



8th September 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday! 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 Year 6 classroom. The Year six pupils love their new classroom as it looks fantastic.

# WELCOME

It has been a very energetic and busy start to the new school term and I am pleased to report that all of our pupils have settled back into school life exceptionally well; a particular mention must go to our new pupils who are now well and truly part of the furniture! It has been wonderful to see them settle so quickly and happily into school life and routines. I would like to say welcome to the following children and their families:

**Foundation 1:** Reggie, Evie, Luca, Gracie-Mai, Freddie, Jack, Ciaran, Lola, Jasmine, Monroe, Lily, Alessandra, Edie-Bow, Harry, Ollie, Eva, Christian, Igor, Rose-Louvaine, Maddison, Penelope, and Bonnie-Lou.

**Foundation 2:** Conor, Sienna, Zoe, Sophia, Zoe, and Reuben.

**Year 1:** Isabel

**Year 2:** Abigail

**Year 3:** Delilah

**Year 4:** Ramon and Isabella

**Year 6:** Ana

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

## Mass

There will be a welcome Mass for the new children, staff and families on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, in school, at 11.00a.m. Please do come along and help us celebrate this special occasion.

## Important Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary School admissions opened on 1st September and the closing date for all applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. 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' application 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 have not got 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 6<sup>th</sup> October, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June starting after assembly, at approximately 9.45a.m.


### **School Uniform**

The children are looking very smart in their new school uniforms. However, there are a few children wearing the incorrect polo shirt or cardigans. I am very proud to have your children attend St Joseph's and wear our uniform. In addition, I want the whole community to know your child attends our school. Therefore, please ensure your child is wearing the correct polo shirts and cardigans with the school logo on. Uniform may be purchased from the school office. Thank you for your help regarding this matter.

### **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 may wear black plimsolls or black trainers for PE lessons.

### **Important Notice**

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.



### **SAM Learning**

As you know, we are continuously evaluating ways to raise the achievements of our pupils. I am pleased to announce that the school has re-subscribed to SAM Learning Homework programme for our Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils. SAM learning is a top quality eLearning service that has been proven to improve outcomes for pupils.

To access the service at [www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com), your child needs the following details:

**Centre ID:** WD19SJ

**User ID:** Date of birth followed by two initials; first name then last name. Example: 010809DJ is the User ID for David Jones born 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2009.

**Password:** Initially same as User ID, Learners are encouraged to keep the same password.

We do hope that you will take full advantage of this service and thank you in anticipation of your support for this initiative.

The school has also subscribed to another online Maths service which can be accessed at [www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk). You will receive a copy of your child's log-in details in the reading record shortly.

## **Important Notice**

### **Individual/ Sibling Photographs**

1. Individual and sibling photographs will be taken on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
2. Please may I remind you that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school site.  
Thank you for your co-operation.

### **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, all Key Stage 2 pupils are allowed on the school playgrounds by themselves at 8.40a.m. However, if your child arrives before 8.40a.m. they must be accompanied by an adult. Also, all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils must be accompanied by an adult until the whistle goes for the start of school at 8.50a.m.

### **End of Day Procedures**

- I. 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**

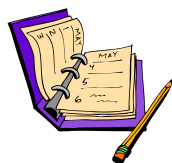
1. Children will enter the school through the normal morning entry areas **from** 8.40a.m. For example: Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 will enter through the Key Stage 1 door. Key Stage 2 will enter through the Key Stage 2 doors. Foundation 1 will enter through Foundation 1 canopy area. Please do not arrive 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>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual/Sibling Photographs
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Foundation Stage Coffee Morning
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Welcome Mass at 11.00 a.m. in school

<b>October</b>	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2 Parent's Meeting regarding SATs at 2.30p.m
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Foundation2 Phonics Meeting at 2.30p.m.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Pink Non Uniform Day to support Breast Cancer Appeal
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Trip. One World Festival at St Michael's
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Assembly End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Inset Day – School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Start of term</b>

<b>November</b>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	All Saints Day Mass at 9.15a.m.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m. PTA Fireworks Night at 6.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Remembrance Mass at 2.00p.m.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Year 4 Refugee Mass at 2.00p.m.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA School Disco
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	St Andrew's Non Uniform day Year 6 Advent Mass at 2p.m.

<b>December</b>	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play (dress rehearsal). Starts at 9.30a.m
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Stage Party
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Trip Pantomime, Watersmeet Theatre
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Mass in church 9.15a.m. <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>

<b>January 2018 Spring Term</b>	
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Start of term</b>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

<b>February</b>	
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.</b>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
<b>March</b>	
Thursday 1st March	World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day
Friday 2nd March	St David's Non-Uniform Day Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	St Joseph's Day Mass – <b>date to be confirmed.</b>
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Cake Competition
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Toy Sale
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Easter Bonnet Parade <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>

<b>April</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Easter School for Year 6
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter School for Year 6
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	St George's Non-Uniform Day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.

<b>May</b>	
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>May Day. School closed.</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests</b>
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.</b>

<b>June</b>	
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Inset Day – school closed.</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	F1 new pupils visits
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul's Mass in school at 9.15a.m.</b>

<b>July</b>	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 School Journey
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	F1 new parents meeting
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m.
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary School Transition day New F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Barbecue at 1.30p.m.- 3.00pm. Foundation Stage Reserve Sports Day at 9.30a.m.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. <b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>

