

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

January Newsletter 2019



18th January 2019

Dear Parents,

January Newsletter

Spring term is well underway now and this newsletter gives you lots of important information about what is happening in school this term. Along with this newsletter you will find the Diary Dates for Spring Term – this tells you all of the important dates and times of various special events taking place this term. We are also sending you our term dates from January 2019 to July 2020. We are all very much looking forward to working with you again this term and look forward to seeing you in school.

Our Values this half term: Eloquent and Truthful

Our Catholic Schools Pupil Profile Values this term are Eloquent and Truthful. ELOQUENT means being able to talk about our faith and beliefs in a confident and articulate way that helps others to be inspired by our faith. TRUTHFUL refers not only to telling the truth and being honest, but also being true to the teachings of Christ, doing the right thing even when it's the hardest thing to do and not seeking to 'bend the rules' to avoid making Christ-like choices. It means being true to our faith and beliefs no matter what we face in life.

Thank you for your kind words, cards and gifts at Christmas

Everyone at the school would like to send home a massive 'thank you' for the kind words, cards and gifts you shared with us at Christmas. It is extremely moving, touching and rewarding to hear kind words from parents and family members and it is equally moving to receive cards and gifts – which are by no means ever expected. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for taking the trouble to be so kind. We cannot emphasise enough how much we appreciate it.

FANTASTIC NEWS – WE WERE TOP OF THE LEAGUE TABLES FOR OVERALL PERFORMANCE!

We are delighted to let you know that in the recently produced 'School League Tables' **St Joseph's came top of all 94 primary schools in Dudley for our overall performance in the Key Stage 2 (Year 6) tests.** The 'Overall Performance' measure is the default setting for the online tables and takes into account both PROGRESS and ATTAINMENT in order to arrive at an OVERALL PERFORMANCE MEASURE. We are very proud of this achievement and promise you that we will keep trying our best for every single child so that everyone can achieve the best overall performance possible!

Hillcrest Road, Dudley,
West Midlands DY2 7PW

Principal:
Mr M Hinton, B.Ed. Hons, NPQH
Telephone:
01384 818925
Fax:
01384 818930
Website:
www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk
Email:
info@st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk



Kind hands, kind words...like Jesus

Part of St John Bosco Catholic Academy
Company
Registered in England and Wales No.
08608177

Registered office:
Burton Road, Dudley DY1 3BY

Mini Reports are coming out Friday 18th January for Reception to Year 6



As part of our ongoing commitment to making sure you are kept up to date about your child's attainment, progress and behaviour we will be sending out a mini report on Friday. This will be followed later in the term by our Parent's Evening. Please check to make sure you receive your child's mini report.

School and Parish Mass on Sunday 27th January at I am in Church (Dudley)

Everyone is very welcome at this important event and we would really appreciate your support. Mrs Chapman has sent out a letter asking for volunteers for choir, offertory, readings and bidding prayers. Being part of the Parish is a fundamental part of life at St Joseph's – please come to Mass if you possibly can.

We are now a 'Daily Mile' school!

Thousands of schools across the country have taken on the 'Daily Mile' initiative and now we have too! The 'Daily Mile' involves children from Years 1 to 6 taking a daily walk or jog around the playground, with their teacher and classmates, for 15 minutes. 15 minutes is the time of continuous walking or jogging required to walk approximately 1 mile. The initiative has been launched to provide everyone with additional physical activity with the obvious associated health benefits. Since Monday everyone in Years 1 to 6 has been completing the 'Daily Mile' and we're all really enjoying it! We won't complete the daily mile if it's raining, snowing or too icy but on most days, the daily mile will be a normal feature of the school day.



First Holy Communion and Confirmation



If you are the parent of a child in Year 3 or Year 6 who is intending for your child to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion or Confirmation you should have received a letter detailing all of the parent meetings, confessions, retreat days and Masses for your child. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT

RECEIVED THIS LETTER. In addition, please remember that Fr Louis expects to see all families of First Holy Communion and Confirmation children at Mass each Saturday evening or Sunday morning. There is a signing in sheet at the back of the Church. If you and your child are not attending Mass, Father may refuse to offer the Sacraments – so it is very, very important that you contact him if you need to discuss the matter. Please remember this is a Church matter and will need to be discussed with the Parish Priest, not the school.

