

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Headteacher: Dr. N Fernandes-Viana, Deputy Headteacher: Mr Kevin Bowles
Lanark Road, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, London W9 1DF 020 7286 3518
Email: office@stjosephsschool.org.uk Website www.stjosephsschool.org.uk



Friday, 27th February 2026

Dear Parents, Children, Staff and Governors,

Our Wonderful Giving Days on the 12th and 13th of February raised over £7,000 – far exceeding our target by £2,000. Thank you to all who contributed to this huge success.

This fund-raising initiative began with a prayerful assembly led by our Trust Lay Chaplain, Caroline Moulinet and our children – from Nursery to Y6 – all displayed commendable reverence and reflection in their spiritual meditation on The Lord's Prayer. It was a wonderful way to begin this giving event.

From the children's artwork so beautifully displayed in our School Hall, to our dedicated Second-Hand School Uniform Team, to the delicious lunches prepared by our kitchen staff for our special guests, to the array of vibrant colours our children wore – our first Giving Day was a resounding triumph! Many thanks to all our staff, our parents, our children and to the Saint John Southworth Catholic Academy Trust Development Team.

You will have noticed that our perimeter fences have been extended to increase security around the school. This project is due to be completed by the end of March. Our Early Years will also soon benefit from their own upgraded fence in the weeks to come.

On Tuesday, Canon Kevin Jordan shared a meaningful Lenten Reflection with our children, enabling them to continue this journey with Jesus through Prayer, Fasting and Alms-Giving. In answer to a wonderful question from Antonella in KS1, please see further details on the origins of the word Alms, a word that is both meaningful and powerful in the English language albeit confusingly similar to "arms":

"Alms-giving" originates from the Old English "ælmesse", derived from the Late Latin "eleemosyna", which roots back to the Greek "eleēmosynē" meaning "pity, mercy, or charity". The term signifies money or goods given out of compassion to the poor, originally emphasizing the emotional or spiritual component of mercy rather than just the material aid.

Our Cake Sale, Uniform Sale and Book Fair have been a great success this week. Please do remember that, with every book you purchase, the school receives Scholastic points that we can use to spend on more books for your children. Indeed, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 4th March. Children are invited to dress as their favourite Book Characters Please see below for further details from Miss Armstrong, our English Lead:

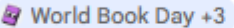
We will be celebrating World Book Day next Wednesday with an assembly at 9:15 for our children. Each class will have the opportunity to share their costumes with the school. Prizes will be given for children in each class who have embraced the theme

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of Reading for Pleasure.

World Book Day 2026 (March 5) focuses on "**Reading for Pleasure**" and aligns with the UK's "National Year of Reading 2026" to combat declining reading enjoyment. The theme encourages children to "Go All In," connecting books to their existing passions, hobbies, and identities. 

Key Aspects for 2026:

- **Theme:** "Go All In" / Reading for Pleasure.
- **Focus:** Giving children choice, time, and space to enjoy books.

With the Auction only a few months away, our SJSA are busy finding even more inventive ways to make this event an even greater success than last year. Please see below for further information.

Bike park

Just a quick note about the bike park. These vehicles seem to have been abandoned. (photo attached) If they are yours please come and collect them. They will be removed on Monday. Parents are reminded that bikes and scooters are left here at your own risk.



A message from our Auction Team...

AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT: DONATIONS ARE OPEN!

The Auction - Saturday 18th April 2026

Dear Parents and Friends of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

Please find below information regarding the St Joseph's School Auction for 2026. We are very excited to work with you all on what we know will be the most successful Auction yet. Book your babysitters and get the date in your diaries... don't miss the fun! Friends and family members are also welcome!

The auction will follow a similar format to previous years with the live auction taking place on 18th April. The online auction will launch on 3rd April and wrap up on the 18th April.

We are very fortunate to have secured the Westminster School Navigator Services and Xhilda Kurti will be available in school every Friday afternoon (starting

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from Friday 13th March) from 13:30 until 16:00 to offer support on a range of topics including: Housing, Attendance, Health Care, Accessing Community Support, Financial Support and much more. This initiative is part of Westminster's Early Help package. Please see the attached poster for more information and do not hesitate to email Xhilda with any questions or queries you may have: xkurti@westminster.gov.uk

WE NEED YOUR GOODS AND PROMISES!

Please start to think about what it is you could offer the Auction fundraiser. Some ideas are listed below - if you have alternate ideas or you are not sure about what to offer please ask!

St Joseph Parent Promises - Do you have a skill to share? Fitness Training, Personal Styling Sessions, Babysitting, etc

- Experiences - Tickets to a show, sporting event or concert, etc
- Technology & Learning - Any electronic devices, smart speakers, personal tech, etc
- Food & Beverage - Gift Certificates to Restaurants, Bottles of Wine, Birthday Cake, Packaged Food Items, etc
- Parent Experiences - A beloved St. Joseph's favourite
 - Parent hosted theme dinners, Wine Tasting, Children's Parties, Family Cooking Classes etc
- Travel - Holiday Homes, Hotel Stays, Flight or Train vouchers, etc
- Wellness & Relaxation - Spa Experiences, Beauty Treatments, Fitness Classes, etc
- Accessories & Personal Items - Unused makeup and fragrance, Watches, Sunglasses, Leather Goods & Accessories, Children's Bikes, etc (Please No Clothing)

THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT DONATIONS IS 27TH MARCH -THANK YOU!

[Auction Donation Link](#)

Not sure what to donate? Want to brainstorm some ideas? Come stop by our table Friday after school on 27th February. We already have promises of holiday homes, authentic Italian dinners, a California Wine Tasting, and more! There will also be beloved school favourites, such as front row tickets for Nativity and Christmas Choral Concert.

The auction team will be in touch with you to coordinate pick up of your item if needed.

We are also still taking submissions for Advertising in the Auction Catalogue

This year, we are bringing back a physical auction catalogue, which will go home to every family the week of the auction, enabling you to see all the items which will be available to bid on, and plan your bids ahead of the event.

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Within the auction catalogue there are opportunities for parents and friends of the school to advertise - with prices starting as low as £80 for a ¼ page ad if payment is received by 1st of March.

Please register your interest for placing an ad in the catalogue here: [Auction Advertising Form](#) and someone on the auction team will be in touch.

For those wishing to advertise, please see the rates below. Payments received before 1 March, 2026 will receive a 20% discount.

Unchecked

Outside Back Cover of Catalogue Unchecked £750 (£600 before March 1)

Inside Front Cover of Catalogue A4 unchecked £500 (£400 before March 1)

Inside Back Cover of Catalogue A4 Unchecked £500 (£400 before March 1)

Other full page A4 Unchecked £350 (£280 before March 1)

½ page (A5 Landscape) Unchecked £200 (£160 before March 1)

¼ page (A6 Portrait) £100 (£80 before March 1)

Many thanks!
SJSA Auction Team 2026

May God bless you and keep you safe,

Dr. N. Fernandes-Viana
Mr K Bowles

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

YEAR GROUP	Percentage Attendance (target >97%)	Late %
RECEPTION 1	96.0%	0.5%
RECEPTION 2	93.6%	0.5%
Y1 PINK 1	98.8%	1.6%
Y1/2 PINK 2	92.2%	0.9%
Y2 PINK 3	95.6%	0.4%

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Y3 BLUE 1	94.6%	0.9%
Y4 BLUE 3	96.7%	1.0%
Y5 VIOLET 1	98.6%	1.7%
Y6 VIOLET 3	94.0%	4.4%
Totals	95.6%	1.3%