



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Coombeshead Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 1PT
Tel: 01626 352559
e-mail: admin@sjna.uk



Newsletter
September 2025

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are now well into our new academic year and I'm delighted to share what a calm, settled and purposeful start it has been across the school. From our youngest pupils to our oldest, there is a real sense of focus, positivity and readiness to learn. Classrooms are already filled with energy, curiosity and enthusiasm, and it's clear that children have returned eager to engage, grow and make the most of every opportunity.

I am incredibly proud of the positive, productive and determined attitude our pupils have shown from day one. They have embraced routines, shown kindness and respect towards one another, and demonstrated a genuine commitment to doing their best. Staff have worked hard to ensure a smooth transition back into school life, and the strong sense of community and shared purpose is already shining through.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting year planned, full of rich learning opportunities, curriculum enrichment, special events and faith-filled celebrations. From themed days and educational visits to wider school initiatives, we remain committed to offering a broad, balanced and inspiring education that nurtures each child academically, socially, and spiritually.

We also recognise that positive partnerships with parents and carers are key to every child's success. When school and families work together, children thrive — and we are so grateful for your continued support, encouragement and involvement. Together, we can ensure this year is full of achievement, growth and joy for every member of our school community.

I look forward to sharing all the exciting moments to come and celebrating the many successes ahead.

Best Wishes and God Bless

Sarah Pascoe and all the St. Joseph's team

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL



At the beginning of each academic year, we intentionally establish and promote the Catholic ethos and culture of our school. As a community, we reflect on our mission statement: *"Live, Love and Learn in God's way,"* ensuring that all staff and pupils understand how this is to be lived out in everyday school life. We revisit and explore our Gospel Values, considering how they are embodied through our words, actions, and relationships across the school.

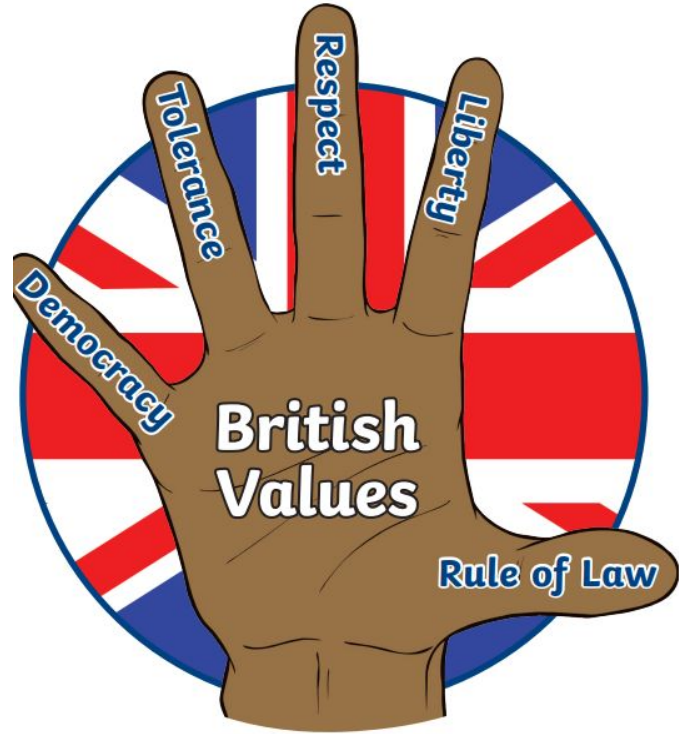
High standards of behaviour, mutual respect, and care for one another are embedded in our expectations. I am proud of the exemplary conduct and attitudes consistently demonstrated by our pupils, which reflect the school's strong Catholic identity.

Pastoral care is central to our mission. We place a strong emphasis on supporting pupils who may need help making the right choices, ensuring that every child feels valued, supported, and guided in their personal development. We recognise that education is not solely about academic success but also about forming the whole child — spiritually, morally, socially, and emotionally.

Through this approach, we aim to develop resilient, empathetic, and morally grounded individuals who are equipped with the life skills and values to contribute positively to society, in accordance with the teachings of the Gospel.

