

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLYDACH YSGOL GYNRADD GATHOLIG SAN JOSEFF, CLYDACH

May 8th 2026

School Attendance: 90% - THAT'S VERY LOW!!!!

Reception: 86.4% Year 1: 89.3% Year 2: 91.5%

Year 3: 91.8% Year 4: 94.5% Year 5: 82.7% Year 6: 94.3%

Winning Class for Attendance:

Year 4: 94.5%

Da iawn!

Upcoming dates:

Friday 15th May Friends of St Joseph's invite parents in to help around the school & yard with 'jobs.' please come and help, even for an hour. AND Mental Health Day – pupils can wear green and there will be Wellbeing activities in all classes.

Thursday 14th May Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, St Benedict's 9:30 am Years 2-6

Thursday 14th May Crowning of Our Lady in the school yard at 2:00pm. All welcome, weather dependant,

Sunday 17th May First Confession for Holy Communion candidates, St Benedict's 9:00 am.

Sunday 14th June First Holy Communion 10 am St Benedict's, all welcome.

Friday 22nd May World Day for Culture & Dialogue -wear nation's costume or flag colours

Friday 19th June Sports Day (a.m.) & Gaelic Football Festival all day (more info to come)

Friday 19th June Sunflower Day (theme to be decided by the pupils)

School Prayer

*We are together in Christ, Living Learning and growing.
Sharing peace and love.
May God help us through Catholic Education and let us be guided by St. Joseph who protected Mary and their Son Jesus.*

Amen
Gweddî'r Ysgol
Rydym yn un yng Nghrist, yn byw,
Yn dysgu ac yn tyfu.
Yn rhannu heddwch a chariad.
Boed I Dduw ein helpu drwy
Addysg Gatholig a boed i ni gael ein harwain
gan San Joseff a fu'n amddiffyn Mair a'u mab Iesu.
Amen



Our Virtues for April & May are:



We are growing to know and be **grateful** for our own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and developing to the full so that we can be **generous** with our gifts, in the service of others.

THE ROOT OF JOY IS GRATEFULNESS.
It is not joy that makes us grateful;
it is gratitude that makes us joyful.

-David Steindl-Rast

HELP OUR SCHOOL!

COMMUNITY HELPING DAY

Parents & Carers – we need your help!

Friday 15th May

Come along and help make our school look its best.

Jobs include:

- Gardening and outdoor tidying
- Small fixing / DIY jobs
- Putting up display boards
- General helping hands around the school

If you can, please bring some of your own tools (labelled):
gloves, trowels, spades, screwdrivers, drills, toolkits etc.

Even an hour of your time would be greatly appreciated!
Please sign in at Reception when you arrive.

Thank you for supporting our school community!

Please come and help us make our school an even better setting for our wonderful pupils.



Friends of St. Joseph's – FOSJ



We are a parent, family & friend group - similar to a PTA - working together to support the school community.

We are keen to have new families to join us. A great way to meet others, support the school & make a positive difference for our children

Getting involved doesn't mean giving hours of time. By getting involved in any way, you can help to raise funds for resources, activities & experiences that benefit all children.

How?

- Helping organise events
- Share ideas in/ out of meetings
- Lend a hand during events.
- Help with fundraising.

If you think you could support FOSJ and the children of the school please reach out to your class rep

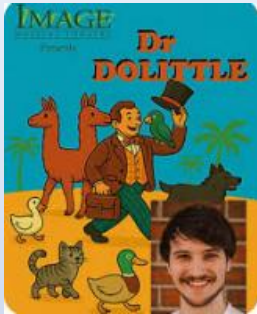
Nursery - Harriet Reception - Charles & Nicola Y1 - Shâron
Y2 - Lucy/Nadine/Charles & Nicola Y3 - currently no rep
Y4 - Sam/Lucy/Nadine/Harriet/Claire/Shâron
Y5 - currently no rep Y6 - Harriet

Please think about joining and helping to ensure that our pupils have lots of experiences and opportunities. All are welcome!

Updates of the week:

On our school website important dates are on the calendar and photos are on the 'News & Events' area.

