Dear Parents and Carers,

I first met the current Year 6 just over five years ago in the summer term of their time in Year 1. Since then I have seen them grow and develop into the confident and articulate young people they are. I know they are ready to move onto pastures new and I am sure that you will join me in wishing them the very best for their future.

I would also like to thank Mr Godfrey, our retiring deputy head teacher, for the love and care he has shown many children in his time at St Joseph’s. Again I am sure you will join me in wishing him the best for his retirement.

It doesn’t seem five minutes since I was writing the Easter edition of this newsletter and there has been much going on this term. The choir saw all of their hard work pay off as they excelled while singing at the Sage; I hope this becomes an annual opportunity for our children to sing at the highest level. We have continued to perform at a high level in a range of sports and the children have enjoyed documenting their exploits and achievements in these pages.

Unfortunately, the rain managed to scupper the athletics festival and the Y1 & Y2 trip to South Shields but I’m glad it just about held off and didn’t dampen the enthusiasm children showed on Sports’ day. The sun definitely shone on our School Games Day, the school fayre and many other school trips that children have described for you.

The end of the year is always a good time to reminisce and look back on achievements but it is also a good time to look forward and I am already excited about the next few years and have many plans to help our school become even better. I’m delighted to welcome Miss Duffield to the team and I’m sure Miss Shepherdson will excel in her new role as Deputy Head. It is a privilege and honour to be entrusted with the care of your children and I would like to thank all of my staff for their hard work and dedication.

Have a safe and restful break and I’ll see you in September.

Mr A Ramanandi
Head Teacher

Angels On Stage @ The Sage

On June the 30th many people across KS2 went to the Sage in Gateshead to entertain over 1000 members of the audience and before this we had 3 practices. When we got to the Sage we got brought to a small room where each school lay there bags down and to have a rest after the long journey on the coach. Then a lady came in to direct each school to the stage to sit on their seats for the spectacular performance. After we did 6 songs we went to the small room again for a refreshing snack and drink. Once again the lovely lady came in to guide us to the stage. We really enjoyed this opportunity. We had one more practice singing all the songs then back on stage with butterflies in our tummies.

We got introduced to the crowd we walked to the stage on to our seats and started singing, each time we sang a song the crowd gave us a standing ovation. As soon as we finished we had a huge round of applause and a big bang of confetti. We really enjoyed our time at the Sage but we are sad that it has ended. We especially thank Mrs Cape for all her hard work she has put in. Thank you.

By Ashleigh & Emmie Yr3
EYFS and KS1 Saltwell Park

In May children from Reception class, Year 1 and Year 2 took part in a fun run at Saltwell Park in Gateshead. We had to arrive at school early so that we could get to the park on time. It was a beautiful hot sunny day so we had to wear sun hats and sun cream to keep us safe and protect us from the sun. We had to wear our black shorts and white school PE tops with a number attached to our t-shirts. We looked very sporty.

When we arrived at the park there were lots of other school children there from many other schools across Gateshead. They were all wearing their PE kits so there were lots of different colours.

Children from Year 1 and Year 2 had to run 1 mile around the park. Children from Reception Class had to run a slightly shorter distance around the lake. We had lots of fun but were very hot and tired by the end of the race!

Miss Graham

Cinema instead of Beach Trip

This term, Year 1 and 2 were looking forward to their trip to the beach but unfortunately the British weather had other ideas. Luckily for us, our teachers and the friends of St Joseph’s came to the rescue and organised an excellent cinema afternoon. While we were having lunch they transformed Year 1s classroom into a comfy cinema and Mrs Swanston even donated lots of sweets for us to enjoy. We were delighted to find out that the film of the day was Sing. Lots of us had never seen this before so we were very excited. The film was great and we laughed all afternoon. The teachers said our behaviour was impeccable and that they were very proud of how we all managed to have such a fun day despite the rain.

Well done Years 1 and 2.

Mrs Alder

Marvellous Maths!

The key aims of the new Curriculum for maths are that lessons are broken into fluency, reasoning and problem solving. This supports a mastery approach to teaching and learning.

This term, Year 2 really enjoyed this approach. We have often enjoyed working with a partner which has helped us to talk about our maths and think the process through together. In addition to this, we have also used appropriate resources to support our understanding of the concept or explain our problem solving.

