



6th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday! Here we are at the end of the first week of the 2019/20 academic year and it has been a wonderful week for all in school. I am delighted to report that all of our pupils, new and not so new have settled back into school routines, expectations and life incredibly smoothly; it has been a pleasure to have them all back in school with us.

I am very excited about the year of learning ahead of us and I am sure your children will thoroughly enjoy their time at school this year.

Over the summer, we have been very busy decorating the Year 2 and Year 5 classrooms. Both classes look fantastic. We've also had new double glazed windows in Year 1 and Year 2. I am hoping to get new windows in Year 3 but will need to raise approximately £10,000 therefore could you please ensure you pay your building fund donation. It is £20 per child, per term. You will be receiving a building fund envelope shortly. However, if you would like to pay your donation in advance, please either come into the office or put the money/cheque into an envelope marked building fund with your child's name and year group. Thank you.

WELCOME

I would like to say welcome to the following children and their families:

Foundation 1: Dante, Margarita, Roisin, Robyn, Oliver, Ria, Bryce, Denny, Adrian, Anna, Ella, Ellie, Navin, Adriel, Skylar, Harry, Maya, Noah, Alyssa and Felicity

Foundation 2: Maria, Charlotte, Alex, Gabriellus, Noah, Logan, Mark, Daniel, Dominic, Jack, Chidera, and Ava

Year 2: Eva

Year 6: Louise

I hope you enjoy learning with us at St Joseph's!

Mass

There will be a welcome Mass for the new children and families on Friday 27th September, in school, at 11.00a.m. Parents are welcome to attend so please come along and help us celebrate this special occasion.

Important Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened on 3rd September and the closing date for all applications is 31st October 2019. Year 6 parents must complete the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions and complete the School's Supplementary Form which you can obtain during the School's Open evenings.

Please note, all Catholic Secondary Schools require a Certificate of Catholic Practice which can be obtained from your parish priest.



Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club starts at 8.00a.m. The club costs £3.50 per day. If you are paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to St Joseph's School.

First Holy Communion

If you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion next year, there will be a meeting starting at 6.p.m. on Wednesday 11th September in the church.

Newsletters


I will send out newsletters fortnightly. If you do not receive a newsletter via e-mail, please inform the office. If you do not have an e-mail account, paper copies will be given.

Parents' Forum

Your views regarding the school are very important to us. To ensure that we are in touch with the needs and concerns of our parents, we are actively seeking your views. Therefore, if you have any ideas to help improve the school or any issues you would like to discuss, please come along to any of the following Parents' Forum dates: Friday 4th October, Friday 8th November, Friday 6th December, Friday 10th January, Friday 7th February, Friday 6th March, Friday 1st May, Friday 5th June and Friday 3rd July starting after assembly, at approximately 9.45a.m.

PE kits

Please ensure that pupils have the correct PE kit in school with them each day; PE is a vital part of our school curriculum here at St Joseph's and the children participate in two hours of PE per week. Therefore, please ensure your child brings the correct, labelled PE kit to school on Mondays.

Last term, a number of girls had plimsolls which look similar to the shoes in  the picture. These plimsolls are not appropriate as they do not provide the correct support around the ankle area. Children must wear black plimsolls or black/white trainers for PE lessons.



Important Notice

1. **Individual and sibling photographs** will be taken on Tuesday 17th September.
2. Please may I remind you that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school site. Thank you for your co-operation.
3. Please remember to inform the school office or class teacher before 2.00p.m., if your child is being picked up from school by a person other than yourself. Thank you.

School's Procedures

I would like to reiterate the end of day and before school procedures for your information only.

Before School

Breakfast Club starts at 8.00a.m. If your child does not attend Breakfast Club, school starts at 8.40a.m. The gates will open at 8.40a.m. please do not send your child any earlier unless they are attending our Breakfast Club.

All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils must be accompanied by an adult until your child has entered the school building.

End of Day Procedures

- I. Foundation 2 children will exit the school via the Foundation Stage Playground. Key Stage 1 will leave via the Key Stage 1 corridor and Key Stage 2 will leave via Key Stage 2 doors. Key Stage 2 parents are welcome to meet their children at the Key Stage 2 doors or by the main gate.
- II. The playground will be cleared as soon as possible to ensure all children have left the school safely with a parent.
- III. If you have children in Key Stage 1 and 2, please pick up the younger children first. In addition, you may wait on the Key Stage 1 playground area for the older children or wait inside the main gated area.
- IV. There will be a member of staff by the main gates saying goodbye to the children.
- V. If you would like your child to be collected from school by another person, please inform the school office or class teacher. Please do not pick up other children other than your own, without parental permission.
- VI. If you need to find any lost property, please go via the school office.
- VII. If in the unfortunate event you are delayed in picking up your child or stuck in traffic, please call the school office.

Wet Day Procedures


1. Children will enter the school through the normal morning entry areas **from** 8.40a.m. For example: Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 will enter through the Key Stage 1 door. Key Stage 2 will enter through the Key Stage 2 doors. Foundation 1 will enter through Foundation 1 canopy area. Please do not arrive at the school any earlier than 8.40a.m as the doors will be closed.
2. Children will go directly to their classes. Parents/carers, please say your goodbyes on the playground.

Before School & After School

- At the end and the start of the school day, the teachers are very busy looking after your children. Therefore, please refrain from talking to the teacher until they have dismissed all of the children. However, if it is an urgent message, please either write in the Home-School Link book or inform the office.
- Please shut all gates behind you. Thank you.

Thank you for your help in following the school procedures and keeping our pupils safe.

