



WORK, LEARN AND GROW IN CHRIST

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM  
**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW

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10 February 2012

Dear Parents

**Thank you**

First of all can I say a really big thank you for all of your kind wishes that were passed on to me whilst I was in hospital and sick at the start of the term. I was really, really touched by your care and kindness and I really appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thank God, I'm fully recovered now and am very, very happy to be back to school as normal! Thanks again.

**Half Term**

The school closes today for the half term holidays. We return to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Have a happy and safe half term.

**Lent**

Ash Wednesday falls on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and brings us into the Season of Lent – the Church season where we are encouraged to pray, fast and give alms. The diary below gives details of our sponsored event – a ZUMBATHON and our fundraising fair after school. I will write after the holidays with full details of all of these events and the charities we will be supporting this Lent.

**Mrs Harrold**

Mrs Harrold is much better and thanks you for your thoughts and wishes. She is hoping to be back with us part way through next half term. At Easter, Mrs Harrold will be retiring. She retires from St Joseph's after twenty years service and a lifetime's dedication as a Catholic teacher in Birmingham and the Black Country. See below for details of the special events we are planning.

**Coming Up Next Half Term.....**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 3 Holy Communion Parent's Meeting: 6.00pm in the hall

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February** – Year 6 Parent's Meeting – 3.30pm in the Year 6 classroom

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** - Ash Wednesday Mass at 10.00am in the hall. There will be NO MASS on TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February** – School Parish Mass at 11.00am in the Church (also First Holy Communion Enrolment).

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – After School – Year 6 Booster Classes start **every Tuesday** until 4.15pm.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** – Mufti Day (non uniform) Please donate cuddly toys.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March** – Mufti Day - Please donate Easter Eggs.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Mufti Day – Please donate bottles for the bottle stall e.g. wine, beer, pop, spirits etc. Also 16<sup>th</sup> March will be our sponsored ZUMBATHON! Details and sponsor form to follow after the holidays!

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – **St Patrick's Day Festival at The Public in West Bromwich** – Year 6 will be performing their Irish Dancing – more details after the holiday.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – **School Parish Mass 11.00am in Church** – Mother's Day.

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Multi Faith Week** in school.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – **2.00pm in the hall** – **Music, Song and Dance from each class** in celebration of Multifaiht week.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – **3.15pm** – **Lent Carnival** – with food and drink, bottle stall, toy tombola and Easter Egg tombola. Raffle drawn at 4.15pm.

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March** – **School assemblies**, performances and prayers over the events of **Holy Week**.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – **Mrs Harrold's Retirement Mass** at 9.30am in the hall.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – **Year 3 will act out the events of PALM SUNDAY** in the hall at 2.45pm.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – **Year 4 will act out the events of THE LAST SUPPER** at 9.30am in the hall (hall open for parents to wait from 9.00am).



**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Discos** – Nursery and Reception from 1.15pm to 2.15pm, Years 1 and 2 from 2.15pm to 3.15pm and Years 3,4,5 and 6 from 3.15pm until 4.30pm. **Please send £1 per child towards the costs of providing the disco.** Thank you.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 will act out THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN** at 9.30am in the hall – the hall will be open for parents to wait from 9.00am.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – 2.00pm in the hall – Mrs Harrold’s retirement assembly** followed by refreshments.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – 6.00pm in the Church (children need to be at the Church for 5.45pm). St Joseph’s Lent and Holy Week Performance and Singing in the Church.**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Please send in a TIN OF FOOD** as an Easter offering for the poor and homeless served at The Good Shepherd Shelter in Wolverhampton.

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 will act out the STATIONS OF THE CROSS** in the hall at 2.15pm

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – School closes** for Easter Holidays.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – School opens** for Summer Term.

### **Uniform – Clothing, Footwear, Hairstyles and Jewellery**

Thanks for supporting our uniform policy. Some updates:

- During the cold weather children CAN wear **boots** so long as they are sensible black boots without logos and have safe heels. They must wear their trousers OVER the boots and not tucked in. Designer boots or sports boots with logos and signs are not allowed.
- Please, please ensure **hairstyles** are suitable for school. Shavings, engravings, sculptings, tramlines, dying and bandanas or strings are not allowed. Please exercise caution at the hairdressers or barbers – fashion haircuts are great for the holidays but not always right for school. We have to rely on your support – and we appreciate it!
- **Earrings and jewellery** are not allowed under any circumstances – please do not have your child’s ears pierced in term time – it is best to wait until the start of the six week’s holiday to have them done. Again – we are reliant on your support – if everyone follows the rules it makes it fair for everyone. If your child comes to school in jewellery it causes lots of problems for the child, parents and school so please, please can we ask for your support. THANK YOU.

### **Foundation Stage Unit for Nursery and Reception**

Work is progressing at a great speed! The children will soon be able to move into their new space complete with brand new ‘jungle themed’ toilets and miniature Computer Suite! Once the inside is finished the builders will move to the outdoor area where they will be moving fences, removing old wooden furniture, laying soft flooring and the highlight feature of a large wooden climbing frame!

Parents and carers have all been BRILLIANT during our building work and we’re grateful for your understanding. It is really taking shape now so your flexibility will hopefully all be worth it.....!

### **Attendance**

Attendance is continuing to improve and is currently at 96%. We could not have improved attendance without YOUR support – thank you. Please continue to ensure your child attends school and only misses time if they are genuinely too ill to come to school. Thank you also for reducing the amount of time lost due to holiday absences – remember that these must be requested in advance and before any bookings are made. THANK YOU.

### **Keep In Touch**

We are proud that this is a school that genuinely listens and takes action. In the last twelve months since I started at St Joe’s I have had the opportunity to work with many parents to resolve issues affecting their children. We will always try to see you promptly and I hope we have demonstrated our commitment to taking positive action. Never hesitate to contact myself, Mrs Chapman, Mr Seex or Miss Oakley. The class teachers are also available after school if you need to speak to them.

**Have a happy and safe holiday and thanks again for supporting our school. All the best.**

Yours faithfully

M Hinton  
Headteacher

