



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you enjoyed Easter and, as always, it's been our great pleasure to welcome all the children and families back to school for the first half of the summer term. As always, there are lots of things happening in school and along with this newsletter we have sent out our '**Diary Dates**' as a separate document for you to keep. This newsletter gives you some important news and information about school and we very much look forward to working with you during this first half of Summer Term.

Our Catholic Schools Pupil Profile values for this half term are COMPASSIONATE and LOVING.

The children are learning to be COMPASSIONATE in the way they speak about and to others. They are learning to be LOVING in all that they do, learning how to remain true to God's teachings even when this is very difficult to do.

Please donate some flowers for Mary – the Mother of Jesus – special assembly Tuesday 20th May

On Tuesday 20th May we will be celebrating a May assembly in honour of Our Lady in her special month of May. If you can, please send in some flowers for the special display on Tuesday morning. We will put all of the flowers into vases and create a beautiful display around the statue of Our Lady. You are very welcome to join us for the assembly, which will start at **2.30pm**.



Free School Meals – Pupils in current Year 2

Pupils in our current year 2 class will not receive Universal Infant Free School Meals once they move up into Year 3 this September. However, you may qualify for free school meals, and if you do it's **really important to apply in advance**. See below for details of how to apply and the eligibility criteria.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding – Please help us to access precious government funding



For every child that is eligible for free school meals – we receive very valuable funding from the government called 'Pupil Premium Funding.' This funding is very precious and valuable and is always spent on improving the provision in school for the children. If you successfully apply for free school meals, you not only have the option to choose free school lunches for your child but you also bring in very precious funding for the school for the next 6 years.

Who should apply? Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6!

We only get pupil premium funding if you **apply for free school meals**. Even though all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free school meals – you still need to **make an application** in order for us to access **pupil premium funding**. If you are eligible – whether your child is in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 – it's really important that you **apply for free school meals**.

Am I eligible for free school meals?

If you receive the following benefits you can apply for free school meals:

- Universal Credit (provided monthly net earned income of less than £616.66, after tax and not including any benefits)
- Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of 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

How do I apply?

Online: Using a PC, tablet or phone

Ear Piercing – please do this in the summer holidays as we don't allow earrings at school

We do not allow children to wear any jewellery. This is for safety reasons. If you are considering getting your child's ears pierced, please remember they will not be allowed to wear earrings at school. It is a good idea – if you are thinking about having your child's ears pierced – to get this done at the very beginning of the summer holidays. This gives 6 weeks for the piercing to take hold meaning the earrings can be removed ready for the start of school. We do not allow children to wear earrings under any circumstances so please plan ahead now and avoid any potential upset. Thank you very much indeed for your support – we really appreciate it.

Uniform

St Joseph's is well known for its high standards of uniform and appearance, and we have only achieved this because parents are completely supportive of us. We've sent out lots of reminders lately and we have called and met with lots of parents – **thank you to everyone because you have all been 100% supportive.** This means a lot.

As a quick reminder, please remember:

- Children must wear **smart, sensible, black school shoes** (or boots in winter) No trainers or jelly shoes.
- **Hair dying** and **extreme fashion haircuts** such as **shavings and engravings are not allowed.** Boys' and girls' hair must be neat, tidy and sensible. **Long hair must be tied back.** Ribbons and hairbands should be **small** and in **school colours.** Giant bows and bands are not allowed.
-
- Girls can wear trousers, a skirt or a summer uniform dress. **Leggings are not allowed** even under dresses. Thick tights may be worn – these must be **plain blue, white, grey or black with no patterns, designs or writing.**
- **Earrings and jewellery are not allowed.** Temporary tattoos are not allowed. Nail varnish is not allowed.
- Full uniform details are on our website.



Summer Term Trips



It's lovely to be able to offer a wide range of trips to support the delivery of the school curriculum and widen children's understanding of faith – both the Catholic Faith and other faiths that make up Great Britain. If you haven't already done so, please double check that you have paid your contribution for your child's summer term trip via Arbor. We have subsidised the cost of all of the trips with donations from the school fund and your parental contribution is very much appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Attendance and Punctuality

Any one of us can be running late from time to time for good reasons – but children must ordinarily arrive at school at the correct start time – and as per school registration rules – they will be marked late if they arrive after the start time. We reserve the right to unauthorise persistent lateness and this will be recorded as unauthorised absence which can ultimately lead to intervention from the Education Investigation Service and possible penalties. Please support regular attendance and regular good timekeeping. Thank you for your support.



Anti-bullying and Anti-Racism Week – WB 19th May 2025

Children will be taking part in a special performance from Saltmine Theatre Group during the week which celebrates diversity and encourages empathy and respect along with completing a variety of activities linked to anti-bullying and anti-racism.

Brilliant in Britain Week and Module Three of Life to the Full– WB Monday 30th June 2025

This is a special focus week in school where the children learn even more about Fundamental British Values and the various different faiths that people in Britain have. Children in KS2 will be visiting places of worship for other faiths during this special week.

