



# St Joseph's Primary Weekly Update

*"We grow together in God's Love as we pray, learn and play"*  
*"Dyn ni'n tyfu gyda'n gilydd mewn cariad Duw wrth i ni weddio, dysgu a chwarae"*



**Week Beginning: 31st January 2025**

Please also see Class Dojo messages and 'My Week' on our School Website

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the upcoming retirement of our Headteacher, Mrs. Riordan, at Easter. After eight dedicated years of leadership, she has decided to step down and begin a well-earned retirement.

Mrs. Riordan has had an immensely positive impact on our school, playing a pivotal role in its growth and development. Her passion, commitment, and unwavering support for our pupils, staff, and wider school community have been truly inspiring. Under her leadership, the school has flourished, and we are deeply grateful for all she has done.

While we will miss her presence and leadership, we know she leaves behind a strong foundation for the future. We are delighted that she will now have the opportunity to travel and enjoy the many interests and pursuits she has long looked forward to. This is a richly deserved chance for her to relax and embrace new adventures.

We will be celebrating Mrs. Riordan's contributions in the coming months and will share details on how we plan to mark this special occasion. In the meantime, please join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks and best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Matthew O'Brien

Chair of Governors

Another busy week! At our Monday Assembly this week we learnt that the Year of Jubilee is an opportunity to return to God and grow our friendship with Him. We can be pilgrims of Hope by sharing the hope He gives us

On Tuesday the Rock Steady group continued to shine and impress everyone with their musical skills. Our Parent and Carer prayer group continues on a Wednesday morning. We meet each Wednesday in the annex at 9.00 – 9.15. It is a really lovely way to start the day. Thank you again to all who attended this week. It is lovely to see governors, parents and staff coming together to pray this week. Each Wednesday morning just after 9.00. All are welcome. We have tea and coffee afterwards too. If you are unable to come to the parent's and carers prayer group, there is a box outside the HT office if any members of our school community would like our group to pray for any special intention. Please put your intention in the prayer box and we will pray for you. The intentions will then be folded up and put on our prayer wall in the foyer.

Our pupil prayer group continue to meet each Wednesday to pray for Our pupils, our parents and families and all those who help us in our school community. We are also busy writing a new St Joseph's school prayer for 2025.

Thursday saw Dosbarth Illtyd Sant and Dosbarth David Sant's Prayer Service with Father Scanlon. Many thanks to the parents who attended. The children read and sang beautifully.

On Friday Dosbarth Cadoc Sant went to Cardiff Museum to an exhibition of the 1984/1985 miner's strike, to feed in to their topic work. Many thanks to the parents who accompanied their children as they enhanced their learning.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Things to look out for on the horizon.  
**Further details to follow on Dojo:**

- **Monday 3rd February 2025**  
St Teilo & St Tydfil – Whitchurch  
Fire Service Talk in school
- **Tuesday 4th February 2025**  
Parent Meeting with Mrs Wheeler at  
2.30pm in the school hall. Come  
along and have a coffee and chat  
with Mrs Wheeler who is going to be  
discuss pupil assessments
- **Wednesday 5th February 2025**  
St Tydfil Trip to Pizza Express
- **Thursday 6th February 2025**  
"Design to Smile" in school to watch  
the Foundation Phase children brush  
their teeth
- **Thursday 6th February 2025**  
St Gwynno Class Mass
- **Thursday 13th February 2025**  
St Tydfil Trip to Cardiff Castle

**HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED  
MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup>  
FEBRUARY**

## CLASS PRAYER OF THE WEEK



## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Well Done to Dosbarth St David who was only 2 sessions away from  
**100% - WELL DONE !!!!**

St Non AM - 60%

St Gwynno – 98.33%

St Non PM - 95%

St Cadoc – 97.67%

St David – 99.17%

St Tydfil – 92.67%

St Illtyd – 94.40%

St Dwynwen – 92.90%

St Teilo – 95.33%

**POLITE REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS - Any child who is late after 8.55am MUST use Heathfield Road Entrance to come into school, for security reasons. North Road Gate will be locked at 8.55am every morning and therefore if you are on the premises after this time, you must leave via Heathfield Road.**

**IMPORTANT - there are a number of children regularly coming in late to school without an adult. Any child who arrives after 8.55am MUST be accompanied by an adult who will need to sign their child in at the school office.**

**Please be reminded that if your child is late 10 times or more, a fixed penalty fine may be issued.**

**School begins at 8.55am (gates open to welcome pupils from 8.45am).**

We are **all** responsible for ensuring that children and adults at risk are kept safe. This means everyone in our St Joseph's community.