THE BRITISH VALUES OF OUR SCHOOL



We also ensure that we reestablish the British Values that are deeply embedded within our Gospel Values. Principles such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance reflect the teachings of our faith and help shape a welcoming, respectful, and inclusive school community. Through assemblies, lessons, and daily interactions, we encourage our pupils to live out these values, fostering kindness, understanding, and responsibility. By connecting British Values with our Catholic mission, we support our children in becoming compassionate and respectful citizens who contribute positively to both school and society.



STARS OF THE WEEK



VALUE GUARDIANS

Whole Class Sienna-Blu Noah R		Sienna-Blu Bentley Zoey
Beauden Kaden Lucy Rosie		Ellie Harley Maks

STARS OF THE WEEK



VALUE GUARDIANS

Samanta Phoebe Keegan		Laura Leo Gracie
Frankie Tori Jason		Elouise Michelle Evan



CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS



September is very exciting for us in St Francis, we welcomed our new St Francis class, who have settled into school wonderfully. We have learnt and have been following our school rules- be safe, be ready and be respectful. The children have a hunger for learning and have been enjoying their phonics and handwriting each day. We also have some budding mathematicians. We have been enjoying our weekly Forest school sessions as the children love to be outdoors, exploring and investigating, especially recently with noticing the change of season. We have been enjoying reading “owl babies” which has enabled us to retell the story to our friends.



CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

THIS MONTH IN CLASS WE HAVE BEEN BUSY EXPLORING LOTS OF EXCITING LEARNING! IN ART, WE HAVE CONTINUED OUR WORK ON SPIRALS, EXPERIMENTING WITH DIFFERENT SHAPES, PATTERNS AND TECHNIQUES. IN GEOGRAPHY, WE HAVE BEEN STUDYING MAPS AND LEARNING HOW TO FIND IMPORTANT FEATURES. IN MATHS, OUR FOCUS HAS BEEN ON NUMBER LINES, HELPING US TO BUILD CONFIDENCE WITH COUNTING, SEQUENCING AND SOLVING PROBLEMS. WE ARE ALSO VERY PROUD TO SHARE THAT OUR CLASS WON THE WHOLE SCHOOL RECYCLING CHALLENGE FOR COLLECTING THE MOST RECYCLING. WELL DONE, EVERYONE! WE HAVE OF COURSE ALSO HAD LOTS OF FUN IN FOREST SCHOOL!





CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

As Geographers we have been busy using atlases, maps and globes to find out all about the UK and our locality. We've located countries and counties of the UK, as well as plotted rivers, mountains and seas. We are developing our use of geographical vocabulary related to human and physical geography features.



In Science we are beginning to understand how amazing our bodies are!

We have loved practically developing our understanding of the importance of the bones in our bodies and their correct names.

Take a look at our skeletons!



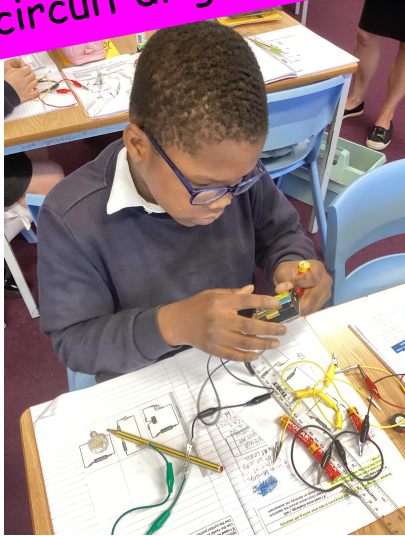
In Music we have been learning about Jazz.

We have really enjoyed listening to Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington. We have been listening to and trying out scatting for ourselves and have found this to be great fun. We have also been learning to sing and respond in a round.

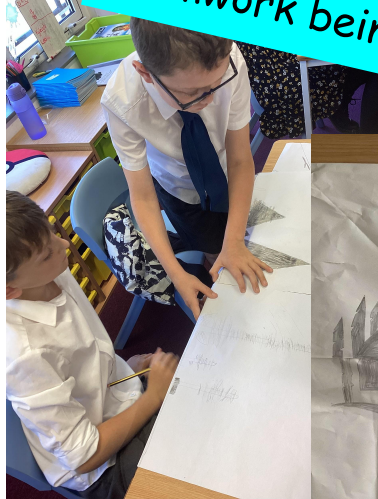


CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

What an amazing start to the year in St Oscar! Science has got off to a great start with us investigating and drawing circuit diagrams.