Tesco Uniform Online is closing on February 12th 2019

Tesco is closing down its uniform embroidery website. If you wish to buy any St Joseph's uniform from Tesco – you should place your orders now. We are making arrangements with another online uniform supplier to carry our uniform and also another local shop. We will be in touch soon once arrangements are confirmed. A Oakes of Dudley continue to stock our uniform.



Uniform, hair colouring and earrings / jewellery



Please can we remind you that only the school uniform listed below is acceptable. We have a strict uniform policy and we do ask you to support this. We contact parents by telephone to ask them to address any uniform breaches as this is the only way we can uphold our smart uniform policy. Colouring of hair, hair strings, outsize bows and headbands, earrings and jewellery are strictly not allowed. Please do not send your child to school in earrings as you will be required to remove them for

safety reasons.

Correct Uniform to be worn at all times at St Joseph's is as follows:

Royal blue St. Joseph's pique polo and sweatshirts are available from the suppliers - A. Oakes Ltd, Dudley and Tesco Uniform online. Please note Tesco Uniform is closing down on 12th February 2019 – we are making arrangements for another online uniform supplier to sell our uniforms as well as another local shop that will be coming on board soon. We will let you know as soon as arrangements are made.

Boys

Royal Blue St Joseph's pique polo shirt: either plain Royal Blue jumper or Royal Blue St Joseph's sweat-shirt: grey trousers. Sensible black shoes

Summer Alternative: Knee length grey shorts, sensible shoes (no flipflop sandals)

Girls

Royal Blue St Joseph's pique polo shirt: either plain Royal Blue jumper or Royal Blue St Joseph's sweat-shirt: grey skirt/grey uniform trousers. Sensible black shoes.

Summer Alternative: Blue Gingham dress: either plain Royal Blue jumper/cardigan or Royal Blue St Joseph's sweatshirt, OR knee length grey shorts. Sensible, flat-heel shoes. (no flip-flop sandals)

PE Kit

All children should have: Plain black shorts: a plain white T-shirt and a pair of pumps: all kept in a PE bag.

Children are welcome to bring tracksuit bottoms and tracksuit tops for outdoor PE during the cooler weather.

Trainers, boots or fashion shoes are not allowed.

Hair Styles and Nail Varnish

Hair shaving and sculpting (eg. tram lines, ticks and other shavings) are not allowed. Hairstyles must be smart and neat. Use of gels or styling products should be minimal. For safety reasons all long hair (boys and girls) must be tied back at all times. Highlights, dyeing and colouring of hair is not allowed.

Nail varnish is not allowed.

Jewellery

As a safety precaution and to prevent accidents during PE and other activities, the wearing of any item of jewellery in Nursery or Main School is strictly forbidden without exception.



Parentview



Please let us know your thoughts on the quality of provision at St Joseph's by rating us on Parentview. All we ever ask is that if you are not happy for any reason, please let us know first so we can try to sort things out for you. The last review on our Parentview site was left in October so we would be really grateful if you could find the time to submit your views to help us know where we are getting things right and where we could do even better in the future. www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Do you receive some benefits? If you do you could help us get extra funding for the school!

In order for the school to receive pupil premium funding, you need to complete a simple online form. If your child is eligible, pupil premium funding brings thousands of pounds into the school for up to 6 years – with major budget cuts and redundancies in the past, we need this precious funding to spend on the children. PLEASE take a moment to apply. If you qualify, your child will also be entitled to free school meals every day.



If you get ANY of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Applying online is quick and easy and you don't have to produce any documents. Please visit this website and apply – there is nothing to be lost by applying and you could help us to access precious extra funding for the children.

<https://customer.dudley.gov.uk/free-school-meals/create/>

School Closures in bad weather



At St Joseph's we open the school if it is safe to do so and if we can make sure we can get enough staff into the school to look after the children. The decision to close is never taken lightly and we consider the safety of you and your children walking or driving to school and also the weather forecast for later in the day. We try to give you plenty of notice and will normally decide to close the school well before the day starts. Very rarely we may be forced to close the school even after the children have come in – for example if we lose heat, power or water supplies, or if the weather worsens after school has started.

- We will send you a text message or message you via the Xpressions App.
- We will post a message on the school website

If we know school won't be open at all we will text / message you and put the information on the website by 7am in the morning.

If the weather is bad but we are opening, we will also put a message on the website and send messages by 7am in the morning to keep you updated.

