

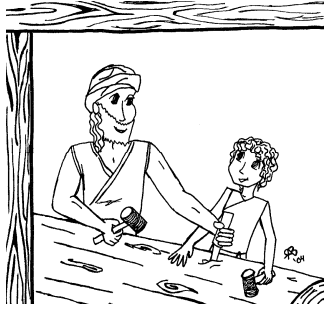
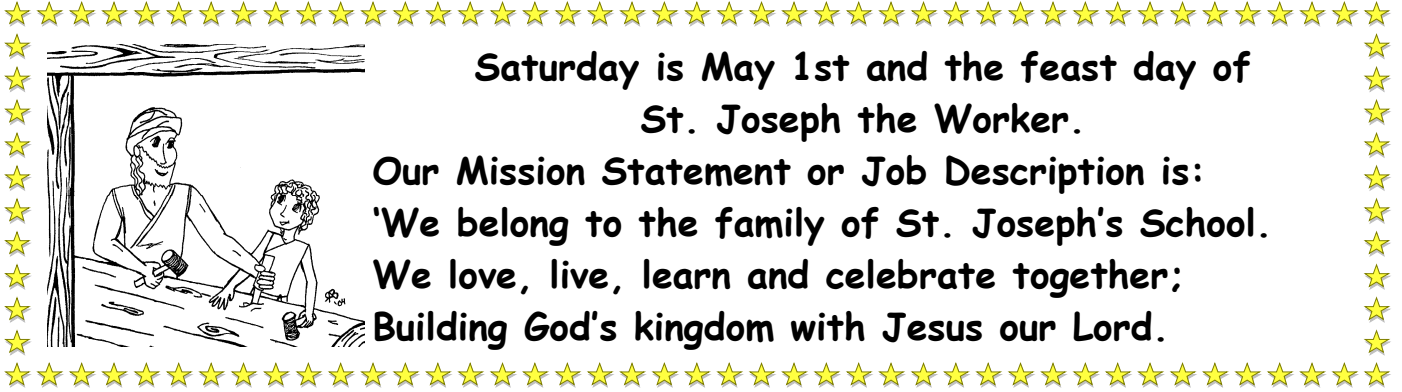
St. Joseph's Newsletter

April 2010

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Saturday is May 1st and the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker.

Our Mission Statement or Job Description is:

'We belong to the family of St. Joseph's School.

We love, live, learn and celebrate together;

Building God's kingdom with Jesus our Lord.

Bring and Buy Sale on Friday to raise fund for Y6 residential trip to the Lakes.

Please send in suitable toys, books etc. for the children to sell to each other! You get rid of it....and the children buy it back!

We are trying out new lockers for KS2 coats and bags. They look very smart and are just big enough for a coat, book bag and drawstring bag for PE kits. Hopefully, they will help prevent uniform and kit getting lost.

SATs Boycott:

I am attaching a letter from all 30 Primary Heads in Hartlepool explaining why we are following our association's advice to boycott SATS test in Y6. We are doing this because we believe the system is fundamentally flawed and doesn't give parents the information it promises. Teacher assessment is more accurate and is more useful to the secondary schools and parents than the present 'snapshot tests.' This year the children have spent time preparing for the papers so we will still be administering some form of tests and the results of these will form part of the teacher assessment levels Y6 parents and children will be given.

It is unfortunate that we are having to act so late in the year but Heads have been unable to get the government to enter into meaningful discussions on SATs as it is such a political red hot potato! I am more than happy to talk with any parents who would like to discuss this more. You are welcome to come tomorrow (Thursday) morning at 9.00am or at the end of the day at 3.00pm. Alternatively, give me a ring on 272747 and we'll arrange another time.

Improvements to the building—once again we have managed to secure funding so new carpets and cupboards are being fitted throughout the school. When it's all done we'll invite you in to have a look around at (among other things) a ship, a shelter and a lighthouse!

Any questions or concerns about your child?? PLEASE don't hesitate to go up to your child's teacher at the end of the day. They will **always** see you then or make another time to meet. Mornings are better for just a brief word. Our main concern is your child, their happiness, security and learning.