

March 2026 Newsletter

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Eager to Learn, Proud to Achieve

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A Message from the Head Teacher

March has been a wonderfully vibrant and enriching month at Joseph Turner Primary School, filled with learning, celebration, and memorable experiences for our pupils.

One of our highlights was the Parent Meetings on 18th March, where families met with staff to discuss progress and celebrate pupil achievements. Thank you to everyone who joined us and contributed to such positive conversations.

We also came together to celebrate Red Nose Day, spreading kindness, laughter, and charitable spirit across the school.

During Neurodiversity Week, pupils explored and appreciated the many different ways people learn, think, and experience the world—an important part of fostering empathy and inclusion.

Our year groups have enjoyed some fantastic enrichment opportunities too.

- EYFS were thrilled to welcome the Animal Man, who introduced them to a variety of creatures and sparked wonderful curiosity and conversation.
- A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the Reception and Nursery Easter events—the turnout was absolutely wonderful, and the children were so proud to share these special experiences with you.
- Year 2 had a lovely trip to Atwell Farm, learning about animals, nature, and farm life.
- Year 3 visited the library yesterday, where they were treated to a magical performance from a visiting magician—a real highlight that filled the children with excitement and awe.
- Meanwhile, Year 4/5 enjoyed a fantastic residential, building independence, teamwork, and a whole range of new skills that they will carry forward with pride.

Today, we ended the term with one of my favourite celebrations—the Headteacher Awards. It was truly heart-warming to see one child from every class recognised for their hard work, resilience, and achievements. Their pride was shared by all of us.

I want to thank you once again for your ongoing support. Our pupils flourish because of the strong, caring community around them, and this month has been a perfect example of that.

Living Streets Travel Tracker

After the Easter holidays, our school will be taking part in the Living Streets Travel Tracker initiative - an engaging programme that encourages children to record how they travel to school each day. Using the interactive WOW Travel Tracker system, pupils log their daily journeys and work towards earning monthly badges by choosing active and sustainable travel options such as walking, wheeling, cycling, scooting or Park and Stride. The initiative not only helps to promote healthier habits and reduce congestion at the school gates but also builds excitement as classes track their progress and celebrate their achievements together.



Shooting Stars Circus Skills Science day

Shooting Stars Circus Skills visited our school to lead an exciting whole-school assembly that blended science learning with the fun of circus performance. Pupils discovered the scientific principles behind balance, motion and forces while watching impressive demonstrations. Each year group then took part in a hands-on workshop, where children practised a wide range of circus skills, including juggling, plate spinning, and more - developing coordination, resilience and a deeper understanding of the science involved. The day was energetic, educational, and unforgettable for everyone.



Frank Chapman (Years 4 and 5 Residential)

Children from Years 4 and 5 enjoyed an exciting three-day residential at the Frank Chapman Centre in Bewdley, where they embraced a range of outdoor adventures and new challenges. During their stay, they took part in activities such as geocaching, high ropes and blindfolded trust walks, all of which encouraged teamwork, resilience and confidence. Alongside the fun, the children also learned valuable life-skills—making their own beds, keeping their rooms tidy and helping to clear up after meals—returning home with wonderful memories and a real sense of independence.



Nursery – Library fun!

Our nursery had a wonderful visit to Glebefields Library this spring! The children listened beautifully to a lovely spring story all about growing and new beginnings. After the story, everyone enjoyed making their own colourful flower craft, choosing bright petals and decorating them with lots of creativity. It was a joyful trip that helped us celebrate the season and encouraged our love of books and imagination.

Reception – Traditional Tales

We have had a very busy month! In Reception we have continued our topic of 'Traditional tales'. We have shared stories including 'Jack and beanstalk' and 'The enormous turnip'. Some of the activities we joined in with linked to these stories included building tall towers just like the beanstalk, exploring and practicing skills on the climbing frame, fruit and vegetable painting, and having our very own fruit and vegetable shop. We had a visit from the animal man and we got to meet giant cockroaches, two snakes, an owl, and a honey bear. During March we also celebrated world book day and it was great to see so many lovely costumes! The last two weeks we have been looking at how Easter is celebrated and have joined in with lots of exciting activities linked to this including an Easter egg hunt and designing our own Easter egg. We also held an Easter workshop with parents and the children did amazingly well with their singing!



Year 1 – Library visit

Dragonflies visited Glebefields Library this afternoon. We listened to a story called 'Bear's Nap' and then completed a craft activity making a sleepy bear mask. The children walked sensibly and smartly to the library and back representing our school rules of reading, respectful and safe.

Some comments from the children:

"The library was exciting."

"I enjoyed the craft activity."

"I enjoyed listening to the story."

"I wish we could go to the library everyday."

"I liked making my own bear."



Year 2 – Farm visit

In Year 2, we've had an amazing time visiting the farm and exploring all the wonderful things it has to offer. We loved seeing lots of different animals up close and learning all about how they grow and change as they get older. It was an exciting, hands-on way to discover more about the world around us, and it made our learning truly come to life!