As artists, we have been learning the skill of enlargement (scaling up) so that we can turn 2D images into 3D sculptures. Fantastic resilience and teamwork being shown.



In music, we have continued the theme of 'Electricity' and are using this to help us learn about time signatures, pulse and the different music notation



Breakfast Club

- Available **Monday – Friday** from **8:00 AM**
- Cost: **£4 per session**



Booking Information:

All bookings should be made via **ParentPay** prior to the session. For any last-minute bookings, please call the **school office**.



After School Club

- Available **Monday – Friday**
- Until **5:00 PM** – **£6.75**
- Until **5:30 PM** – **£10.00**
- **Fridays close at 5:00 PM**



After School Activities

- **Tuesday** – Football



Important Notice:

Any accounts with arrears of **£50 or more** will not be permitted to use the **Breakfast Club** or **After School Clubs** until the balance is cleared.



BREAKFAST AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES

Weekly Schedule:

Monday: Football



Tuesday: Netball



Wednesday: Art



**Thursday: Forest
School**



Friday: Games



Snacks Provided

Do you have any time you could spare?

Would you like to get more involved in your child's school?



Would you like to help out at school events?

If the answer is 'yes' then please email friends@sjna.uk or contact Mrs Mariadas via Dojo for more information.

Attendance Matters



Attendance September

	96.49%
	95.43%
	94.31%
	93.75%

Important Notices & Reminders

If your child is late for morning registration, arriving late at school after 9am, please ensure you or their accompanying adult reports to the school office to ensure that they are registered.

Good attendance means...
being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days

175 days not at school!

