



21st September 2018

Dear Parents,

Democracy!

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.

Democracy is at the heart of our values. This week, the children have been following Christ's teachings by making decisions about their learning and behaviour towards each other. Pupils are taught to listen carefully, with concern for each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Over the past few weeks, pupils were given the opportunity to vote for the House Captains and School Council members. The elections of the School Council members and House Captains are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. The pupils will then be given the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council and regular questionnaires.

Mass

There will be a welcome Mass for the new children, staff and families on Friday 28th September, in school, at 11.00a.m. Please do come along and help us celebrate this special occasion.

Parent/Grandparent Volunteers

We are looking for parent/grandparent volunteers to help in school. If you are interested in helping with reading, gardening or crafts and have some spare time, we would appreciate your help. In order to help in school, you will need to complete a Hertfordshire County Council sponsored DBS [Disclosure & Barring Service]. Any parent who has not been checked and wishes to help in school, please contact the office.

Macmillan Foundation Stage Coffee Morning

Foundation 1 and 2 will be raising money for Macmillan by holding a coffee morning on Friday 28th September at 9.00a.m. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

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 at school. However, the children may have a small treat in their lunch boxes such as a biscuit or chocolate bar. Fruit, dry fruit, water and juice are also allowed at playtime.

Nut Allergies!

May I just remind you all that nuts are not allowed in school because we have a few children with nut allergies. This is a life threatening condition so please ensure your child's lunch or break time snack does not contain nuts or nut products e.g. peanut butter, nutella and cereal bars. Thank you.

School Uniform

Please may I remind you that children may wear small gold or silver stud earrings only. Other jewellery such as bracelets, rings, hoop earrings or coloured earrings are not permitted. Brightly coloured socks are also not allowed. Thank you.

Important Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened on 3rd September and the closing date for all applications 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.



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 for example 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.

Important Notices

1. Individual/siblings photographs for you to purchase will be taken on Monday 24th September.

Attendance Award

Foundation 2 had the best attendance last week with 99.3%! Well done Foundation 2!

Have a great week.

Mrs Linda. Payne

Dates for the diary



September	
Monday 24 th September	Individual/Sibling Photographs
Friday 28 th September	Foundation Stage Coffee Morning. Foundation Stage parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 28 th September	Welcome Mass at 11.00 a.m. in school. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass

October	
Wednesday 3 rd October	Year 2 Parent's Meeting regarding SATs at 2.30p.m
Thursday 4 th October	Foundation 2 Phonics Meeting for all F2 parents at 2.30p.m. or 6.00p.m.
Friday 5 th October	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 19 th October	Pink Non Uniform Day to support Breast Cancer Appeal (Children may wear pink). Year 6 Football & Netball Tournament at St Michael's
Tuesday 16 th October	Year 6 Trip. One World Festival at St Michael's
Monday 22 nd October	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 24 th October	Parents' Evening
Friday 26 th October	Harvest Assembly (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.

November	
Monday 5 th November	Start of term
Thursday 8 th November	Year 5 Remembrance Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 5 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 9 th November	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m. PTA Fireworks Night at 6.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Thursday 15 th November	Year 4 Refugee Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 4 parents are welcome to attend.
Monday 19 th November	Year 3 Hudnell Park – School Trip
Tuesday 20 th November	Year 6 Hudnell Park School Trip

Friday 23 rd November	Occasional Day – School Closed
Thursday 29 th November	Year 6 Advent Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 6 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 30 th November	St Andrew's Non Uniform day (children may wear blue white or tartan). PTA School Disco (information to follow).

December	
Wednesday 5 th December	Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15pm Parents are welcome to attend. Tickets must be purchased from Watford Colosseum.
Friday 7 th December	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 7 th December	Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 4
Thursday 13 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play (dress rehearsal- parents and toddlers welcome). Starts at 9.30a.m
Friday 14 th December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m. All parents welcome to attend.
Monday 17 th December	KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m.
Tuesday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (children may wear a Christmas jumper/teeshirt).
Wednesday 19 th December	Whole School Christmas Quiz & Foundation Stage Party
Thursday 20 th December	Whole School Trip Pantomime, Watersmeet Theatre
Friday 21st 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

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 8th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 9 th April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 23 rd 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 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.
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.