



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd January 2026

[www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk)

Go, shine in  
the world &  
live as Jesus  
lived



## Dear Parents and Carers,

We look forward to welcoming our Year 5 parents to our **'Parents Working Alongside Children' Writing Session** next Tuesday. This event offers a valuable opportunity to observe how we teach writing, including handwriting, vocabulary development, and a range of sentence structures. The children have been making excellent progress in their writing and it's a lovely opportunity to celebrate this. Please do return the slip if you will be attending the session.

A reminder that we are running **coffee mornings** for parents every Monday morning at 9am in the school hall. Do pop in on Monday to find out more - upcoming sessions include information on emotional coaching and anxiety in children.

**Best wishes, Ms O'Donovan (Head of School) and Ms Richardson (Executive Head of School)**

## Attendance and Life Chances

**Ensuring that your child attends school regularly is one of the most important ways you can support their learning, wellbeing and future opportunities.**

Frequent absence makes it difficult for pupils to keep up with lessons, build strong foundations in reading, writing, and mathematics, and develop the social skills that help them thrive.

Over time, this can have a significant impact on their confidence, progress and long-term life chances.

If you are experiencing difficulties that affect attendance—such as health, routines, or travel—please contact us. We are here to help and early communication allows us to support your family effectively.

## Movie Afternoon Fundraiser for St Vincent de Paul

On **Friday 6th February 2026**, our classrooms will transform into mini cinemas for a **Movie Afternoon** in support of St Vincent de Paul.

For just **£1**, pupils will enjoy:

- A brilliant film
- Popcorn and a drink
- Bring along a **cushion or blanket** from home

**A letter with more details has been sent home.**



## Art: Bold Colours, Big Ideas in Year 5

Year 5 have been learning about the artist **Wassily Kandinsky**. Inspired by his use of colour, shape and abstraction, pupils explored abstract watercolour techniques before using a range of materials to transform their work into 3D pieces. Excellent work Year 5!



I have received and read the St Joseph's Catholic Primary School newsletter on **23.01.26**

Name of child \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND YOUR CHILD MIGHT WIN A PRIZE :)



## Attendance...

Congratulations to Year 4 who received our attendance trophy for having the **best attendance in the school this week**. This means that the class will enjoy some extra playtime. The class with the best attendance for the half-term also get to enjoy an additional trip.

Please make sure your child is in school every single day unless they are very unwell.



## Person of the Week...



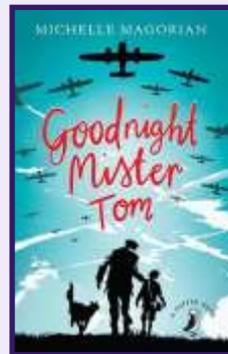
**Nursery:** Rafaela  
**Reception:** Tyler  
**Year 1:** Lewis  
**Year 2:** Theodore  
**Year 3:** Teddy  
**Year 4:** Dina  
**Year 5:** Freddie  
**Year 6:** Sianna

## Work of the Week...

Each week, we proudly showcase an outstanding piece of children's work in our school lobby.

Year 6 have been reading Goodnight Mister Tom, about a child evacuated from London at the beginning of World War II. **Oliver Woolston** has written an excellent diary entry, capturing the excitement, fear and uncertainty felt by 8 year old William during his evacuation.

Oliver used a range of techniques including short sharp sentences and interesting adjectives. He truly captured the voice of the child, adapting his language and grammar to suit the perspective he was writing from. **Very well done Oliver!**



## Important Dates for your Diary...

**Tuesday 27th January**  
Parents working alongside children in Year 5



**Friday 30th January**  
Non uniform Day- Bring in £1 for charity

**Tuesday 3rd February**  
Governor Visit Day

**Wednesday 4th February**  
Parents working alongside children in Year 4

**Friday 6th February**  
Movie Afternoon -fundraising event

**Monday 9th February**  
Handwriting Week



**Monday 16th February**  
Half term week

**Monday 23rd February**  
Keeping Safe Studies

**Friday 27th February**  
Academic Review Day

## Our Prayer for Community...

Dear God,

Thank you for our school and our friends.

Help us to be kind, to work together and to care for our whole community.

Show us how to help others and make everyone feel welcome.

Amen.



## Don't let a little worry turn into a big one...

If you or your child are worried about something or have any questions, please phone the school office and book an appointment to see their class teacher, Ms Charles-Merrifield or Ms O'Donovan.

**We are always really pleased to meet with you and chat things through.**





# The Camden Reading Road Map



## Short Story Competition

- Write your own original short story for a chance to win!
- Your story can contain characters from a book you have read before, or characters from your imagination.
- We will judge the stories on— Creativity, originality, use of language and imagination

Winners of the short story competition will have their story printed in a book.

That book will appear on next year's Camden Reading Road Map!



- Submit your story to [ELS@islington.gov.uk](mailto:ELS@islington.gov.uk) OR your teacher can request to have them picked up by us at the Education Library Service.
- No more than 500 words.
- Competition ends Friday 24th of April. Winners announced in June.
- Open to Years 3,4,5 and 6.