There have been times when we have found it very hard and challenging but we didn’t give up. Well done Year 2.
Awards Evening

On Monday the 11th of July, year 5 went to an awards evening in Gateshead. We were there because we won a PE award - the determination award - for making and singing our song. We changed some of the lyrics. We went at 5:45 and we got back at 9:30. When we got there, we sat down and waited a bit then we started. First it was lots of different awards all related to P.E, such as sports leaders and how many people are doing lots of competitions. Before people got their awards, there was a man called Craig Heap, a famous Gymnast, told his life story to us. Then a man came called Matt Bailey, from the radio Capital FM told us lots of jokes. Lots of people got individual awards and some got group awards. We were last to get our award on the stage, but we said ‘save best till last’. Suddenly the backing track tracker wasn’t working for our video, but Mrs Cape found the music on her memory stick. We sang Roar by Katy Perry. Roar is about the theme determination. After our fabulous song, we received our amazing award - a glass one. When we got our award, Craig was keep on giving us high fives and fist bumps. On the way back we got a packet of haribos each and a bottle of water. When you’re in year 5, we hope you enter the competition and win it. Hope you enjoyed our amazing awards evening. By Ellie and Aurelia Yr 5

Attendance Matters

Whilst children cannot help being poorly and I very much appreciate the families who respect our 48 hour rule, it is still really important that children miss as little school as possible and every day missed is disruptive to your child’s education.

These numbers might surprise you.

90% means that your child misses on average 1 half day every week, nearly 4 weeks every school year and over 1 school year by the time they do their GCSEs.

10 days absence means 95% attendance.
19 days absence means 90% attendance.
29 days absence means 85% attendance.
38 days absence means 80% attendance.
47 days absence means 75% attendance.

We try to ensure that attendance is not less than 95% but would like to improve it further. Mrs Simpson is the parent governor who is responsible for monitoring attendance and she meets termly with Mrs Steel to discuss attendance issues. Some of our pupils have managed the astonishing achievement of 100% attendance and I’d like to say a huge well done to them! Mr Ramanandi
Sports Day

On Wednesday the 14th of June, we went to Dukeshouse Wood. We had a brilliant time. When we arrived, we had a women called Kate who gave us a tour of the dorms. After the tour of the dorms, my group went on the obstacle challenge. It was really good but challenging.

At Dukeshouse Wood, we did lots of activities, such as: 3G swing, zipwire, nightline, problem solving, fencing, Jacob’s ladder, AJB. They were all very good, even though they were scary.

It was nice to be away with my friends. We worked together well as a team and helped each other. It was a brilliant experience. I wish we could go again.

By Maddy Y5

Dukeshouse Wood

On July 11th we had our incredible sports day. As we started, KS2 was the first to do their amazingly good sports morning. The things we did were: Cross-country, obstacle, sprint, throwing javelin, skipping race, and toddler race and finally parent’s race.

KS1 (reception-year 2) did mostly all the things that KS2 had. They were in the afternoon but didn’t have the house point challenge.

If you were in KS2, we had house points awarded for where you came in the races. If you come in the top 3, you get a certain amount of house points for your team. The houses are: St Bede’s, St Aidan’s, St Oswald’s and St Cuthbert’s. St Oswald’s won and got to do a victory lap around the cross-country.

By Demi-leigh & Chloe Yr 5
Newburn Cyclists

On the 17th July year 6 went on a bike ride to Newburn. They had to arrive at school with their bikes. The class set of at half nine it was a very exiting on the way there as they went downhill the whole time however the way back was obviously going to be trickier. When they arrived at the park, they ate their lunch. Mr Hannah offered the children to come on a bike ride with just him. The bike ride was extremely fast and it was very hard to keep up with Mr Hannah, but we managed. On the way back everyone was tired, and needed lots of water as the weather was beautiful, but hot. The day was over and we were tired from tough journey back. Great fun though!

By Amber and Charlotte Yr6

Poetry Recital

Two pupils from year 5 got voted for to go to a poetry recital. The two pupils from year 5 were me and Chloe W. We had to memorise two poems; the poems were Matilda and the poem that we chose was The Visitor. The visitor was a quite scary poem and Matilda was an easy to learn and a joyful, fun poem. There were a lot of good people at the poetry recital but everyone got a trophy at the end. At the poetry recital there was a famous author who was judging us at the poetry recital. It was at a school in Dunston and we went with Mrs Foley. We had to perform in front of the schools year 5 as well. It was very scary at the poetry recital.

