



St Joseph's
CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Believe



Achieve



Succeed

Dear Families,

Friday 9th January 2026

Happy New Year! We hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break. As we begin the new term, our school virtue for January is **Love of Learning**—a perfect way to start the year by nurturing a positive attitude towards every lesson. This week, we have also focussed on **SLANT**: Sit up, Listen, Ask and Answer questions, Never interrupt, and Track the speaker. These expectations help children develop strong learning habits and make the most of their time in class.

To support this focus, we have made a small update to our **Golden Ticket** system:

- Children will continue to earn Golden Tickets by consistently demonstrating SLANT during lessons.
- We have introduced a **Golden Ticket Shop**.

This week, the Golden Ticket Shop opened for the first time, and the children were thrilled! They can now exchange a minimum of two Golden Tickets for a small reward, or save up their tickets to choose a larger reward. This initiative celebrates positive behaviour and effort while also allowing us to recycle our Golden Tickets!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us make learning enjoyable and rewarding for every child.

Wishing you a happy and blessed New Year, filled with love, joy, and happiness, Mrs Dabbs.

Spotlight in school

Epiphany Mass

It was a wonderful way to begin the new year by celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany in Church together with our school and parish family. Sharing this special celebration reminded us of the joy of coming together in faith and community as we start the year ahead.



Virtue Ambassadors

Congratulations to our newly appointed Virtue Ambassadors for January! You have been recognised for your wonderful '**love of learning**', we are so proud of you. You will be shining examples to others across the school, inspiring a positive attitude in every lesson. Well done to: **Arlen** in Foundation, **Maeva** in Year 1, **Bertie** in Year 2, **Cruz** in Year 3, **Raffie** in Year 4, **Amelia** in Year 5 & **Adam** in Year 6.

A message from our PTFA

Despite the snowy day, we will still be holding our bake sale today.



Please do pop into the hall after school today, for a hot drink and a tasty treat!

We hope to see you there.



Save the date...

TODAY PTFA Bake Sale at 3:15pm in the school hall
Monday 19th January

Last swimming lesson for Year 4

Monday 26th January

Year 5 begin swimming lessons on Monday afternoons

Tuesday 3rd February Open Classrooms

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th February Parents' Evening

Attendance, Punctuality & Presentation

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring children arrive at school on time. Your efforts have made a real difference, helping children to settle quickly into class and focus positively on their learning. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school looking smart in their uniforms and returning with such enthusiasm and readiness to believe, achieve, and succeed. We are very proud of the positive start they have made this term and appreciate your ongoing partnership in supporting high expectations for all.

Catholic Life: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For children in Year 3 or above. Application forms are now available from Fr Chris after any Mass. Completed forms returned to Fr Chris by **11th January 2026**. The first parents' meeting will be on **Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 7.00pm** in the Octagonal Hall. At this meeting, the programme will be introduced and the full plan shared. The first children's session will take place on **Sunday 25th January 2026 from 9.20am to 10.20am**.