Year 3 – Recorders

Year 3 have been working hard on their recorder skills this term with Miss RJ. They've learned how to hold the instrument correctly, play simple notes, and even keep in time as a group. After lots of practice and perseverance, the children ended their sequence of lessons with a confident performance to Year 4, showcasing everything they had learned. It was a brilliant moment of teamwork and musical progress!



Year 4 Travel Back to Anglo-Saxon Times

Our Year 4 historians have been busy bringing the past to life! Following an inspiring trip to Bishop's Wood to see reconstructed settlements firsthand, the children returned to the classroom ready to become master builders.

Using their research, the pupils designed, created and evaluated their very own Anglo-Saxon longhouses in DT. From 'thatching' roofs to constructing sturdy frames, they worked brilliantly to replicate 5th-century craftsmanship. The project concluded with a thoughtful evaluation of their work, comparing their miniature models to the real structures they studied.



Year 5 – Exciting opportunities!

We've been very busy and enjoying lots of exciting learning opportunities! We welcomed visitors from West Bromwich Building Society, who spoke to us about money and saving; the children really enjoyed the session and asked lots of thoughtful questions. In art, we created our own Greek clay pots, carefully shaping and decorating them just like ancient craftsmen. Our circus skills workshop was a big hit too – everyone had great fun learning how to spin plates! We also took part in a first aid session where we learnt how to put someone into the recovery position, an important skill for keeping others safe.



Year 6 – Mother's Day assembly

This month, Year 6 celebrated Mother's Day with an assembly for Mothers and female guardians. The children made posters and read some lovely heartfelt messages and poems and sang a lovely song too! We finished the assembly with hot drinks and cakes for the adults (sorry again children). Everyone had a lovely time - thank you again to all who joined us!



Pastoral – changes to Universal Credit

Antonia Bance, our local MP for Tipton, Wednesbury and Coseley, has asked us to share information about changes to benefits.

From 6 April, the two-child limit will be lifted. This means families will receive the full Child Element of Universal Credit for every child.

If you already receive Universal Credit, your claim should be updated automatically from April 2026. If this does not happen in April or May, you can send a message through your Universal Credit online journal or call the Universal Credit helpline.

Antonia and her team can help with any problems related to these changes, including the two-child limit. They can also help with other issues such as benefits, housing, the local council and residency. If you need support from your MP, you can email antonia.bance.mp@parliament.uk or call 0121 716 5233.

Dates for the diary - March

Date	Event
Monday 13 th April	School reopens to children at 8:40am
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 1 parent mastering number session (Tadpoles 9am/Dragonflies 2:30pm)
Wednesday 15 th April	French Themed Day
Friday 17 th April	Autism Acceptance Day – Wear Neon
Monday 20 th April	Year 1 Edgmond Hall Trip
Tuesday 21 st April	Year 4 Cadbury World Trip
Tuesday 21 st April	Reception parent mastering number session 9am
Tuesday 28 th April	Edgmond Hall Parent's Meeting
Wednesday 29 th April	Year 2 parent mastering number session (Penguins 9am/Puffins 2:30pm)

Skills Builder



This month, we have been focusing on the Skills Builder essential skill of *adapting*, and the children have shown wonderful resilience throughout. They have learned to approach new situations with a positive mindset, even when things felt challenging or unfamiliar. By persevering, trying different strategies, and supporting one another, they demonstrated that adapting isn't just about coping with change—it's about embracing it. Their determination to keep going and never give up has been truly inspiring.



National
Online
Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world - helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!



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Attendance matters!

Spring term at Joseph Turner is always an exciting time, and our attendance is really feeling the benefit of the positivity that spring always brings.

In the last newsletter, we spoke about how attendance is not at our target. Spring 2 term has certainly been a turning point for our pupils and it has not been this high since before Covid. As a school we are smashing barriers and targets, and the result is more pupils in school and getting the most from their education.

Let's continue this in the Summer term, and hopefully we can have the most successful attendance throughout the academic year.

Remember support and advice is available to all our families, and if you would like anything please speak with Miss Harrison, by visiting the Reception, calling 0121 557 8733 (option 1) or email attendance@jtpschool.org

Whole school attendance for the last half term was 95%, which is amazing! The table contains the attendance figures for each class last half term:

Well done Panthers for the best attendance of the half term, we hope you enjoy your cinema afternoon on Friday 17th April as a reward!

Class	Attendance
5 Panthers	97.2
2 Penguins	96.9
Honeybees	96.6
3 Flamingo	96.3
3 Parrots	96.1
6 Lions	95.7
2 Puffins	95.1
5 Jaguars	94.7
6 Tigers	94.5
4 Toucans	94.1
1 Tadpoles	94
Ladybirds AM	93.8
4 Hummingbirds	93.7
1 Dragonflies	93.6
Ladybirds PM	91.3
Bumblebees	90.9