<https://www.stjosephscatholicps-swansa.co.uk/>

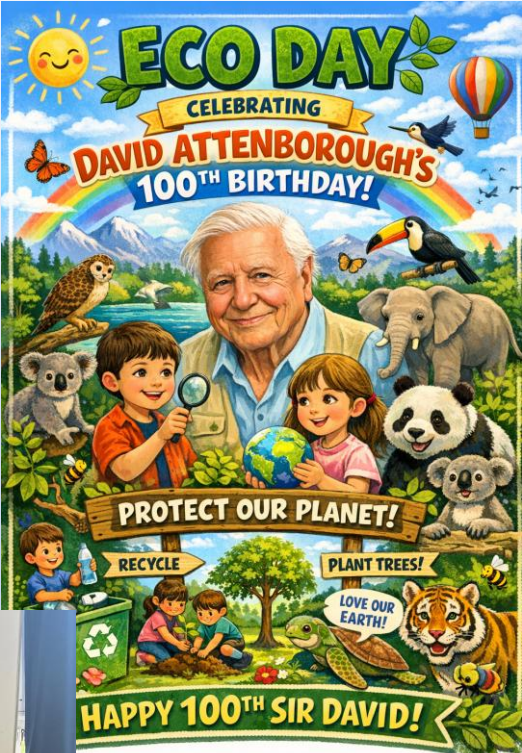


Thank you to all the parents who sent in £2 to go towards some of the cost of cover of our Image Theatre visit. 'Dr Dolittle' was a great success. It is wonderful for the pupils to see and take part in a live play. Creativity is at the heart of everything we do here at St. Joseph's.



Eco Club led an assembly this week to prepare us for our Eco Day today where we celebrated World Earth Day and David Attenborough's 100th birthday.

Each class learnt about an animal that David Attenborough had studied and took part in litter picks. The day was spent thinking about what we can do as 'stewards' of God's earth to look after and care for it. In the afternoon Mrs Morgan & Miss Nadine showcase all of the work in the hall for everyone to see. It was a fun and informative day to remember.



Thank you to Mrs Morgan and the Eco Club for working with St Benedict's Parish Gardening Club this week. It is great that they are working with, and making a difference in, our community.



Thank you Year 6 and Mr Maddock for putting together the new goals.

**Our May Procession/
Crowning of Our Lady is Thursday 14th May at 2:00 pm in the school yard.
Please join us.**



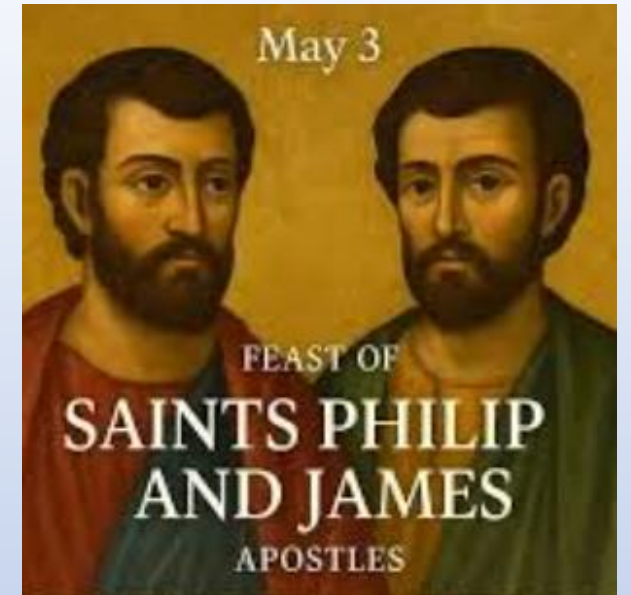
The month of May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady as the Mother of God and "Queen of May."

We say special prayers, especially the rosary.



We have May Processions - traditional ceremonies where a statue of Mary is adorned with a crown of flowers, symbolising her role as Queen of Heaven.

Homes and parishes often set up special May altars or decorate statues of Mary with flowers to represent love and devotion.



SAINT PHILIP
and
SAINT JAMES

THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF SAINT PHILIP AND SAINT JAMES, TWO OF THE APOSTLES OF JESUS. SAINT PHILIP WAS KNOWN FOR INVITING OTHERS TO FOLLOW JESUS, WHILE SAINT JAMES THE LESS WAS A QUIET AND FAITHFUL LEADER OF THE EARLY CHURCH. THEIR LIVES REMIND US THAT, WE CAN SERVE GOD IN DIFFERENT WAYS, BY SHARING HIM WITH OTHERS AND BY BEING FAITHFUL IN OUR DAILY LIVES.



School Council will lead a PAG (Pupil Action Group) Assembly to explain to everyone about Mental Health Week and what we will be doing.

SUNFLOWER DAY 2026



£2

**SUNFLOWER
GROWING KITS
ON SALE IN SCHOOL**

This year's Sunflower Day is Friday July 3rd.

We have asked the pupils to put suggestions for the theme into a suggestion box.

Tickets will be on sale after half term £3 each.

All proceeds will be going to the South West Wales Cancer Centre at Singleton Hospital.

We are also selling sunflower kits for £2 each from this week to raise money and tip tops and ice cream just before half term.



GET INVOLVED IN THE GAMES

We are delighted to announce the launch of Gloucestershire GAA's Southern Games / Gameua Deheuol, a large regional festival of Gaelic Games taking place on:

Friday 19th June 2026
Coed Gwilym Parc, Clydach, Swansea

This major event will bring together over 300 children from schools across Wales and Southern England for a full day of Gaelic sports, culture, music, games, food, stalls, and community celebration.