First, we went in a room. Everyone that was in the room was practising their poems so me and Chloe W started reading our poems. Then we had to go into the school’s hall. We sat down and the Head Teacher of the school introduced us to the author and to her class and then herself.

Next, we had to wait until it was our turn to perform. It took a while because me and Chloe W were at the back. We were so nervous. Then it was Chloe’s turn to perform. She did really well. Then it was my turn to perform. I was nervous but I did well. Then we got break on the school’s yard. At break, we got to play Bulldog. Then after, we got to do the second poem. I was first this time and I did well but there was a lot of good people to compete against. Chloe did well too. We were both happy. I got a runner’s up trophy and Chloe came third. We had a good morning!

By Leah Y5
Year 4 took part in a skipping festival on the 30th March 2017. It was held in Gateshead Stadium. We were competing against other schools from Wickham, Crawcrook, Stella and others.

We began by doing a warm up all together with the other schools. We practised lots of different types of skipping. Then we went on to compete in the individual skips. There was double bounce which Olyvia and Dylan did and they both came 1st. After that there was cross over skip. Harry came 3rd in this. Next was the speed bounce skip where Evan came 1st and Olivia came 3rd. Next was the side swing skip that Tilly and Thomas competed in, Tilly came 2nd and Thomas came 3rd. Then we moved onto the pretzel skip with Tannah and Gabriel, Gabriel came 1st. We then moved onto pairs where Harrison and Ezra did face to face. The final skip in this part was the butterfly skip that Ella and Lucy did together and they claimed first in that.

After all the individual skips, some schools got to perform their Skipping dances. We watched and they were all really good. After this it was the group skipping of ‘keep the pot boiling’ and ‘run in and run out’. Both of our teams did very well in this. Finally we got to perform our skipping dance to ‘Don’t stop me now by Queen’. We all tried our hardest to show our skipping skills. Finally it was results time. Overall we won the whole festival which meant we got to go do it all again in June. We were so pleased and proud of ourselves.

In the beginning of June we headed to Walker Dome and competed again against the other winning schools from the North East. We had a fantastic time and although we didn’t win we were still extremely proud of ourselves and how far we came.

By Tilly and Ezra Y4

Healthy School awards

On Wednesday 12th July, Beth, Katie and Jake (from year 6) went with Mrs Douglas, who is the year 5 teacher, to collect a healthy schools award at the Dryden centre.

It was going to be Jake and Keira; however Keira was off so Beth and Katie went instead. We went before lunch as there was a buffet there. When we arrived, we were the only school there because we arrived early. We decided to take a seat and get some food from the buffet. Unfortunately, there was only healthy sandwiches and wraps to eat, however neither one of us liked any of the food! Once we sat down with the food that we picked, other schools started to arrive, so we knew that the award ceremony was going to begin soon. About 10 minutes later, schools were ready to show their presentations. All of the presentations were really interesting and different to the others; we on the other had chosen to not do a presentation as we had the choice of which. Soon the awards were getting handed out, we waited and waited until they called our school name, but ours came last, after all save the best until last! We collected our award for our fitness 15 we have been taking part in.

Overall that day was a very fun and productive day!

By Beth and Katie Yr6
Y6 Away Days

On Wednesday 26th June, year 6 had a trip to Allensford to go to the youth ministry team festival. Upon arrival, we received wrist bands and pompoms to show what groups we were in. We walked in the rain to the venue, a big black tent with a huge stage. There were signs up to tell all of the schools where they were sitting. We were sat near the back. Once all of the schools arrived, the music began to play. We sang, danced and had lots of fun at the village. After we sang and danced to a few songs, the youth ministry team started introducing themselves one by one. One of the leaders (Cody the musician) was from Las Vegas and another was from Birmingham. They were all very kind to us.

Soon after, it was lunch time. Once we had all finished, we were allowed to go and play on the massive field outside. We played bulldog and tag, then went back inside. Once we were back inside we danced and sang a little bit more. We then watched a video about Desmond Doss, who saved many people during the war. It was finally time to go back home. We had to wait outside for our bus at the fire assembly point. Then after about 30 minutes, we arrived back at school where our parents came to pick us up. All in all, we had a really good day.

By Ellie K-S & Emma Y6

On Friday the 14th of July 2017, year 6 travelled to Newcastle train station where we all met up to get on the train to Edinburgh! Everyone was all excited knowing they had a fun journey ahead. We met at Burger King where we found teachers taking the register. Eventually, everyone was here and we were set to board the train. On the train, children were screaming with excitement while watching the beautiful views ahead.