Dates for the diary



September	
Tuesday 17th September	Individual/Sibling Photographs
Friday 13th September	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 4
Friday 27 th September	Foundation Stage Coffee Morning. Foundation Stage parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 27 th September	Welcome Mass at 11.00 a.m. in school. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass

October	
Tuesday 1 st October	Year 2 Parents' Meeting regarding SATs at 2.30p.m
Thursday 3 rd October	Year 6 Hudnell Park School Trip
Thursday 3 rd October	Foundation 2 Phonics Meeting for all F2 parents at 2.30p.m. or 6.00p.m.
Friday 4 th October	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Wednesday 9 th October	Year 4 Parents' Meeting regarding the new Multiplication Test at 2.30p.m. or 6.00p.m.
Tuesday 15 th October	Year 3 Hudnell Park – School Trip (New date)
Tuesday 15 th October	Year 6 Trip. One World Festival at St Michael's

Friday 18 th October	Pink Non Uniform Day to support Breast Cancer Appeal (Children may wear pink).
Tuesday 22 nd October	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 23 rd October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 24 th October	Harvest Assembly (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
Friday 25 th October	School Closed – Deanery Inset Day
28 th October – 1 st November	Half Term Holiday – School Closed

November	
Monday 4th November	Start of term
Thursday 7 th November	Year 5 Remembrance Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 5 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 8 th November	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m. PTA Fireworks Night at 6.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Thursday 21 st November	Year 4 Refugee Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 4 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 28 th November	Year 6 Advent Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 6 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 28 th November	St Andrew's Non Uniform day (children may wear blue white or tartan). PTA School Disco (information to follow).
Friday 29 th November	Occasional Day – School Closed

December	
Wednesday 4 th December	Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15pm Parents are welcome to attend. Tickets must be purchased from Watford Colosseum.
Friday 6 th December	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 6 th December	Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 4
Wednesday 11 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play (dress rehearsal- parents and toddlers welcome). Starts at 9.30a.m
Thursday 12 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m. All parents welcome to attend.
Friday 13 th December	Whole School Trip Pantomime, Watford Palace Theatre
Tuesday 17 th December	KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m.
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (children may wear a Christmas jumper/teeshirt).
Thursday 19 th December	Whole School Christmas Quiz & Foundation Stage Party
Friday 20th December	Mass in church 9.15a.m. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass
23rd December – 3rd January	Christmas Holiday – School Closed

January 2020 Spring Term	
Monday 6th January	Start of term
Friday 10 th January	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 17 th January	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 5

February	
Tuesday 4 th February	Maths meeting for F1 & F2 parents. Starts at 2.30pm or 6.00p.m.
Friday 7 th February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 10 th February	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 11 th February	Parents' Evening
Friday 14th February	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
17th 21st February	Half Term holiday – School Closed
Monday 24th February	Start of Term
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday Mass starts at 9.15a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass
Friday 28 th February	St David's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green, red, white or yellow). Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

March	
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day. All parents are welcome to attend the World Book Day Assembly. This is a non-uniform day. Children may dress up as their favourite book character.
Friday 6 th March	Parents' Forum
Tuesday 17 th March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green or white).
Thursday 19 th March	St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed.
Friday 20 th March	Mother's day Class Assembly starts at 9.00a.m. All F1 – F2 mothers/carers welcome to attend.
Friday 27 th March	Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 5
Monday 30 th March	Lenten Cake Competition (all children may enter by baking a cake). Cake sale.

April	
Thursday 2 nd April	Lenten Toy Sale (please donate old toys).
Friday 3rd April	Easter Bonnet Parade (F1 – Y6 classes) (F1-Y6) All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade. Children to make the bonnets at home and bring them into school. All children may participate in this event. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.
Monday 6 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 7 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Monday 20th April	Start of Term
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear red, white or blue).
Friday 24 th April	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 6

May	
Friday 1st May	Parents' Forum
Friday 8th May	Bank Holiday. School closed.
4 th – 22 nd May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
Monday 11th – 14th May	KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)
Monday 11th May	KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 & 2 tests
Tuesday 12th May	KS2 Reading Test
Wednesday 13th May	KS2 Maths Paper 1 & 2 Test
Thursday 14th May	KS2 Maths Paper 3 Test
Monday 18 th May	Walk to School Week
Tuesday 19 th May	KS1 Sports Day at 9.30a.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Tuesday 19 th May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.15p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Thursday 21 st May	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend)
Friday 22 nd May	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
25 th May – 1 st June	Half Term Holiday – School Closed

June	
Monday 1st June	Inset Day – school closed.
Tuesday 2nd June	Start of Term
Wednesday 3 rd June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 9.30p.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Wednesday 3 rd June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.15p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Friday 5 th June	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 8 th June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence Year 4 Multiplication tests commence
Wednesday 24 th June	F1 new pupils visits 1.30p.m.
Thursday 25 th June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1 at 2.00p.m
Friday 26 th June	St Peter & St Paul's Mass in school at 11.00a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass
Monday 29 th June – 3 rd July	Year 6 School Journey

July	
Wednesday 1 st July	F1 visits and new parents meeting 1.30p.m.
Thursday 2 nd July	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
Friday 3 rd July	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 3 rd July	Final Year 3 swim – double session
Wednesday 8 th July	Reserve date: Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 2 parents are welcome to attend)
Thursday 9 th July	Secondary School Transition day New to F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m. (Current F1 parents to attend).
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Monday 13 th July	FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)
Friday 10 th July	Final Year 6 swim – double session
Tuesday 14 th July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6 Barbecue at 1.30p.m.- 3.00pm. Year 6 parents welcome to attend. Parents to bring party food please.
Wednesday 15 th July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m. KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 16th July	Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.