



22nd November 2018

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.

A Big Thank You!

I would like to say a huge thank you for the overwhelming response to our harvest appeal for the foodbank and the homeless. Items were distributed to some of Watford's homeless and they were overcome by the generosity of the pupils and parents of St Joseph's.

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 £1786 which is fantastic! 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 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.

If you have children at more than one school, you can register for those schools too in a single registration process by selecting all schools at which you have children.

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

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. Occasional Day

The school will be closed on Friday 23rd November.

2. 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 by 2.00p.m.

3. PTA Disco

The school disco will be on Friday 30th 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.

4. Non - Uniform Day on 30th November

On Friday 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 our new roof. Thank you.

5. 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.

Attendance Award



Love and Learn in the footsteps of Christ!

Foundation 2 had the best attendance last week. Well done children!

Have a great week.



**Mrs Payne
Diary Dates.**

November	
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 lesson 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 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 lesson for Year 3 and Year 5
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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 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
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 Screening 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 & new F2 parents to attend).
Friday 12 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass

	Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m. All parents welcome to attend – weather permitting
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 20 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.