Bear in mind if the weather worsens, we may have to close the school part way through the day and you will need to collect your child early. We seek to avoid this happening wherever possible.

In any case – check the school website (at the top of the home page) for the latest info in any bad weather. You should also receive a message.

Testing the message service – let us know if you did not receive your test message

We sent a 'test message' to everyone on **Monday 21st January 2019**. If you did not receive this, please contact the office and let us know. We will check we have your up to date number and also contact our service provider if there are any issues. We will then text you again to check the system is working.

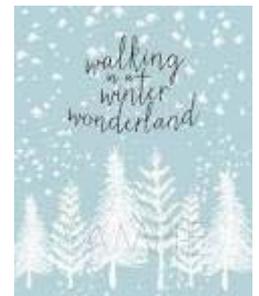
Let us know if you change your number!

If you change your number/s please be sure to let us know straight away!

Special Winter Wonderland Menu Day

On Tuesday 22nd January children can choose from a different special menu for their lunch in school. The options are Spaghetti Bolognese (Quorn and Meat options available), Bacon Pastry, Jacket Potato or Ham, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Chicken Mayo Grab Bags. There will be no pasta available on this day, only the choices listed above. Remember that all children from Reception to Year 2 inclusive receive FREE school meals provided by the government. If you pay for school meals the cost is £2.30. Also, if the children find a snowflake sticker on their lunch plate that day they will win a prize!

If your child doesn't like any of the options – remember to send them with a packed lunch on Tuesday 22nd January – thanks a lot!



Keep in touch

We want you and your children to be happy at St Joseph's. In fact, nothing is more important to us. We try hard to be an Outstanding school BUT WE KNOW WE ARE NOT PERFECT – NO SCHOOL EVER CAN BE!

Everyone at St Joseph's wants our school to be the sort of school we would want our own children to attend – so you can be assured we will always listen carefully and do everything we can to resolve any problems – however small. Never, ever hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Hinton (Head teacher) and Mrs Chapman (Deputy Head teacher) can normally see you or speak on the phone straight away. We are the most senior leaders in school and we are always more than happy to see you to resolve any matters.

You can normally see the class teacher after school or you can book an appointment to see your child's teacher if you prefer – just let the office know.

Mrs Cheema is our senior teacher and Miss Wisniewski is the Nursery and Reception Lead Teacher. Both of these senior teachers are available to help you as well.

See you soon



Please have a good look at the Diary Dates sent out with the newsletter. We very much look forward to working with you this term and we look forward to seeing you in school during the coming weeks.

Every kind wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Hinton'.

Mr M Hinton,
Principal.



Diary Dates for Spring Term 2019



Friday 18th January: Please make sure you have received your child's mini report today (Reception to Year 6)

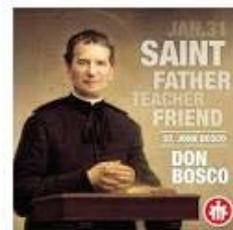
Tuesday 22nd January: Year 4 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Friday 25th January: Year 6 Assembly at 2.30pm

Sunday 27th January: School and Parish Mass at 11am in Church. All welcome – please join us!

Tuesday 29th January: Year 3 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Thursday 31st January: St John Bosco's Feast Day – Patron saint of our academy and patron saint of children everywhere.



Friday 1st February: Year 5 Assembly, 2.30pm

Monday 4th February: After School Clubs Start (Years 1-6) – all clubs finish at 4.15pm and children must be collected at this time.



Safer Internet Day 2019
Tuesday 5 February

Tuesday 5th February: Safer Internet Day: Activities for all children in school today

Tuesday 5th February: Key Stage 1 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Tuesday 12th February: Year 6 will be helping to lead mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Wednesday 13th February: Parent's Evening for Nursery (not for those pupils who have just started in January 2019) to Year 6. Appointment forms will be sent out a bit nearer the time.



Friday 15th February: Year 1 Assembly, 2.30pm.

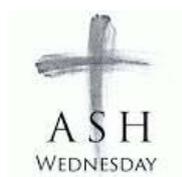
Friday 15th February: Break up for half term holidays

Monday 25th February: Back to School

Tuesday 26th February: Year 5 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Tuesday 26th February: Year 3 First Holy Communion Parent's Meeting 3.30pm – 4.30pm in school.

