



**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School**  
**Ainsdale Road South Oxhey Watford WD19 7DW**  
**Tel 020-8428 5371 Fax 020-8421-0568**

24<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

**Love one another as I  
have loved you.**

### **Thought of the Week**

I hope you all had a great half term holiday. This week, the children have been learning to follow Christ's commandment 'to love one another as I have loved you'. The children have been trying extra hard to show Christ how much they love him by being kind, helpful to their friends and by working very hard for all their teachers.

### **St David's Day**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 school fund.

### **Book Day**

To promote our love for reading, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. We would be grateful for a £1.00 voluntary contribution towards the cost of the visiting author.

### **Nursery Admission 2017**

The application process for a nursery place at our school has now opened. For children born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014, please apply online at: [www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions) and complete our Supplementary Information Form by 17<sup>th</sup> March. Forms are on our website or available from the school office. In addition, a certificate of Catholic Practice will also be required, which can be obtained from Father Stephen.

### **Attendance and punctuality**

At St Joseph's, we have the highest aspirations for your child and every lesson counts towards your child's achievement. We also know that you, as your child's parent/carer, want your child to get on well in life. Children only get one chance at school, and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected by not attending school every day on time. When children do not attend or are late, they:

- struggle to keep up with school work
- miss out on the social side of school life – especially at primary school. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.

### **Is there a proven link between attendance and children's achievement in school?**

There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement. In primary schools, less than 65% of children get good results in Maths and English in schools, when they have an average of 15 days absence, compared to around 90% in schools where the average is less than 8 days. Many parents are surprised how quickly their children accumulate 15 days absence. Your child will be

receiving a traffic light certificate, letting you know what your child's attendance has been for the term.

Of the children who miss more than 50 per cent of school, only 3% manage to achieve five or more GCSEs at grades A\* to C. 73% of children who have over 95% attendance achieve five or more GCSEs at grades A\* to C. While GCSEs may seem some time away, setting good attendance and punctuality patterns from an early age, from nursery and Reception through to Year 6, will really help.

## Important Notices

### 1. Parking



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 lines/areas must be kept clear so our children can cross the road safely and so the emergency services have access to the school. Thank you.



### Cake Competition

- Please do not forget to enter our cake competition which is on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. A prize will be awarded to each class for the best cake. If you would like to buy back your cake, please write this clearly on the cake container. All cakes will be on sale during playtime and the children may bring in some money to buy the cakes.



### Prayer of the Week

Dear Lord

Please help everyone who is sick. Please help Mrs Pinkstone recover quickly from having her baby. Please keep the baby safe and happy.

Amen

By Zoe Year 3



### Attendance Award

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

Have a great weekend.

Linda Payne  
Headteacher



### Dates for the diary

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Ash Wednesday Service at church

World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day

St David's Non-Uniform Day

St Joseph's Church Irish Night at 7.00p.m.

St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day

St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed.

Lenten Toy Sale

Lenten Cake Competition

Mass in School

Easter Bonnet Parade

End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.

Easter School for Year 6

Easter School for Year 6



Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Start of term

Friday 21st April  
Friday 21st April

St George's Non-Uniform Day  
Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June

May Day. School closed.  
KS2 SATs - Year 6 Tests  
KS1 SATs- Year 2  
Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.  
KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.  
KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.  
End of half term. School closes at 3.15p.m.  
Half term break

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

School Closed - Inset day  
Start of term  
KS1 Reserve Sports Day  
KS2 Reserve Sports Day

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 Phonic tests commence  
Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1  
Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m  
Year 6 School Journey  
F1 new pupils visits

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July

F1 new parents meeting  
Foundation Stage Sports Day  
Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Foundation Stage Reserve Sports Day  
Transition day

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 Leavers' Mass

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July

KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m.  
KS2 Play at 6.00p.m

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July

FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)  
Year 6 Barbecue



Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m.  
End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.