



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Ainsdale Road South Oxhey Watford WD19 7DW
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15th February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,



Keeping Safe

Thought of the Week

This week, the children have been thinking about keeping safe. The children have been learning about the importance of keeping safe when using the internet.

Book Day

To promote our love for reading, we will be celebrating International Book Day on Thursday 7th March. The children may dress up as their favourite book character and there will be a special assembly starting at 9.00a.m. All parents and carers are welcome to attend our assembly.



St David's Day

On Friday 1st March, there will be a non-uniform day to celebrate St David's Day, the Patron Saint of Wales. The children may wear green, white or red on this day. We are asking for a voluntary £1.00 contribution towards our roof appeal.



Foundation 2 News

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Harper is having a baby. Although, I am sure you all would have guessed by now. Mrs Harper is hoping to work up until May half term. Therefore, the final half term will be taught by Mrs Burford. Currently, Mrs Burford teaches the class every Friday; she also taught them when they were in Foundation 1. Therefore, this will be a smooth transition for your children as she knows them very well and they know her very well too.



Twitter

Please follow us on twitter for news about our school. Our twitter address is @stjosephs775.



Year 1 and Foundation 2 News

Over the past few weeks, the children in Foundation 2 and Year 1 have been visiting Pinewood Lodge Elderly Care home. The children have been completing creative activities with the elderly residents and are thoroughly enjoying chatting to the residents. Please follow the link below for more news:

<https://www.quantumcare.co.uk/news/love-air>



Parking

I understand that parking outside our school is causing some problems between parents. Please do not park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school gates or on the corners of the roads opposite the school. The zig-zag lines must be kept clear so our children can cross the road safely and so the emergency services have access to the school. It is also very inconsiderate and dangerous to other drivers if you park on the corner of the roads. In addition, the children crossing the roads may not be seen by other drivers because their view has been blocked by the cars which are parked on the corners.



If you cannot find a parking space, you may park at the church and walk down. Hopefully this will help ease the congestion at the start and end of the day. Thank you.



Healthy Lunches

Thank you to all the parents that have made a great effort in providing their child with a healthy lunch. May I just remind you all, that **sweets, crisps** and **fizzy drinks** are not allowed. However, the children may have a small treat in their lunch boxes such as a biscuit or a small chocolate bar. Fruit, water and juice, are also allowed at playtime.



Supporting Children with their Reading

We are looking at ways to improve the children's reading skills. In school, the children are taught different strategies to help them read. Studies have shown that when children read every day at home, they become better readers.

Improving reading is a way to enable children to maximise their opportunities in all other areas of schooling, so it is crucial that this is done every day. Therefore, it is very important that your child reads at home, daily for at least ten minutes. However, I know many children already read daily at home and I would like to thank you for your support.

When your child has read each day, I would ask that you sign and date your child's reading record. Whilst reading with your child, it is important to ask a few questions about what they have read. This will also help develop their comprehension skills. Questions such as 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Why did the author use those words?' are good starters.

Finally, a list of the most common words can be found at the following website: www.highfrequencywords.org. If you could help your child, read and spell the high frequency words that will really help them with their schooling.

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.

Important Notices

1. Please ensure your child wears a coat particularly when it is raining.

2. Please ensure your child wears black shoes to school. Black trainers or boots are not part of the school uniform.
3. White, cream or brown tights only. Thank you.



Attendance Award

Year 4 and F2 have won the best attendance award, this week. Well done children! Keep up the good work.

Have a great half term.

Linda Payne
Headteacher

Dates for the diary

February	
Friday 15 th February	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
Monday 25 th February	Start of Term

March	
Friday 1st 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 7th 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 8th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 9 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 23rd 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
Tuesday 21 st May	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend)
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 1st – 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 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.