THE OBJECTIVES OF SOUTHERN GAMES?

- Benefit Children's Physical and Mental Wellbeing
- Provide inclusive access to Gaelic Games for pupils of all backgrounds and abilities
- Promote a healthy, active lifestyle in a safe, enjoyable environment
- Develop Leadership & Community Skills
- Pupils will help plan, organise, and run key aspects of the festival
- Build Cultural Connections
- Celebrate sporting heritage and strengthen Welsh-Irish-English-Cornish cultural links

We would love every child taking part in the Southern Games / Gameua De 2026 to go home with their very own Gaelic football. With over 300 young players

attending, we are seeking sponsors to help make this possible. To recognise and thank our supporters, we are producing a full event digital programme that will be shared across Britain and Ireland, giving businesses and families a fantastic platform to show their support for youth sport and community wellbeing.

SPONSORSHIP RATECARD

GOLD - £100	Full-page advert in the official event programme
SILVER - £50	Half-page advert
BRONZE - £20	Name and message featured in the programme

If you would prefer to make a small donation online please use [this link](#) or scan the qr code below.

Your support will help us provide equipment, grow Gaelic Games across the region, and give each child a lasting memory of the day. If you would like to sponsor or learn more, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Páraic Maddock maddockp@hwbcymru.net



FEATURED, NEWS

An exciting new Youth Festival of Gaelic Games will launch in Swansea on June, 19th 2026. The Southern Games will see children from the ages of 5-17 participate in Gaelic Games from surrounding clubs and schools in the South Wales and South England region.

The Inaugural Southern Games will be held at Coed Gwilym Parc in Swansea and will be hosted by the St Josephs GAA Club in Swansea working in partnership with their local school – St Josephs, Clydach and Gloucestershire GAA. Support is also being provided by the Consulate General of Ireland in Cardiff.

The exciting new initiative will include Gaelic Games, music and concession stalls as well as some special guests.

To enter your club or school team, or for more information, please contact Matt Hutchinson – childrensofficer.gloucestershire@gaa.ie.

An entry level Gaelic Games Coaching Course (Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games) will also take place on the lead up to the games on the 18th of April at St Josephs Primary School in Clydach, 10am-4pm. No previous playing experience is necessary. 16+ to attend. To Register your place, please contact – childrensofficer.gloucestershire@gaa.ie.

SOUTHERN GAMES

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE, COED GWILYM PARC, SWANSEA, 10AM - 2PM

GLoucestershire GAA YOUTH GAMES FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 5 - 17 FROM SCHOOLS AND CLUBS ACROSS SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH ENGLAND

A FESTIVAL OF GAELIC GAMES, MUSIC STALLS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

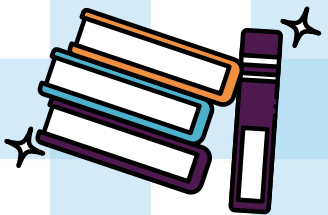
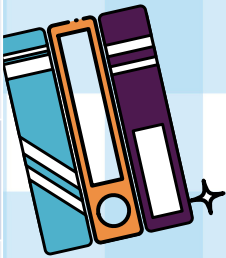
TO ENTER YOUR CLUB OR SCHOOL TEAM, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MATT HUTCHINSON CHILDRENSOFFICER.GLOUCESTERSHIRE@GAA.IE.

Our School Sports Day this year will be linked to this huge event. More information to follow. Congratulations to Mr Maddock!



Merit Award & 'Seren Yr Wythnos'

Class	Seren Yr Wythnos	Merit Award
Nursery		
Reception	Matthew	Aizel and Paulo
Year 1	Jacob	Emilia and Emmanuel
Year 2	Leo	Scarlett, Roman and Evan
Year 3	Eva	Jacob and Rithu
Year 4	Martha	Brielle and Mele
Year 5	Ishal	Abel and John
Year 6	Dontę	Rayona and Axel





ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together in Christ, Living, learning & Growing.

Headteacher: Mrs M. Mort

Telephone: 01792 8424292

www: <https://www.stjosephscatholicps-swanssea.co.uk>

Email: St.Josephs.RCPriamry.school@Swanssea-edunet.gov.uk



School Uniform Requirements at St Joseph's

Dear Parents/Carers,

we are writing to you to remind everyone of the uniform expectations at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School. As you know, wearing a uniform has many benefits, including promoting a sense of pride in our school and creating a level playing field for all children. It also helps to ensure that children are dressed appropriately for a day of learning, and saves families time in choosing what to wear each day. At St Joseph's we have a clear uniform policy that all children are expected to adhere to.

