



17th November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mutual Respect!

Thought of the Week

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we believe in celebrating the increasingly diverse cultural backgrounds of our community whilst also promoting and holding true to what we recognise to be British Values.

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. This week, the children have been following Christ's teachings by learning to be respectful to each other and to adults.

Fireworks Night

The firework display was a great success. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and to everyone who attended the fireworks display. We raised £1674 which is brilliant news! Thank you very much for supporting our library fundraising event.

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. Please see attached letter.

Attendance

Attending and taking part in learning is fundamental to ensuring that our children become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and it is an important life skill.

Parents and carers are by far the most important influence on children's lives and learning and it is parents and carers who are responsible for making sure their child is educated.

The responsibility for good attendance is shared between school, parents and pupils but it is imperative that we work together to deal with any problems that may lead to non-attendance.

There will be times when your child will be absent from school because of genuine ill health. However, all absences can be detrimental to children's progress. Hence, if your

child's level of attendance deteriorates, we will contact you to see if there is any way we can support you to help improve your child's attendance.

When the reason provided for an absence is deemed not to be acceptable then the absence may be recorded as unauthorised. Please note, 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.

Important Notices

1. End of Day Procedures

If you would like your child to be picked up 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.

2. PTA Disco

The school disco will be on Friday 24th November. Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 disco starts at 3.15p.m. – 4.30p.m. Key Stage 2 disco starts 5p.m. – 6.30p.m. £5 per child.

3. Non - Uniform Day on 30th November

On Thursday 30th November, there will be a non-uniform day to celebrate St Andrew, the Patron Saint of Scotland. The children may wear blue, white or tartan on this day. We are asking for a voluntary £1.00 contribution per child. All donations will go towards new reading books. Thank you.

4. Parent Mail

If you do not receive emails from the school, could you please give the school office your email address, and do remember to update your parent mail accounts with any new mobile or email addresses. If you do not have an email address, please do not worry as you will still receive a paper copy of the school's newsletter. Thank you.

5. Staff Inset

The school will be closed on Monday 4th December due to Staff Inset.



Attendance Award

Year 1 and Year 3 had the best attendance last week. Well done children!

Have a great week.

Mrs Payne

Diary Dates.

November	
Thursday 23 rd November	Year 4 Refugee Mass at 2.00p.m. (Y4 parents welcome to attend).
Friday 24 th November	PTA School Disco (volunteers needed) (F1 – Y6 classes)
Thursday 30 th November	St Andrew's Non Uniform day (F1 – Y6 classes) Year 6 Advent Mass at 2p.m.
December	
Friday 1 st December	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 4th December	School Closed Inset Day (new date)
Wednesday 6 th December	KS 2 Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15p.m. (Tickets for sale).

Thursday 7 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play (dress rehearsal). Starts at 9.30a.m KS1 & FS parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Friday 8 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m. KS1 & FS parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (F2- Y6 classes)
Friday 15 th December	Foundation Stage Christmas Party
Monday 18 th December	KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m. (Y3- y6 classes). KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Tuesday 19 th December	Whole School Trip Pantomime, Watersmeet Theatre (F1 – Y6 classes)
Wednesday 20th December	Mass in church 9.15a.m. (F2- Y6 classes) All parents are welcome to attend. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.

January 2018 Spring Term	
Thursday 4th January	Start of term
Friday 5 th January	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

February	
Friday 2 nd February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 5 th February	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 7 th February	Parents' Evening
Friday 9th February	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
Monday 19th February	Start of Term
March	
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day – Book Character Non-Uniform day (F1 – Y6 classes). All parents are welcome to attend the World Book Day Assembly.
Friday 2 nd March	St David's Non-Uniform Day(F1 – Y6 classes) Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 16 th March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day(F1 – Y6 classes)
Monday 19 th March	St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed. . (F2 – Y6 classes). All parents are welcome to attend.
Monday 26 th March	Lenten Cake Competition(F1 – Y6 classes)
Wednesday 28 th March	Lenten Toy Sale(F1 – Y6 classes)
Thursday 29th March	Easter Bonnet Parade(F1 – Y6 classes) All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.

April	
Tuesday 3 rd April	Easter School for Year 6
Wednesday 4 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Monday 16th April	Start of Term
Monday 23 rd April	St George's Non-Uniform Day (F1 – Y6 classes)
Friday 27 th April	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

May	
Monday 7th May	May Day. School closed.
Tuesday 8 th – 25 th May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
Monday 14th – 17th May	KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests
Friday 18 th May	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 21 st May	KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS1 parents are welcome to attend.
Tuesday 22 nd May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 25 th May	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.

June	
Monday 4th June	Inset Day – school closed.
Tuesday 5th June	Start of Term
Wednesday 6 th June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS1 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 7 th June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 8 th June	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 11 th June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence
Thursday 21 st June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents - Getting ready for Year 1
Wednesday 27 th June	F1 new pupils visits
Friday 29 th June	St Peter & St Paul's Mass in school at 9.15a.m. (F2 – Y6 classes). All parents are welcome to attend.

July	
Monday 2 nd – Friday 6 th July	Year 6 School Journey
Thursday 5 th July	F1 new parents meeting
Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th July	Year 5 Overnight Trip to Phasel Wood (new date)
Wednesday 11 th July	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. FS parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 12 th July	Secondary School Transition day New F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m.
Friday 13 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass (F1 – Y6 classes) Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass and picnic.
Monday 16 th July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Tuesday 17 th July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 18 th July	Year 6 Barbecue at 1.30p.m.- 3.00pm. Foundation Stage Reserve Sports Day at 9.30a.m. FS parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 19 th July	FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear) (F1 – Y2 classes)
Friday 20th July	Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. All parents are welcome to attend. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.