### **How do we Safeguard at St Joseph's?**

Staff safeguard by doing the things below:

Understand what is meant by safeguarding

Recognise the different types of abuse and their signs, symptoms, indicators and behaviours that may indicate a child or adult is being abused or is at risk of harm

Understand what to do if we are concerned about a child or adult at risk

Understand our own role and responsibility with regard to suspicion or disclosure of abuse

Understand our **duty to report** a concern or incident when we become aware of it

If a child discloses that they have been harmed we **MUST** report this to the Designated Safeguarding Person or Headteacher immediately as we have a duty of care. This is then referred to the Multi Agency Referral Hwb. Please also look at the information on our web site on the parent's dropdown under 'Safeguarding'

### Keeping safe online

**Social Media** - All parents should be aware that children under the age of 13 are technically not allowed to have social media accounts on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, or Snapchat due to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). However, many children do have accounts with parental consent, so it's crucial for parents to monitor their children's online activity closely and ensure they understand the risks associated with social media, such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and privacy issues. Additionally, parents should learn about privacy settings and parental controls available on various platforms to help protect their children online. Please see the following website for more information:

[Social media guides - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Please also see the information on our web site on the parents drop down under 'Online safety'

### Cymraeg Campus

Cymraeg Campus is our new welsh language charter that is taking place in schools across Wales. We have recently Gained the Bronze Award. 😊

The aim of Cymraeg Campus is to:-

- improve levels of welsh within the school
- increase pupils enjoyment of welsh
- Celebrate our nationality and all things welsh

As part of this we have a Welsh Phrase of the week each week. This week's phrase is:

**Pa lliw ydy hwn? Which colour is this?**

Please practice with your child and use it whenever you can. Children can use the colours they know in Welsh or use English for the answers. 😊

### We are a Gold Rights Respecting School



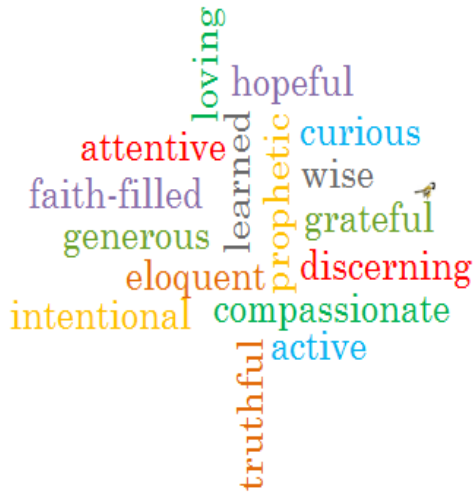
As a Catholic school, along with our faith and values, the concept behind the RRS journey is at the core of what we teach and how our children develop. RRS is all about protecting the rights of our children and their families and has supported us to highlight equality, diversity and inclusion throughout the curriculum. In our rights respecting school, children learn about their rights and the responsibilities that are implied. Our children learn that if they have rights, they need to respect the rights of others. Please talk about these rights with your children.

**This Month's Right for January is:**

**Article 29**

**"You have the right to be the best you can be"**

## Our Values and Virtues



As a Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Cardiff, we have embraced the Catholic Schools' Pupil Profile, which teaches the children a set of eight pairs of virtues to be internalised and cultivated -enabling them to grow in wholeness as fully rounded individuals in the image of God. Each half Term we explore ways in which we can develop in our virtues and values. Please discuss these virtues with your child and how they can incorporate them in to their lives. The virtues we are looking at this half term are:

### **"Grateful and Generous"**

Pupils are growing to be grateful for their own gifts, and the blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

As always, check our [ClassDojo](#) for school messages and upcoming dates for activities by clicking next event > view all > on the horizon for all events. Check X ( formerly Twitter) and Our Week on the school website for class photos of activities and events.

**ARTICLE 28 (UN Convention of the Rights of the Child)**  
**"You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can"**

