

Dear Parents,



In Celebration of the Word this week, we heard Jesus explain to his disciples that servants don't get special thanks or reward for doing what is required of them. He encourages his followers to adopt the mindset of servants and see our acts of service as our duty to others.

Children have been quietly celebrating their service to the school community this week: opening doors, handing out books and even clearing each other's dinner trays! The Gospel value of service is a powerful inspiration in helping us to choose to put the needs of others first.

Please find a letter from Xavier's CEO - James Kibble - attached. Please also be aware that **St Joseph's is closed for INSET Day tomorrow (Friday 3rd October)**. Have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you all bright and early on Monday morning.

God bless,
Mr Collins

From the PFSA

EVENT 25/26
SCHEDULE

29 NOV	CHRISTMAS FAIR 12-3PM
20 MAR	DISGLO 5-7:30PM
20 JUN	SUMMER FAIR 12-3PM

WE NEED YOU!

DO YOU WANT TO HELP PLAN THESE FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR SCHOOL?
PLEASE SCAN TO SIGN UP OR SPEAK TO YOUR CLASS REP!

£25,000 yearly fundraising target!

Contact your PFSA team on pfsaevents@stjosephsgulieford.com

Details attached of this year's events, including Bend the Rules day on Friday 24th October!

Attendance Reminders



Illnesses

As we move into the colder months, we understand that coughs and colds are becoming more common. While it's important to keep children home when they are genuinely unwell, we also want to encourage families to send children to school if they are feeling well enough to attend.

Here are some suggestions to keep everyone safe and healthy:

- Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.
- Encourage your child to drink water and to keep hydrated throughout the day.

If you are ever unsure whether your child is well enough to attend, please do not hesitate to contact us for guidance. It's usually best to send them in and we can contact you if they are too unwell to stay for the whole day.

Please ensure that you inform the School Office on each day of your child's absence.

Latecomers

School starts at:

- 8:35am for Infants
- 8:45am for Juniors

Anyone arriving late for registration will be marked as "late" and will be required to enter via the School Office.

Penalty Notice for absence during term time

Taking your child out of school during term time for holidays or other non-exceptional reasons is considered unauthorised absence, unless approved by the Headteacher under exceptional circumstances.

A Penalty Notice of £80 within 21 days, or £160 within 28 days, will be issued if your child has:

- 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 full school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-week period
- These sessions can be consecutive or non-consecutive, and may include late arrivals after the register closes

Regular attendance plays a crucial role in helping children develop resilience, maintain routines, and stay connected to their learning and friendships. Missing school even for minor illnesses can quickly add up and impact progress, confidence, and social development. We are here to support you in making the best decisions for your child. Thank you for your support.

Celebrating World Mental Health Day – Friday 10th October!



This year, we're excited to mark World Mental Health Day with a joyful celebration across the school on Friday 10th October. It's a day to reflect on the importance of mental wellbeing, creativity and connection - and we've got some fantastic activities planned for every age group!

Nursery & KS1: Teddy Bear's Tea Party

Our youngest learners will be hosting a heartwarming Teddy Bear's Tea Party. Children are invited to bring in their favourite teddy or cuddly toy to join the fun. It's a lovely way to promote comfort, friendship, and imaginative play - all key ingredients for emotional wellbeing.

Year 3–4: Scribble Whilst You Snack

Children in Years 3 and 4 will enjoy a creative twist on snack time with Scribble Whilst You Snack. Each child will design their own placemat using paper, decorating it with drawings and words that reflect who they are - their likes, their friends, and anything that makes them smile.

Year 5–6: Scribble Whilst You Snack – Table Edition

For our older pupils in Years 5 and 6, we're taking creativity to the next level. Tables will be covered in display paper, transforming them into giant canvases for self-expression. Whether it's doodles, poems, or colourful designs, children are free to create in any way they like.

A huge thanks to Edwards and Ward for providing all the tasty refreshments - fresh fruit platters plus sweet treats like biscuits and cakes to keep everyone smiling throughout the day! Please note, you do not need to provide any additional food for this event and all allergies will be catered for.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations



We will be visiting your school on Wednesday 18th (Infants) & Thursday 19th (Juniors) November 2025 to deliver flu vaccinations via nasal spray.

Please complete the e-consent form by 4pm on Wednesday 12th November 2025 by visiting:

- www.surreyimmunisations.co.uk and entering your school's unique code SR131112
- If you do not want your child to receive a vaccine, then please fill in the 'No' box.

School Admissions



**Secondary school
admissions are open
Apply by
31 October 2025**

Please find leaflets attached from Surrey School Admissions with all the details you need to know about the application window for Primary and Secondary School admissions for September 2026.

Upcoming Diary Dates

Friday 3rd October

INSET Day - School Closed

Wednesday 8th October

Year 3 trip to Butser Farm

Thursday 9th October

School Tour - please call 01483 888401 to book a place

Friday 10th October

World Mental Health Day

5A Swimming

Harvest Fast Day Liturgy

Parent Coffee Morning at 9:00am - with visiting speaker from Freemantles Special School

Wednesday 15th October

School Tour - please call 01483 888401 to book a place

Thursday 16th October

Parents' Evening (all year groups) - 5:00-8:00pm

Friday 17th October

4C's Class Assembly - 10:10am

5A Swimming

Autumn Term Book Fair - 3:15pm