



11th October 2019

Dear Parents

Mary Our Mother!



This week, we have been learning about Mary, the Mother of God. This is a time when we seek to renew our friendship with Mary. Each day, the children will spend time raising their minds and hearts to Mary in prayer. During the month of October, children will be saying the rosary, daily.

School Improvement Priorities for 2019-2020

As a school, we are constantly striving for academic excellence.

This year, the school's priorities for the year are:

1. Writing – developing pupils' spelling, punctuation, content, handwriting presentation and handwriting skills.
2. Reviewing and developing the Foundation Subjects curriculum.
3. Further develop the parental engagement in their child's learning in religious education and the Catholic Life of the school.
4. Attendance – improve pupils' attendance to above 98%.

Rugby World Cup 2019

To celebrate the start of the Rugby World Cup, Saracens coaches came into school and taught our children new rugby skills. They had a great day.

Phonic and Multiplication Meeting

Thank you for your positive feedback regarding our recent phonics and multiplication meeting for parents. I am pleased that so many of you found it very informative and useful.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Well done to Foundation 1 and Foundation 2 for raising £190.35 during their recent coffee morning. All proceeds raised have been donated to Macmillan Cancer Campaign. Thank you for your kind donations.

Pink Non School Uniform Day

On Friday 18th October, there will be a non-uniform day to raise money for Breast Cancer Research. Children may wear pink or red clothes. We are asking for a £1 voluntary contribution. Please do support this worthwhile cause.

Fireworks Night

Please come along and share in our firework night celebrations on Friday 8th November. If you are available to help on the night, please contact Kryisia via the school office. Gates open at 6.30p.m. See you all there!

Open Door Policy

I hope your child is settling well into the new school year. Please remember that we have an open door policy. Therefore, if you would like to speak with a teacher, please arrange an appointment with them directly or through the school office.

Play Rangers

Three Rivers District Council are offering free play ranger activities for 5 -16 year olds. The children will play traditional games such as making dens, obstacle courses, rounders etc. Play Rangers will take place on Mondays at Oulton Way Play Area 4.00pm - 6.00pm. There are also another sessions at South Oxhey Playing Fields (Asburnham Drive entrance) on Fridays 1p.m.- 3p.m. and Fridays 4.00p.m. – 6.00p.m. For more information and registration, please contact

<https://app.upshot.org.uk/signup/814487c4/>



Bikes/Scooters

It is great to see so many children cycling to school. However, many children are cycling to school without wearing a helmet. For safety reasons, please make sure your child wears a helmet when cycling to school.



Also, children are not allowed to cycle or scoot within the school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Important Notices

1. Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Parents.

In the mornings, it is getting very congested by the Key Stage 1 door. Therefore, please could you say your goodbyes behind the red line. Thank you for your help with this matter.

2. Parentmail

I hope you are all receiving the school newsletter. If you do not receive the newsletter you can also download it from the school website: www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk or obtain a paper copy from the school office. Furthermore, a copy of the latest newsletter will be posted on the noticeboard at the main gate.

3. Breakfast Club

Breakfast club starts at 8.00a.m. Doors will not be opened until 8.00 a.m.

Key Stage 1 & Foundation Stage Parents

4. We have a number of children coming into school very early in the morning without a parent/carer being present. Please note, Key Stage 2 pupils are allowed on the school playgrounds by themselves at 8.40a.m. However, if your child arrives before 8.40a.m. they must be accompanied by an adult.

5. Dogs

Please may I remind you that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school site. Thank you for your co-operation.

6. Important Secondary School Transfer Information

The closing date for Secondary School Admissions is 31st October. Year 6 parents must complete the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions and complete the School's Supplementary Form which can be picked up during the School's Open Evenings.

Attendance Award

Year 1 had the best attendance last week .Well done Year 1!

Have a great week.

Mrs Linda. Payne

New dates in blue

October	
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).
Monday 21 st October	Year 4 Dance Festival at Rickmansworth School
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)
Tuesday 12 th November	Year 6 Hudnell Park – School Trip (New Date)
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 3 rd 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 20 th 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 1 st May	Parents' Forum
Friday 8 th May	Bank Holiday. School closed.
4 th – 22 nd May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
Monday 11 th – 14 th May	KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)
Monday 11 th May	KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 & 2 tests
Tuesday 12 th May	KS2 Reading Test
Wednesday 13 th May	KS2 Maths Paper 1 & 2 Test
Thursday 14 th 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 1 st June	Inset Day – school closed.
Tuesday 2 nd 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	
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Love and Learn in the footsteps of Christ!

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 16 th 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.