After a while, we arrived at Waverley Station where we then left to sight-see Edinburgh. We waited some time while our year 6 teacher (Mrs Cavanagh) ordered our McDonalds for later on that day. Next, we weaved through the large city of Edinburgh until we got to Dynamic Earth. When we were there, we went back to the past in the time travel machine, it jerked from side to side as we watched the clip on the wall. Next, we took a trip to the icy part of Dynamic Earth where there was an iceberg and a telescope. We went into several parts of Dynamic Earth where we watched video clips in each one. Next we went into another part where we watched a short film about biomes. It was very interesting!

By Ellie P and Layla Y6
THANK YOU for supporting the Friends of St Joseph’s!

You have helped us raise £3898.37 during this school year.

Our fundraising has benefited the children in many ways, including:

- Christmas Pantomime visit, plus snack bag for each child
- New sports kit for School Team events
- Prizes for House Point awards
- Donation towards Reception White House Farm visit
- First Holy Communion flowers for church
- Donation towards Year 5 Theatre Royal visit
- New planting around school
- Board games for residential trips
- School flag for sporting events
- T-shirts for our School Choir’s Sage performance
- New furniture for Reception classroom
- Leavers Mass refreshments

YOU CAN DONATE FOR FREE!

Do you shop online? Do it through easyfundraising.org.uk and raise a free donation for us every time you shop at thousands of online retailers. No cost, no catch.

Sign up today at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofstjosephscps

WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH’S?

We are a friendly team of parents, grandparents, carers and staff who raise money to contribute toward school activities, events and equipment.

Join us and help make a real difference at St Joseph’s.

Contact the School Office on 0191 414 3108
or email: blaydonstjosephscatholicprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk
Social Media Gallery

These are a few images from our webpage and Twitter feeds. Why not follow us on Twitter?

Kit is really easy to do and you can keep up to date with all that’s going on at St Josephs

#StJosLearningTogether

@RecStJosephs

@year5sjb

#GoStJos

@year2sjb

@year1sjb

#StJosAwayDays

@HTStJosephs

@year3sjb

@year6sjb

#StJosLearningTogether
All are welcome in St. Joseph’s where everyone is special, cared for and challenged to be the best they can be in our safe and happy school.

We strive to love justice, show mercy and walk wisely and humbly with God. We will love one another in Christ knowing that Jesus loves us very much.

Roll of Honour

Jake Rec  Henry Yr1  Jane Yr2
Emmie Yr3  Eve Yr4  Annabelle Yr5
Lucy Yr6  Chloe Rec  Arwen Yr1
Frazer Yr2  Ellie Yr3  Ewan Yr4
Daniel Yr5  Amber Yr6  Caolan Rec
Katie Yr1  Alex Yr2  Harry Yr3
Liam Yr4  Millie Yr5  Emma Yr6
Amelia Rec  Ava-Mae Yr1  Nye Yr2
Libby Yr3  Dylan Yr4  Ellie Yr5
Jamie Yr6  Jakub Rec  Sophie Yr1
Ethan Yr2  Ellie Yr3  Rebecca Yr4
Lexie Rec  Nell Yr1  Oliver Yr2
Ashleigh Yr3  Harry Yr4  Jamie Yr5
Nathan Yr6  Olivia Yr4  Jonny Yr4
Curtis Yr5  Dominic Yr6

Admission to Reception Class 2018
The online application process for admission into reception class in September 2018 will open for parents and carers on 8th September 2017. Apply online at: www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions

PTA
The Friends of St. Joseph’s, our Parent Teacher Association, wish to thank everyone for their support this term.

Please see their Yearly Round-up on page 8.

This year the Friends of St Joseph’s raised £3898.37.

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www.stjosephscatholicprimaryschool.com

Your School Noticeboard

Good Luck
We wish Year 6 a fond farewell and good luck at their new schools.

End of Term  School closes on Friday 21st July 2017.
Start of Autumn Term  School opens to pupils on Tuesday 5th September 2017
Half Term Holiday  The School is closed Monday 23rd October—Friday 27th October inclusive
End of Term  School closes on Friday 22nd December 2017
Start of Spring Term  School opens to pupils on Tuesday 9th January 2018

End of Term
School closes on Friday 22nd December 2017
Start of Spring Term
School opens to pupils on Tuesday 9th January 2018

Friends of St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

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Blaydon St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

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