still need to pay, please send your £20 school fund contribution as soon as possible. Please log on to your School Gateway Account to pay. We rely on parents to send this amount in at the beginning of the Autumn Term. The money collected is for the extra expenses the school has to incur during the year, this includes end of term treats, subsidy for outings, in-school guest speakers and theatre productions.

**School Lunch Menu**



The lunch menu will change to the Winter Menus after the October half term. The new menus are currently being updated and will be available on the school website from Monday 20th October 2025. Please be advised that the school office and kitchen staff need a notice period of one week for any changes to dinner arrangements.

**Winter Uniform**



Please be advised that after half term, winter uniform must be worn. Please remember to label all uniform. A reminder of the school uniform is attached, on the parents' noticeboard and school website. The children look very smart in their uniform and the wearing of school coloured hair bands completes the overall look. Please take note of the information about boys haircuts at the bottom of the poster. Girls are reminded to remove their earrings and nail varnish before they come to school. Your co-operation is appreciated.

**Attendance and Punctuality**



For our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

Repeated poor punctuality is not acceptable. If a child misses the start of the day, they can miss work and time with their class teacher getting vital information and news for the day. When a pupil arrives late, it disrupts the lesson and can be embarrassing for the child themselves. Arriving on time will provide a smooth start to the day.

**Instrument Lessons**



A wide variety of instrument lessons are available for junior children to learn. Mrs Tylee has sent out a number of different letters to families who have expressed an interest. Mrs Tylee has asked me to remind you that lessons have already started.

**Flu Vaccination Offer – Years R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 at School**




This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. With COVID-19 still in circulation it is important to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them, the NHS and social care. Research also shows that if you get both flu and COVID-19 at the same time you may be more seriously ill. The nasal flu vaccination will take place in school on Monday 3rd November 2025

**Please follow the link to complete an online consent form** (one for each child) to ensure your child receives their vaccination:
https://cypcis.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk/flu/2025/bexley

The vaccination is free and is a quick, simple and painless spray up the nose. Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected. The healthcare team and school will follow guidelines to ensure children are safe when being offered the vaccine.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

**Caring Classrooms**



This month we will start to collect donations for Bexley Foodbank who are very grateful for all of your generous donations which will help support thousands of Bexley residents who rely on foodbanks as part of their weekly shop. They are currently in need of long life milk, noodles, tinned fruit, custard, coffee, toothpaste, shower gel, razors and deodorant. Please to send items into school. Thank you for caring.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

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Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School