We are giving plenty of notice of the expected uniform before you start buying new. **NO TRAINERS allowed except gym days. FROM SEPTEMBER letters will be sent out to pupils not following the correct uniform code.**

WINTER UNIFORM – September to Easter Break

- o Blue shirt - short or long-sleeved,
- o Navy jumper or cardigan with school logo (if possible)
- o Navy trousers/navy pinafore/ navy knee length skirt (NOT SHORT SKIRTS please)
- o Completely flat, plain, black shoes (NO TRAINERS)
- o School tie (Available from School Reception Office) £7.50

SUMMER UNIFORM – Easter Break to September

- o Blue polo shirts
- o Navy shorts or trousers
- o Blue gingham Summer Dress
- o Completely flat, plain, black shoes (NO TRAINERS)

PE KIT - Reception to Year 6

- o Blue polo shirts
- o Navy shorts
- o Trainers
- o School track suit- navy joggers and navy sweatshirt with logo (if possible)

NO HOODIES ARE ALLOWED except when the leavers' hoodies are given out.

From September we are allowing Nursery and Reception pupils to wear school gym kit every day. In Early Years, children learn best through **active, play-based experiences**, which involve lots of movement, exploration and outdoor learning, and wearing the school **gym kit** supports this approach by allowing children to move freely, comfortably and safely. Practical clothing encourages independence with dressing and toileting, helps children feel confident to join in physical and messy play, and is better suited to outdoor learning in all weathers.

School uniform is optional for Nursery Class.

Articles of clothing should be marked or labelled so that in the event of an article being mislaid, it can be traced.

School uniform and games wear can be purchased from **Bergoni Embroidery & Printing** (St David's Road, Swansea Enterprise Park) www.bergonicorporate.co.uk,
J&S Embroidery, <https://www.js-products.co.uk/> (East End Garage Tycoch Road Clydach) and online at www.SCHOOLTRENDS.CO.UK or any other supermarket retailers. purchasing items of school uniform. Uniform is not required for Nursery children.

Please read the uniform requirements carefully and follow the school uniform policy when you are buying **ready for September.**

We have had a lot of pupils wearing trainers this year and from September we will be monitoring uniform more carefully.

Its an easy uniform to follow and one that you can buy from most shops and supermarkets. School logos are not mandatory.

Swansea Council: Schools Essentials Grant (previously known as the School Uniform Grant)

Please be reminded that the closing date for applying for the Schools Essentials Grant (previously known as the School Uniform Grant) is 31 May 2026 for the 2025-2026 Academic Year. We recognise that there may be confusion in applying for this grant as it is for those learners that are **eligible** for free school meals. Being eligible for free school meals is different to the 'Universal Free School Meal' offer (this provides a free meal to all primary aged pupils). Children whose parents/carers receive the following support payments are eligible for free school meals. Universal Credit if your annualised net earnings are £7400 or less

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI or the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit where total annual income is less than £16,190 a year
- Working Tax Credit 'run on'

If you believe you are eligible for free school meals we would urge you to apply (even if your child is in receipt of a free meal in primary school), the application form is quick and easy to complete, and eligibility allows you to apply for the Schools Essentials Grant. This will also help your school as part of the funding schools receive is based on the number of eligible free school meal learners. You can apply using the following link: [Apply for free school meals - Swansea](#)

If you have any queries relating to Free School Meals please contact: FreeSchoolMeals@swansea.gov.uk

Once eligibility status has been confirmed for free school meals, you will then be able to apply for the Schools Essentials Grant. This grant is available for those learners:

Eligible for free school meals

- Children Looked After (CLA) (must attend a Swansea school)
- Who are classed as No Resource to Public Funds (NPRF)
- In year groups Reception – Year 11 (as of September 2025)

The grant is £125 per eligible learner except for those in Year 7, who will be entitled to £200.

The grant can be spent on (but is not limited to):

School uniform including coats and shoes;

- School sports kits including footwear;
- IT equipment;
- Uniform for enrichment activities (for example scouts, guides, cadets, dance etc.); and
- Equipment (for example school bags and stationery).

You can apply for the Schools Essentials Grant using the link below: [School Essentials Grant \(formerly school uniform grant - PDG access\) - Swansea](#)

If you have any queries relating to the Schools Essentials Grant please contact: schooluniformgrant@swansea.gov.uk

New clubs lists have started for the summer term. You need to send in the form and payment for your child to access clubs.

Club times are 3.20- 4.20PM Please **be on time** to collect your child from the main gate, diolch.

There are no clubs during HALF TERM – May 25th – 29th Last week of clubs will is July 6th.

MONDAY	TUESDAY
REC/Y1/2: LEGO CLUB	REC/Y1/2: BIBLE STORIES
Y3/4: ART CLUB	Y3/4: INDOOR & OUTDOOR GAMES
GY5/6: CREATIVITY & FITNESS	Y5/6: GAELIC FOOTBALL