

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 March 2026

Dear Pupils, Staff, Parents and Governors,

Firstly, a huge well done to all the children across the school who have participated in so many competitions over the last few weeks. The children have represented our school wonderfully. Indeed, I have had reports of great sportsmanship, graciousness, fair play and excellent behaviour whilst representing our school - not to mention some of the amazing results. St Joseph's are clocking up so many of the top awards in these competitions. Thank you to all who have supported the children over the last few weeks.

Our Y3 children were also invited to take part in the Temple Church Schools Singing Partnership Project, performing alongside other primary schools and professional singers in Captain Noah and The Floating Zoo. This was a wonderful opportunity and our Y3 children sang and performed beautifully. Well done to all!

I do hope parents were able to make our Parent Teacher Consultations last week. I know families appreciate the opportunity to discuss their child's progress. On this note, Annual Reports will be issued in July.

We have finalized after school clubs for the next half term. Mrs. Dunphy has already shared the clubs email with you earlier this week. Please note, Junior Adventures Group offer their wraparound childcare services with a breakfast and after school club offering throughout the year. Additionally, there will be an Easter Holiday Club here at school. Please see the website below for more details:

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/st-josephs-catholic-primary-school-maida-vale/>

This week we have been blessed with meaningful and reverential preparation for Holy Week with our KS2 prayerful liturgies. Documenting and re-enacting Jesus' journey to the cross and then his glorious resurrection, our Y3 children began with Palm Sunday and finished the week with The Resurrection, led by Y6. Many thanks to all the children and staff for their efforts with these prayerful liturgies. Thank you also to parents for joining us on these important days. I am always humbled by the reverence shown by the children in portraying these events which are so central to our faith.

Over the Lenten period, children across the school have been collecting for the Passage. Mal Hurdridge from this wonderful charity has asked me to pass on thanks on behalf of all who will be helped with such generous donations. I have attached the link to this vital charity below:

<https://passage.org.uk/>

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Our Annual School Auction, to be held on Saturday April 18th looks to be as successful as ever. Please see the following message from our dedicated team. Thank you everyone for your generous donations for this year's auction, which is taking place 18 April, 2026. Book your babysitters and get your FREE tickets here [Ticket Link](#)

Online Auction - Goes live April 3rd! Place Your Bids There are many amazing items up for grabs on the online auction, we have over 60 lots donated by local businesses. Big thank you to the mighty donation team who has worked tirelessly to receive these prizes and parents for your donations. Bidding will close on Saturday 18th April (the evening of the auction) at 11:00 pm. There is the ability to buy now so you don't have to deal with being gazumped at the end of the evening! Remember, to bid on an online auction item you must register for an Auctria account.

Art Preview - Friday 17th April 3:15 School Hall Come and view the amazing work the art team have put together with the children over the past few weeks. View all the class artwork that will be available to bid on at the auction, straight after school pick up. Also take a sneak peak at some of the beautiful online auction hampers that are up for bidding!

We Need Food Donations! It wouldn't be a St. Joseph's Auction without food brought in by our parents. Please sign up to bring a dish to share, or some nibbles. Please ensure the food you bring is nut free. Food can be brought to the school hall on Saturday afternoon April 18th from 1:00 pm. Contact Plami (Y2/Reception) if you have any questions: [Food Donation Form Link](#)
Myself, Mr Bowles and **all** the teaching staff look forward to welcoming you on the night.

Miss S Ward has asked us to share the following message.

In support of our Catholic Social Teaching, join Miss S. Ward and the Team at St. John's Hospice in St John's Wood Church Gardens on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March, from 10 am - 4 pm, for a fun-filled Easter weekend to support the incredible work of St. John's Hospice. Tickets cost £5 each, and the ticket includes a Bunny Trail with an Easter egg prize, face painting and Easter arts and crafts. There will be ice cream and hot drinks available from local vendors, a raffle and games with fantastic prizes up for grabs, and new for 2026... The Bunny Bop! A 5-minute dance session with the Easter Bunny at 11 am and 1 pm daily. Accompanying adults go free! Hopefully, we get to see you there.

Our Annual Easter Bonnet Parade will take place on Tuesday 14th April. Timings are below:

9:30 - Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2

10:30 - Years 3,4,5 and 6

After a very productive and inspired meeting with the School Council, the children have chosen the Easter Bonnet theme: It's the 'St Joseph's World Cup 2026 Easter Bonnet Eggstravaganza'!

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Mrs Deacy was most impressed with the children's enthusiasm for designing bonnets based on the World Cup thereby not just celebrating football but their pride in their heritage. Well done School Council!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Fabiana Chavez, our Tri-borough Peripatetic Music Teacher, all the very best in all her future endeavours. We are very excited to welcome Mr Declan Foster to St Joseph's – Choral Director for Diocese of Westminster. Mr Foster will be our music specialist from April, working across the whole school and further cementing our links with the Diocese of Westminster in his ongoing and additional role as Choral Teacher.

Clare Evans has decided to move onto other opportunities. She started work with us in 2015. During her time at the school, she was a Teaching Assistant, supporting teaching and learning across all key stages. We wish her well for the future. We wanted to update you regarding Mrs Pini given that many of you have kindly offered her your wishes for a speedy recovery. Sadly, and for family reasons, Mrs Pini has taken the decision to leave St Joseph's after the Easter Break. Mrs Pini has asked me to extend her heartfelt thanks to you all for making her feel so welcome here at St. Joseph's and I am sure that you will join me in wishing her and her family well. Y5's new teacher, Miss Eason is an experienced KS2 teacher who has worked across schools in London and we are extremely fortunate to have secured her on a full-time basis. I am sure that you will join me in welcoming Miss Eason to St Joseph's.

As we approach our final, full term, we naturally start to make plans for the next academic year, starting September 2026. Our community is such that many families have international links, whether that be employment or other ties. I would like to politely ask parents (except for our current Nursery, Reception and Year 6 classes) to chat to Mr. Bowles or myself if their child will not be returning to us in September. This will help us to plan (as much as reasonably possible) for the next academic year. Your understanding is greatly appreciated here.

Please note, school finishes this Friday, 27th March at 13:30. There will be no Junior Adventures Group extended day on this day. Children return to school on Monday 13th April.

Children can wear their summer uniform upon our return in April. As the weather (hopefully) heats up, please remember sun hats and water bottles. Trainers should only be worn on PE days.

May God bless you and keep you safe,

Dr. N. Fernandes-Viana
Mr K Bowles

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY 23rd – 27th March

YEAR GROUP	Percentage Attendance	Late %

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	(target >97%)	
RECEPTION 1	99.0%	3.0%
RECEPTION 2	90.5%	0.5%
Y1 PINK 1	94.8%	3.0%
Y1/2 PINK 2	92.8%	0.4%
Y2 PINK 3	90.4%	0.0%
Y3 BLUE 1	93.7%	1.4%
Y4 BLUE 3	94.1%	0.8%
Y5 VIOLET 1	85.5%	1.0%
Y6 VIOLET 3	91.2%	8.4%
Totals	92.4%	2.1%