



Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been such a joy to welcome your children back today and to see such excellent behaviour and learning already. Wren class in Year 2 were still busily writing when I popped in after 3 o'clock today so we really filled every minute!

I am three days into my new role as Headteacher of the St Joseph's schools. My wife, Mrs Chamberlin, has also been appointed by the school governors as Deputy Headteacher and together, we are excited to be working with the staff teams to see our schools provide the very best start to life for your children.

It is extraordinary what the staff have managed to achieve in just two INSET days and gives us great encouragement for the journey ahead. In amongst various training sessions the team have transformed learning spaces – they have built two school libraries, created break out spaces for those who need additional support, and we have the beginnings of a music room too (a particular passion of ours!). Two pictures below are a tiny glimpse into one of the lovely learning areas in our reception classrooms and the beginnings of a brand-new infant school library.



We are very keen to meet with all parents and carers early this term to share our vision for the schools and to begin to build a relationship which is key to the future success of our schools and our children. **Please will you join us for a short talk and a chance to say hello on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 8.50am.** We will meet in the junior hall; please just wait at the junior end of the playground after you have dropped your children off.

Just a couple of practicalities to keep our children safe and help us be brilliant:

- Thank you to those who use the path behind the school for walking the extra few steps to the middle gate today. By closing the reception gate we are able to ensure our youngest children have learning set up and ready to use from the beginning of the day. This gate and the reception outdoor area will continue to be closed.
- Well done for seeing your children into school so successfully this morning. Please note that adults are not allowed in the school building unless signed in via the school office. Please say your goodbyes on the playground and then come around to the school office via the entrance on Orchard Street.

This year is going to be special and we can't wait to share the journey with you.

Kind regards,

Mr Chamberlin  
Executive Headteacher