All this time for shopping, holidays and appointments

365 days in a calendar year

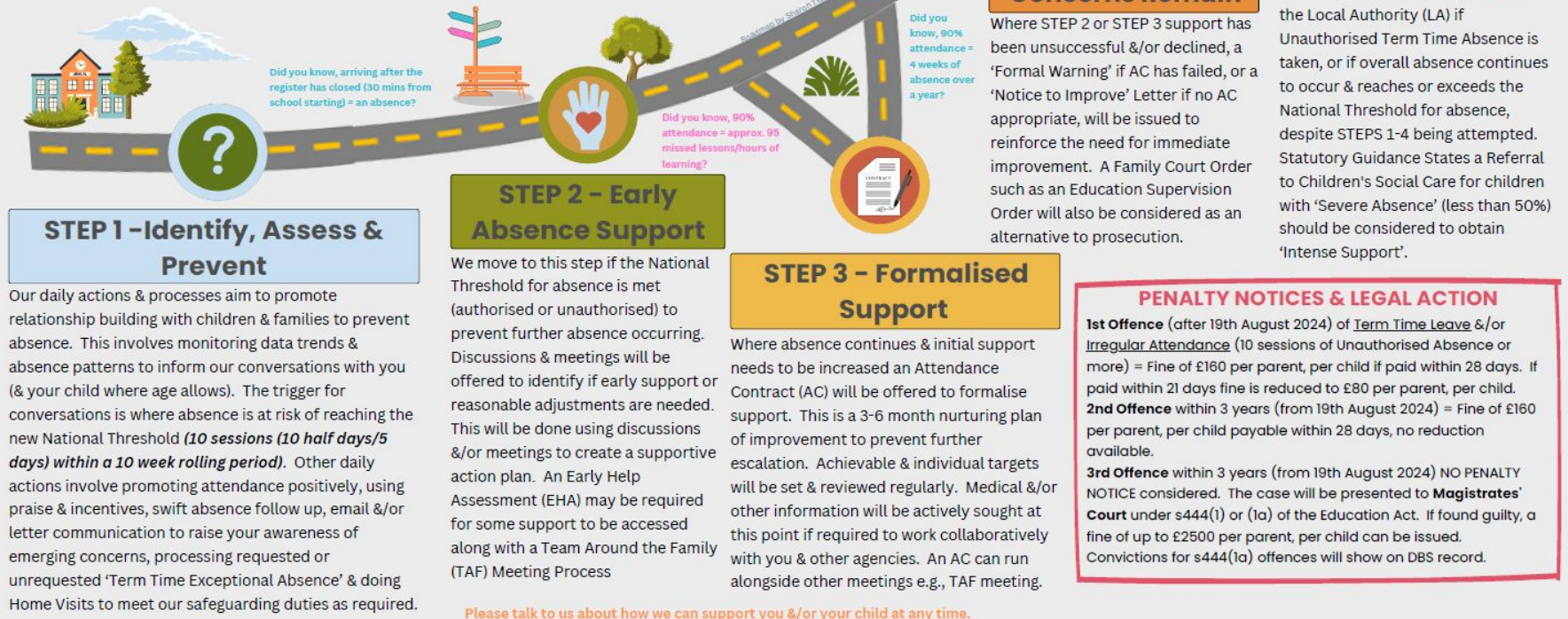


Did you know?

A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is 94.7%?

Attendance Roadmap

In line with the DfE Statutory Guidance (in force from 19th August 2024) we offer a supportive, stepped, attendance approach. We will offer a welcoming ethos with high expectations for all. We will assess data to identify absence trends & use preventative discussions/meetings with families to listen, understand & support to remove barriers. Where needed, we will formalise support to nurture improvement with Attendance Contracts & as a last resort we will consider intensifying support &/or enforce legal sanctions.



08.09.25 - 20.10.25	Swimming Lessons for St Oscar	10.11.25 -	Swimming Lessons for St Oscar continue
30.09.25	Flu Vaccines in school	03.12.25	St Oscar trip to Exeter Museum
07.10.25	School Photos (Individual & Sibling)	03.12.25	Lantern making workshop
07.10.25	Local Author performing Chloe and the Bright Idea	11.12.25	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
17.10.25	Wear red day - Anti-bullying awareness	11.12.25	Nativity 2 - 3pm
23.10.25	St Oscar trip to Haytor	12.12.25	Djembe Workshop - whole school
24.10.25	Break up for Half Term	16.12.25	Carol Service at Church
03.11.25	Non Pupil Day	19.12.25	Break up for Christmas Holidays
04.11.25	Pupils back	05.01.26	Back to School

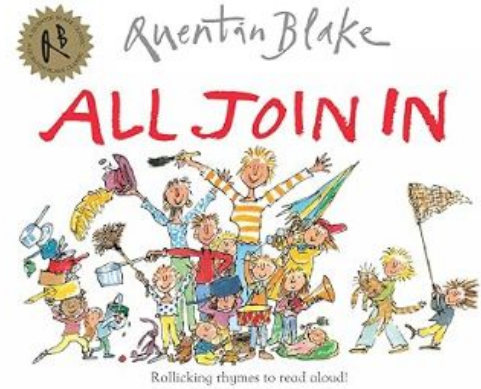
Dungeon Runners: Hero Trial by Kieran Larwood

Intrepid 9+ year-olds will relish this exhilarating journey into the world of Dungeon Runners with Kit, a determined part gnome, part dwarf – 'gnorf' with big dreams and a big heart. With his friends Sandy and Thorn, Kit navigates mazes, puzzles, and monsters in the compelling Dungeon Running League. Larwood's fun-filled storytelling, paired with Todd-Stanton's vibrant illustrations, brings this action-packed friendship-themed adventure to life. It's an irresistible read for less confident children in Year 5. Highly recommended. [Read](#)



*"Books make
great gifts
because they
have whole
worlds inside of
them." - Neil
Gaiman*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Everybody likes to shout and sing, but it's definitely more fun when we all join in! A hilarious collection of read-aloud rhymes from the nation's favourite illustrator, Quentin Blake!

This book is a rumbustious, rollicking and above all noisy collection of seven exuberant poems, perfect for chanting aloud, that are brilliantly illustrated by the incomparable Quentin Blake. The collection includes 'All Join In', 'The Hooter Song', 'Nice Weather for Ducks' and 'Sorting Out the Kitchen Pans'. Who could possibly resist?



