



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Ainsdale Road South Oxhey Watford WD19 7DW
Tel 020-8428 5371 Fax 020-8421-0568

11th January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Using the gifts we
have been given to us
by Our Lord!

Thought of the Week

Happy New Year and I hope you all had a great Christmas! This week, the children have been celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany. The Wise Men gave the gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to baby Jesus. Therefore, this week, the children have been sharing the gifts they have been given by God, with one another.

PE kits

Please can you ensure your child has the correct school 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. Children may wear black plimsolls or black trainers for PE lessons.

1. **Nursery Admissions: Foundation 1 Place**

The paragraph below is very important for all parents with pre-school children. You will need to apply for a Nursery place if your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016

You will need to complete the **School's Supplementary Form** and **Certificate of Catholic Practice**. Please note, you do not need to apply online.

A Supplementary Information Form is obtainable from the school office. Your priest will also need to complete a **Certificate of Catholic Practice** which is obtainable from your church. All forms must be completed and returned to the school office before admission can be considered.

Therefore, in order to apply for a nursery place, we must receive:

- Supplementary Information Form
- Certificate of Catholic Practice (if applicable)
- Baptism Certificate (if applicable)

Please do not be late as this could jeopardise your child's place at the school.

Snow Procedures

It may snow at some point this term. Therefore, I would just like to remind all parents of the bad weather procedures.

If in the unlikely event the school needs to be closed, please follow any of the procedures listed below:

1. Firstly, a text message will be sent to you via Parent Mail. Please ensure the school office has your correct mobile number.
2. Check the school website after 7.35a.m. to see if the school is closed or opening at a later time www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk.
3. Check our twitter feed @stjosephs775
4. Contact the school office after 7.45a.m. and listen to the answer machine message.
5. Listen to the local radio stations which will provide updated information on school closures.

6. Register with Everbridge School Closure Notification System following at the following website: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489>

This link will direct you to the 'Sign Up' page. Click on the 'sign up' button located at the top right hand side of the page on the grey strip. From there, follow the instructions. It should take no more than five minutes to register. You can have two devices added so you may want to include the mobile number and email address of a spouse or grandparent. They too would then receive any messages in relation to our school's closure. Alternatively, other people can register themselves separately.

Please note: this messaging system only applies to notifications of school emergency closure and does not in any way replace our usual Parentmail messaging system. However, please note the Parentmail system can be delayed during busy periods such as snow days.

If you require any assistance in signing up, please contact us.

Pupil Premium Funding

In certain circumstances schools are able to claim approximately £1,600 extra of funding per child for pupils whose parents are in receipt of various benefits. The criteria are the same as they would be for applying for 'free school meals' in KS2. The money can be used to support anything that improves a child's enjoyment, wellbeing, achievement or attainment at school. Recently, we have used such funding to pay for individual music tuition, 1:1 maths/literacy support, breakfast club and after school club places etc.

If you think that you or your partner may be eligible to claim this extra money for your child, I urge you to speak to Mrs Tannian in the school office as soon as possible. All enquiries of this nature will be treated in strictest confidence. If you know you are entitled to Pupil Premium funding you can apply directly using the following website: www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Once successfully applied for, this funding will remain in place each year that your child is with us. Please note that this extra funding is available to all eligible children in school, from Nursery to Year 6.

Attendance

The attendance of some children continues to be extremely concerning. This is reviewed regularly with the Local Authority Attendance Officer. I am aware that there will be times when your child will be absent from school because of genuine ill health. However, this term, I would like our attendance to improve but I need your help to raise our attendance figures by sending your children into school. Please note, when the reason provided for an absence is deemed not to be acceptable then the absence may be recorded as unauthorised. If a pupil has at least 15 sessions (half day= 1 session) unauthorised absence in a term (including unauthorised holidays), a Penalty Notice may be issued. The Penalty is £60 (per parent/per child).

All holidays during term time are not permitted and will be classed as unauthorised. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Important Notices

1. Breakfast Club

- Breakfast club is on daily and starts at 8.00a.m. It costs £3 per session and may be paid for in advance or on the day. If you are paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to St Joseph's school.

2. Punctuality

- School starts at 8.50a.m. Thank you.

3. Primary School Admissions will close on the 15th January 2019. Please complete the Hertfordshire online form and our School's Supplementary Form before 15th January 2019.



Attendance Award

This week, the Year 1 class have won the best attendance award! Well done Year 1! Keep up the good effort!

Have a great week

**Linda Payne
Headteacher**



Dates for the diary

January 2019	
Spring Term	
Monday 7th January	Start of term
Friday 11 th January	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 18 th January	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 5

February	
Friday 1 st February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Tuesday 5 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 7 th February	Maths meeting for F1 & F2 parents. Starts at 2.30pm or 6.00p.m.
Monday 11 th February	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 13 th February	Parents' Evening
Friday 15th February	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
Monday 25th February	Start of Term

March	
Friday 1 st March	St David's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green, white or yellow). Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Wednesday 6 th March	Ash Wednesday Mass starts at 9.15a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass
Thursday 7 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 15 th March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green or white).
Monday 18 th March	St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed.
Friday 29 th March	Mother's day Class Assembly starts at 9.00a.m. All F1 – F2 mothers/carers welcome to attend.
Friday 29 th March	Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 5

April	
Monday 1 st April	Lenten Cake Competition (all children may enter by baking a cake).
Thursday 4 th April	Lenten Toy Sale (please donate old toys).
Friday 5th April	Easter Bonnet Parade (F1 – Y6 classes) (F1-Y6) All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade. Children make bonnets at home and must bring them into school today. All children may participate in this event. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.
Monday 8 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 9 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Monday 22nd April	Start of Term
	St George's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear red, white or blue).
Friday 26 th April	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

May	
Monday 6th May	May Day. School closed.
Tuesday 7 th – 24 th May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
Monday 13th – 16th May	KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)
Monday 13th May	KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 & 2 tests
Tuesday 14th May	KS2 Reading Test
Wednesday 15th May	KS2 Maths Paper 1 & 2 Test
Thursday 16th May	KS2 Maths Paper 3 Test
Friday 17 th May	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 20 th May	Walk to School Week
Wednesday 22 nd May	KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Thursday 23 rd May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Friday 24 th May	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.

June	
Monday 3rd June	Inset Day – school closed.
Tuesday 4th June	Start of Term
Wednesday 5 th June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Thursday 6 th June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Friday 7 th June	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 10 th June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence
Wednesday 26 th June	F1 new pupils visits 1.30p.m.
Thursday 27 th June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1 at 2.00p.m
Friday 28 th June	St Peter & St Paul's Mass in school at 11.00a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass

July	
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th July	Year 6 School Journey
Wednesday 3 rd July	F1 visits and new parents meeting 1.30p.m.
Friday 5 th July	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Tuesday 9 th July	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend)
Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th July	Year 5 Overnight trip to Phasel's Wood
Wednesday 10 th July	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 2 parents are welcome to attend)
Thursday 11 th July	Secondary School Transition day New to F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m. (All F1 parents to attend).
Friday 12 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m.
Tuesday 16 th July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 17 th July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 18 th July	FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 Barbecue at 1.30p.m.- 3.00pm. Year 6 parents welcome to attend. Foundation Stage Reserve Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
Friday 19th 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.