

Nursery Newsletter – Autumn Term 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to all of our Nursery children and families. Whether you are completely new to St Joseph's or already familiar with our school, we are delighted to have you with us and are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Our main aim this term is to help the children settle happily into Nursery life. We will gently introduce them to new routines, new friends, new adults and all of the opportunities available for fun and learning both indoors and outdoors. We know that every child settles at their own pace and we are here to support them every step of the way.

Our learning this term centres around '*All About Me*'. We will be talking about ourselves, our families, our likes and dislikes and the things that make us special and unique. We will enjoy sharing stories such as *It's OK to Be Different* by Todd Parr and *The Great Big Book of Families* by Mary Hoffman.

Communication and Language

Communication and language remains our key focus in Nursery. We will encourage the children to talk about themselves, share ideas, answer simple questions and learn new vocabulary through stories, songs, rhymes and play.



Talking is at the heart of everything we do. Through daily conversations, role play and story time, we will help children grow in confidence and develop their listening and speaking skills.

Early Reading and Phonics

The children will begin to develop their phonological awareness through listening games, songs, rhymes and activities that help them tune into sounds around them.

Early Writing

Before children can write, they need strong hand and finger muscles. Our daily Funky Fingers activities help to develop these skills through threading, pinching, squeezing, building and manipulating small objects.

Alongside this, we place a strong emphasis on developing children's gross motor skills, which are essential foundations for writing. Through our outdoor provision, children strengthen their shoulders, arms and core muscles by taking part in activities such as rolling and moving tyres, squeezing and squirting water from bottles, target throwing games, and large-scale mark making on giant chalkboards. These experiences help children develop the stability, coordination and control needed for successful handwriting.



Mathematics

This term we will focus on developing a secure understanding of numbers through practical play and exploration.

The children will:

- Count objects carefully
- Join in with counting songs and rhymes
- Begin to recognise some numerals
- Explore numbers to 5
- Develop an understanding of quantity and number patterns

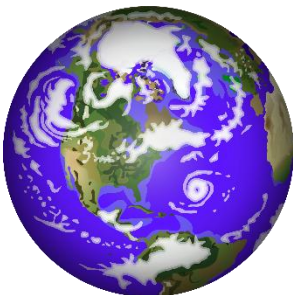


We will use lots of practical resources, games and activities inspired by *Red Rose Maths*, *Numberblocks* and *Numberland* to make learning fun and meaningful.

You can help at home by counting everyday objects such as steps, toys, pieces of fruit and anything else you find together.

RE

Our Nursery RE focus this term is *Creation and Covenant*.



The children will learn about God's wonderful world and begin to understand that God loves and cares for each one of us. Through stories, discussion, prayer and reflection, we will think about what makes us special and how we can show kindness and care towards others.

The children will also enjoy learning simple school prayers and joining in with class acts of worship.

Physical Development

The children will spend lots of time learning both indoors and outdoors. Through active play they will develop important physical skills including:

- Running
- Jumping
- Hopping
- Climbing
- Throwing and catching
- Developing balance and coordination

These fundamental movement skills form an important foundation for future learning.

How Can You Help at Home?

- Talk, talk and talk with your child about their day, interests and experiences.
- Listen carefully to what they have to say.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes together.
- Read stories every day, even if it is the same story over and over again.
- Share books in your home language if appropriate.

A Few Practical Reminders

- Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled.
- Bring a coat every day as our weather can be unpredictable.
- Bring a named water bottle each day.
- Check Class Dojo regularly for updates

We are really looking forward to working and playing with your children over the coming weeks and thank you for your support as they begin or continue their Nursery journey with us.

Best wishes,

Miss Naylor and Miss Brindle