Tuesday 5th March: Sponsored Pancake Flip (sponsor forms will be sent out a bit nearer the time)



Wednesday 6th March: Ash Wednesday – the holy season of Lent begins. This is the season to PRAY, FAST AND GIVE ALMS.

Friday 8th March: 10am Special Mass in school celebrated by His Grace the Archbishop – more details to follow.

Friday 8th March: Reception Class Assembly at 2.30pm.

Sunday 10th March: School Parish Mass at 11am in Church (Dudley) Year 3 First Holy Communion and Year 6 Confirmation Enrolment Mass. All welcome – please come and join us.

Tuesday 12th March: Year 3 will help to lead mass at 9.15am. All welcome.



Wednesday 13th March: All After School Clubs (Years 1-6) finish on this afternoon.

Friday 15th March: CAFOD Lent Fast Day 'Give it Up'. Everyone is asked to give up their playtime snack and give some pennies to CAFOD instead to help the world's poor and starving.

Friday 15th March: Year 2 Assembly at 2.30pm.

Tuesday 19th March: St Joseph's Day – our patron Saint and the patron saint of families and fathers.



Tuesday 19th March: Key Stage 1 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Friday 22nd March: Year 4 Assembly at 2.30pm.



Monday 25th – Friday 29th March: 8 Polish Teachers including the head teacher from our partner school SPI 18 in Poland will be joining us for the week in school – please come into the special events and meet them and help to make them welcome. They will be joining us for our MISSION, VALUES, VOCATIONS and PRAYER WEEK (MVVP Week)

Tuesday 26th March: Year 6 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Thursday 28th March: MVVP Week performances (music and dancing) from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at 9.15am. Please come and enjoy the performances!

Friday 29th March: MVVP Week performances (music and dancing) from Year 3,4,5 and 6 at 9.15am. Please come and enjoy the performances!

Tuesday 2nd April: Year 5 will be helping to lead Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

Friday 5th April: Year 3 assembly at 2.30pm.

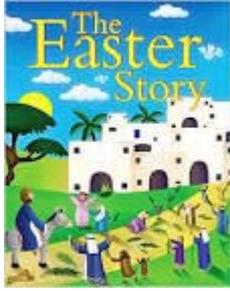
Monday 8th April: All of the children will enjoy a religious theatre group performance by the B Tales for Easter called 'What the Women Saw'

Tuesday 9th April: Year 3 will act out the events of PALM SUNDAY at 2.45pm. All welcome – please join us.



Wednesday 10th April: Year 4 will act out THE LAST SUPPER at 9.15am. All welcome – please join us.

Thursday 11th April: Year 5 will act out THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN at 9.15am. All welcome – please join us.



Thursday 11th April: CHURCH SERVICE at 5.30pm where the children will act out the Easter Story. Mrs Chapman will write to you separately nearer the time to ask for choir, actors and readers. Children must have an adult in the audience at all times and cannot come to Church unaccompanied.

Friday 12th April: I am Merit and Attendance Awards, all welcome

Friday 12th April: 2.15pm Year 6 will act out THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS. All welcome – please join us.

Monday 29th April: School reopens for Summer Term.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Term Dates January 2019- July 2020



2018/19

2018/19 Academic Year



Friday 15th February 2019: Children **break up** for half term holiday

Monday 25th February 2019: Children **return** to school

Friday 12th April 2019: Children **break up** for Easter Holidays



Summer Term 2019

Monday 29th April 2019: Children **return** to school

Monday 6th May 2019: School **closed** for May Day Bank Holiday

Friday 24th May 2019: Children **break up** for half term holiday

Monday 3rd June 2019: Children **return** to school

Friday 19th July 2019: Children **break up** for Summer Holidays



2019-20

2019/20 Academic Year

Autumn Term 2019



Tuesday 3rd September 2019: Children **return** to school

Wednesday 23rd October 2019: Children **break up** for half term

Monday 4th November 2019: Children **return** to school

Wednesday 18th December 2019: Children **break up** for Christmas

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January 2020: Children **return** to school

Friday 14th February 2020: Children **break up** for half term

Monday 24th February 2020: Children **return** to school

Friday 3rd April 2020: Children **break up** for Easter



Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April 2020: Children **return** to school

Monday 4th May 2020: School **closed** for May Day Bank Holiday

Friday 22nd May 2020: Children **break up** for half term

Monday 1st June 2020: Children **return** to school

Friday 17th July: Children **break up** for Summer Holidays