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at St. Joseph's is always a priority. Should you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact our Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection: Mrs Day or Mrs Pascoe on 01626 352559. Our named governor for child protection is Tim van Kroonenburg.

WELFARE

Our Family Support Worker is Julie . Please let us know if you would like her to contact you for ANY support. Everyone needs a Julie in their lives!



ATTENDANCE

Hi, my name is Natalie, I'm the Attendance and Welfare Officer here at St Joseph's. I monitor attendance regularly to ensure that, where possible, every child is in school on time every day. If you have any concerns around your child's attendance, please leave a message with the office and I will contact you.



CPOMS and Operation encompass

At St. Joseph's we use CPOMS as our system for recording information that we consider to be safeguarding information. Further information about the programme can be found here -

<https://www.cpoms.co.uk/privacy-statement/>

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.

HALF TERM FUN FOOTBALL DAY



FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

VENUE: KEVICC, TOTNES TQ9 5JX

£20 | Age 5-14 Years | 10am-3pm



LIMITED PLACES • BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

TO BOOK VISIT www.shearsoccer.co.uk

Contact Adam on 07967 124844 or info@shearsoccer.co.uk



COACHING SESSIONS • SMALL SIDED TOURNAMENTS • FUN COMPETITIONS
TROPHIES & PRIZES • CERTIFICATES • PLAYER OF THE COURSE AWARD
IMPROVE PERFORMANCE • BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE • MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FOR BOYS & GIRLS OF ALL ABILITIES • ALL STAFF UEFA/FA & CRB QUALIFIED



JUNIOR SQUASH CLUB

EVERY SATURDAY!
10:00AM - 11:30AM

- ✓ Fun and active sessions led by qualified coaches!
- ✓ For all abilities aged 5 and above!

SESSION INFORMATION:

£ £2.50 (Members)
£4.00 (Non-Members)

Equipment is provided

Juniors should wear non-marking shoes



CONTACT:

LAUREN BIDDLE

ES LEVEL 2 SQUASH COACH

07956 856253



laurenbiddle@outlook.com



www.nasquash.co.uk

Newton Abbot Squash & Tennis Club,
Marsh Road, TQ12 2AR



#MAKEADIFFERENCE

MINIS SOCCER SATURDAY



SELECT SOCCER BECOMES PART OF OUR PLAYERS LIVES FROM THE MOMENT THEY FIRST ENJOY KICKING A FOOTBALL. WE WANT THE PLAYERS OF TOMORROW TO DEVELOP IN A BALANCED BUT INDIVIDUAL WAY IN A FUN-FILLED ENVIRONMENT.

OUR MIXED MINIS SESSIONS ARE ALL ABOUT TOUCHING AND KICKING THE BALL, PURE AND SIMPLE. OUR EXPERIENCED AND FRIENDLY COACHES ARE ON HAND AT ALL TIMES TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF PLAYERS, BUT TO ALSO INSPIRE THEM TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND BRING A SMILE TO THEIR EXPERIENCE IN THEIR EARLY YEARS OF FOOTBALL.

WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE AN INCLUSIVE AND FUN ATMOSPHERE FOR PLAYERS OF ALL ABILITIES TO DEVELOP THEIR CORE SKILLS AND MAKE VALUABLE FRIENDSHIPS ALONG THE WAY.



SATURDAY - SCHOOL TERM TIME



09:00 - 10:00



GROUP FOR: | 5-7 | GIRLS AND BOYS



**Michael's Field
Bishopsteignton, TQ14 9PP**









SELECT SOCCER



CALL - TEXT - WHATSAPP
07966055740

✉ **INFO@SELECTSOCCER.CO.UK**
✉ **WWW.SELECTSOCCER.CO.UK**






TORQUAY GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING 7 OCTOBER 2025



THE EVENING WILL COMMENCE WITH A WELCOME SPEECH AT 6.30PM FROM MS FORSTER, HEADTEACHER

SITE OPEN FOR FAMILIES TO LOOK AROUND

THE EVENING CLOSES AT 8.30PM

*** BOOKING REQUIRED ***

AT THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT:
WWW.TGGSACADEMY.ORG/OPENEVENING

