



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

28th January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thought of the Week

**Spread the Good
News.**

This week, the children have been learning to follow the teachings of Christ and be true disciples of Christ. The children have been trying extra hard to show Christ how much they love him by being kind and helpful to their friends and by working very hard for all their teachers.

New Starting Procedures

As you are aware, in the mornings it has been very cold and icy outside. From tomorrow, we will be trialling a new starting procedure. The school doors will open from 8.45 a.m., with children coming straight into school as soon as they arrive. School will start as normal at 8.50 a.m., when the register will be taken and teaching begins. If your child arrives after this time, they should report to the school office.

From 8.45 a.m. all pupils will enter via their usual doors. This means, that the Foundation 1 pupils will enter via the Foundation 1 doors from 8.45 a.m.. Key Stage 2 will enter the school via the Key Stage 2 doors and Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 pupils will enter via the Key Stage 1 doors. Please note, the school gates will not be opened until 8.40a.m., therefore please do not send your child to school any earlier unless you are using Breakfast Club or attending Cheerleading Club.

Action Figures Wanted

Our nursery class are in need of a fresh supply of small world toys and action figures for the children to play with. If you have any Power Rangers, Star Wars, Knights, Playmobile etc. at home which you no longer need, please consider donating them to the school. Many thanks.

Absence from school

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please call the school before 9.15 a.m. on 0208 428 5371; select option 1 and leave a message stating your child's name and a reason for their absence. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Snow days

On Wednesday, the children thoroughly enjoyed playing in the snow, building snowmen, igloos and throwing snowballs. If it snows again and the school is open, please send your child to school with extra clothing such as: a spare change of socks or tights; wellington boots or appropriate waterproof footwear; tracksuit bottoms; a warm coat; waterproof gloves and a hat.

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 spread, nutella bars and cereal bars. Thank you.





Healthy Lunches

Thank you to all the parents who 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 box, such as a biscuit or a small chocolate bar. Fruit, water and juice, are also allowed at playtime.

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 Secondary School Transfer Information for all Year 5 parents.

Secondary School admissions opens in September 2019. Parents must complete the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions and complete the Schools' Supplementary Form, which can be picked up during the Schools' Open evenings.

Please note, the application forms at all Catholic Secondary schools, requires a priest's signature. To help Father Stephen with this process, he has developed an 'envelope system' to track whether the children have attended mass each week. If you are currently not using the envelope system please contact the church. If you do not attend mass each week, Father Stephen will be unable to sign your forms.

If you are considering applying for a Secondary School place for your child at Parmiter's, St Clement Danes School, Croxley Danes, Rickmansworth, Queens, Watford Grammar School for Boys and Watford Grammar School for Girls, you will need to register with The South West Herts Consortium Schools between 22nd April– 21st June 2019 via the following: www.swhertsschools.org.uk. Your child will need to complete an admissions test.

All tests will be carried out in September, (please see table below).

Date - 2019	Test
Monday 22 nd April	Online registration for the tests opens
Friday 21 st June	Online registration closes
Wednesday 3rd July	Parents informed of test venue
Saturday 7 th September	Academic test
Thursday 9 th September	Music aptitude test

Friday 13 th September or Tuesday 17 th September*	Queens' School sports aptitude test
w/c Monday 23 rd September	Start of second round music tests
Wednesday 16 th October	Scores notified to parents
Thursday 31 st October	Secondary application deadline

This year, registration for the tests spans a period of almost nine weeks, from Monday 22nd April to Friday 21st June. As previously, no late registrations will be accepted. If a parent has extenuating circumstances for failing to register for the tests, this may be cited as part of an appeal to an independent panel at a secondary transfer appeal hearing.

Please contact the Test Administration Team at swhsconsortium@gmail.com if any of the above test information is unclear.

There will be a Secondary School transfer meeting for all Year 5 parents on 21st May starting at 2.30p.m. in school.



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.

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. However, please note the Parentmail system can be delayed during busy periods such as snow days.

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

Important Notices

1. Children that read daily at home become great readers. All children are expected to read daily at home. Please ensure you sign or initial the reading record after you have heard your child read. Thank you.
2. Please ensure your child wears a coat to school as it is very cold outside.

3. Boots may be worn to school but pupils must wear shoes in school. Thank you.



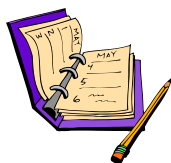
Attendance Award

Year 3 have won the best attendance award! Well done Year 3! Keep up the good work.

Have a great week

**Linda Payne
Headteacher**

Diary Dates



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 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.
Tuesday 21 st May	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend) Change of Date
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 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 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.

