



7th September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday! Here we are at the end of the first week of the 2018/19 academic year and it has been a wonderful week for all in school. I am delighted to report that all of our pupils, new and not so new have settled back into school routines, expectations and life incredibly smoothly; it has been a pleasure to have them all back in school with us.

I am very excited about the year of learning ahead of us and I am sure your children will thoroughly enjoy their time at school this year.

Over the summer, we have been very busy decorating the corridor areas throughout the school and it looks fantastic. The new roof will be completed by half term.

WELCOME

I would like to say welcome to the following children and their families:

Foundation 1: Amelia, Joseph, James, George, Maddie, Zach, Isla, Freddie, Shanice, Theo, Nellie, Darcey, Rudi, Sonni, Finn, Luca, Katie, Dineen, Emily, Michael, Evie, Nell, Tille-Mae, Lois, Marilyn-Rose and Gavin.

Foundation 2: Aaron, Ryan, Luca, Lily, Joshua, Sofia, Kaiyan, Maya, Bruno, Evoli, Edward, Hope, Presley and Freddie.

Year 2: Ryan.

Year 5: Chad.

I hope you enjoy learning with us at St Joseph's!

Mass

There will be a welcome Mass for the new children and families on Friday 28th September, in school, at 11.00a.m. Parents are welcome to attend so please come along and help us celebrate this special occasion.

Important Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened on 3rd September and the closing date for all applications is 31st October 2018. Year 6 parents must complete the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions and complete the School's Supplementary Form which you can obtain during the School's Open evenings.

Please note, all Catholic Secondary Schools' Supplementary forms, require a priest's signature confirming how often you attend Mass.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club starts at 8.00a.m. The club costs £3.00 per day. If you are paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to St Joseph's School.



Newsletters


I will send out newsletters fortnightly. If you do not receive a newsletter via e-mail, please inform the office. If you do not have an e-mail account, paper copies will be given.

Parents' Forum

Your views regarding the school are very important to us. To ensure that we are in touch with the needs and concerns of our parents, we are actively seeking your views. Therefore, if you have any ideas to help improve the school or any issues you would like to discuss, please come along to any of the following Parents' Forum dates: Friday 5th October, Friday 9th November, Friday 7th December, Friday 11th January, Friday 1st February, Friday 1st March, Friday 26th April, Friday 17th May, Friday 7th June and Friday 5th July starting after assembly, at approximately 9.45a.m.

PE kits

I would also ask that parents ensure that pupils have correct school PE kit in school with them each day; PE is a vital part of our school curriculum here at St Joseph's and the children participate in two hours of PE per week. Therefore, please ensure your child brings the correct, labelled PE kit to school on Mondays.

Last term, a number of girls had plimsolls which look similar to the shoes in  the picture. These plimsolls are not appropriate as they do not provide the correct support around the ankle area. Children must wear black plimsolls or black/white trainers for PE lessons.



Important Notice

Individual/ Sibling Photographs

1. Individual and sibling photographs will be taken on Monday 24th September 2018.
2. Please may I remind you that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school site. Thank you for your co-operation.
3. Please remember to inform the school office or class teacher before 2.00p.m., if your child is being picked up from school by a person other than yourself. Thank you.

School's Procedures

I would like to reiterate the end of day and before school procedures for your information only.

Before School

We have a number of children coming into school very early in the morning without a parent/carer being present. Please note, gates open at 8.40a.m..

All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils must be accompanied by an adult until your child has entered the school building at 8.50a.m.

Key Stage 2 children must not arrive before 8.40a.m. unless they are accompanied by adult.

End of Day Procedures

1. Children will exit the school in the normal manner. Foundation 2 will leave through Foundation doors. Key Stage 1 will leave via the Key Stage 1 corridor

and Key Stage 2 will leave via Key Stage 2 doors. Key Stage 2 parents are welcome to meet their children at the Key Stage 2 doors or by the main gate.

- II. The playground will be cleared as soon as possible to ensure all children have left the school safely with a parent.
- III. If you have children in Key Stage 1 and 2, please pick up the younger children first. In addition, you may wait on the Key Stage 1 playground area for the older children or wait inside the main gated area.
- IV. Either myself or another member of staff will always be by the main gates saying goodbye to the children.
- V. 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.
- VI. If you need to find any lost property, please go via the school office.
- VII. If in the unfortunate event you are delayed in picking up your child or stuck in traffic, please call the school office.

Wet Day Procedures

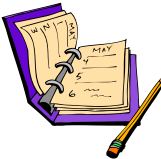
1. Children will enter the school through the normal morning entry areas **from** 8.40a.m. For example: Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 will enter through the Key Stage 1 door. Key Stage 2 will enter through the Key Stage 2 doors. Foundation 1 will enter through Foundation 1 canopy area. Please do not arrive at the school any earlier than 8.40a.m as the doors will be closed.
2. Children will go directly to their classes. Parents/carers, please say your goodbyes on the playground.

Before School & After School

- At the end of the school day, the teachers are very busy looking after your children. Therefore, please refrain from talking to the teacher until they have dismissed all of the children. Similarly in the morning, the teacher will be unable to discuss any issues with you once the whistle has been blown at 8.50a.m. However, if it is an urgent message, please either write in the Home-School Link book or inform the office.
- Please shut all gates behind you. Thank you.

Thank you for your help in following the school procedures and keeping our pupils safe.

Dates for the diary



September	
Friday 21 st September	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 4
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).
Monday 22 nd October	Parents' Evening
TBC	Year 6 Trip. One World Festival at St Michael's

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 5th 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 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 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 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)
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 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.