



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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. Year 6 parents must complete the online form at [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> October, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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

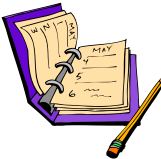
1. Children will enter the school through the normal morning entry areas **from** 8.40a.m. For example: Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 will enter through the Key Stage 1 door. Key Stage 2 will enter through the Key Stage 2 doors. Foundation 1 will enter through Foundation 1 canopy area. Please do not arrive 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



<b>September</b>	
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 4
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual/Sibling Photographs
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Foundation Stage Coffee Morning. Foundation Stage parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Welcome Mass at 11.00 a.m. in school. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass

<b>October</b>	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 2 Parent's Meeting regarding SATs at 2.30p.m
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Foundation 2 Phonics Meeting for all F2 parents at 2.30p.m. or 6.00p.m.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Pink Non Uniform Day to support Breast Cancer Appeal (Children may wear pink).
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Parents' Evening
<b>TBC</b>	Year 6 Trip. One World Festival at St Michael's

Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Assembly (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.

<b>November</b>	
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Start of term</b>
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Remembrance Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 5 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m. PTA Fireworks Night at 6.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 Refugee Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 4 parents are welcome to attend.
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 Hudnell Park – School Trip
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Hudnell Park School Trip
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	<b>Occasional Day – School Closed</b>
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Advent Mass at 2.00p.m. Year 6 parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	St Andrew's Non Uniform day (children may wear blue white or tartan). PTA School Disco (information to follow).

<b>December</b>	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15pm Parents are welcome to attend. Tickets must be purchased from Watford Colosseum.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 4
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play (dress rehearsal- parents and toddlers welcome). Starts at 9.30a.m
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m. All parents welcome to attend.
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (children may wear a Christmas jumper/teeshirt).
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Christmas Quiz & Foundation Stage Party
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Trip Pantomime, Watersmeet Theatre
<b>Friday 21st December</b>	Mass in church 9.15a.m. <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass</b>

<b>January 2019 Spring Term</b>	
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Start of term</b>
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 5

<b>February</b>	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Maths meeting for F1 & F2 parents. Starts at 2.30pm or 6.00p.m.
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.</b>
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
<b>March</b>	
Friday 1st March	St David's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green, white or yellow). Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green or white).
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	St Joseph's Day Mass – <b>date to be confirmed.</b>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Mother's day Class Assembly starts at 9.00a.m. All F1 – F2 mothers/carers welcome to attend.
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 5</b>

<b>April</b>	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Lenten Cake Competition (all children may enter by baking a cake).
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Lenten Toy Sale (please donate old toys).
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Easter Bonnet Parade (F1 – Y6 classes) (F1-Y6) <b>All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade.</b> Children make bonnets at home and must bring them into school today. All children may participate in this event. <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter School for Year 6
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter School for Year 6
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>Start of Term</b> St George's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear red, white or blue).
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

<b>May</b>	
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>May Day. School closed.</b>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)</b>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 &amp; 2 tests</b>
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 Reading Test</b>
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 Maths Paper 1 &amp; 2 Test</b>
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 Maths Paper 3 Test</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Walk to School Week
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. <b>KS1 parents may attend.</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m. <b>KS2 parents may attend.</b>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.</b>

<b>June</b>	
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>Inset Day – school closed.</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. <b>KS1 parents may attend.</b>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m. <b>KS2 parents may attend.</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	F1 new pupils visits 1.30p.m.
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1 at 2.00p.m
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul's Mass in school at 11.00a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass</b>

<b>July</b>	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 School Journey
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	F1 visits and new parents meeting 1.30p.m.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. <b>(All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend)</b>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. <b>F1 &amp; F2 parents welcome to attend.</b>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Meeting at 2.30p.m. <b>(All Year 2 parents are welcome to attend)</b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary School Transition day New to F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m. <b>(All F1 parents to attend).</b>
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass

	Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m.
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m. KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>