During this week we will also be teaching Module Three of our Relationships, Health and Sex Education Programme – Life to the Full. 'Life to the Full' is a Catholic Relationships, Health and Sex Education programme approved by the

Archdiocese of Birmingham and published by Ten Ten Resources.

We would also like to let you know that all of the programme content can be viewed by parents in the parent portal where there are also suggested home activities should you wish to support the programme at home.

The Life to the Full Parent Portal Login details for St Joseph's are:

Go to: www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/ **Username:** st-josephs-dy2 **Password:** wood-2

Summer Get Together

The Summer Get Together (Friday 4th July at 3.30pm). The Get Together is a great opportunity for everyone to come together in school before we break up for the summer holidays. There will be a raffle, lovely things to eat and drink and we are hoping to be joined by some special visitors – more details to follow!



We want you and your child/ren to be happy – so please keep in touch

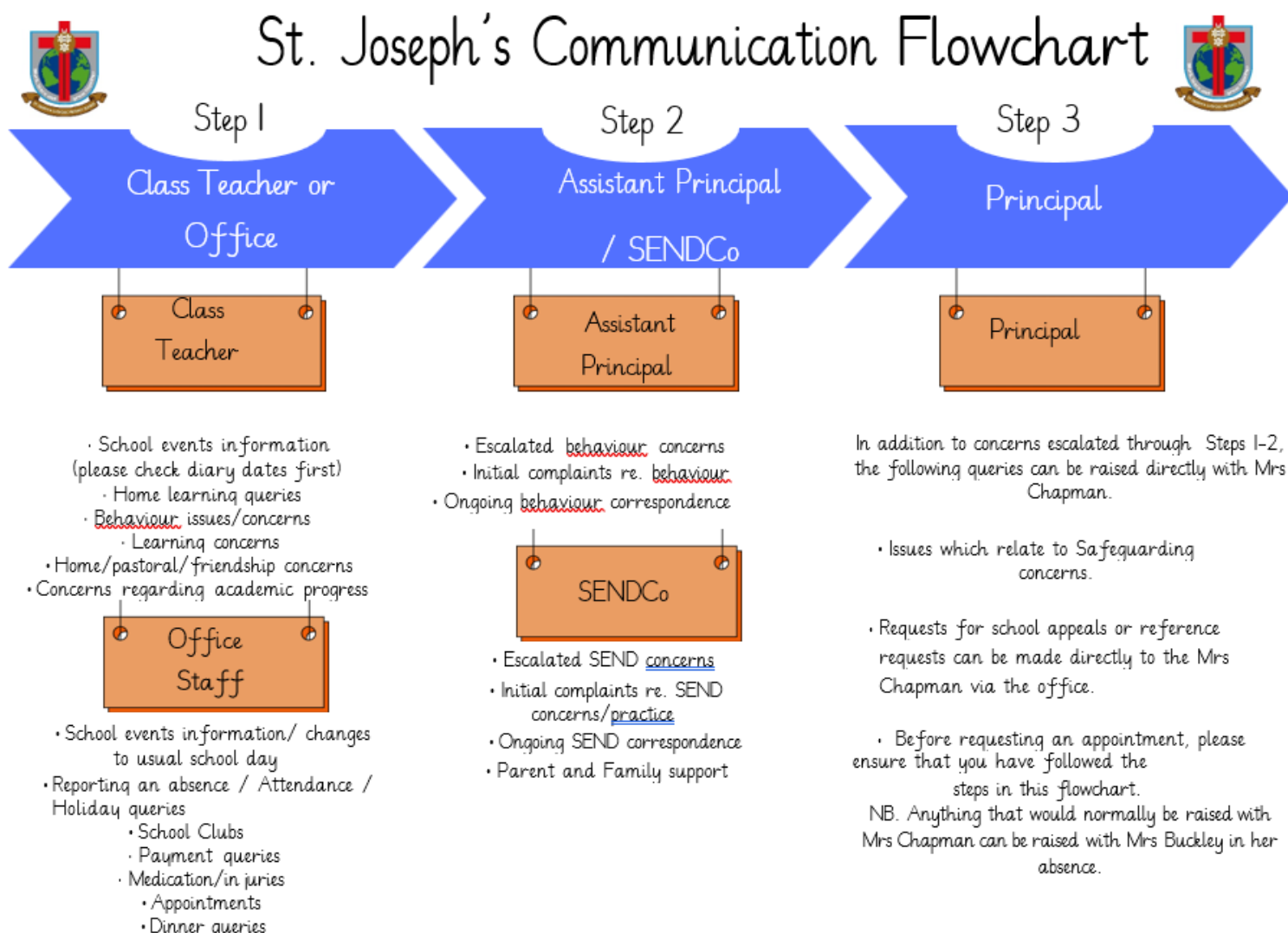


The safety, educational progress and personal happiness of every child and family we serve is our TOP priority. **We try hard to make St Joseph's the best school we can – but things can, do and always will go wrong!** No school can be perfect! **The most important thing we can do is to promise to always try our very best to sort out problems as quickly as possible.**

It's really important that you let us know if you or your child is upset or worried about something. The sooner we know – the sooner we can sort things out.

Never, ever spend the evening or the weekend worried or upset – be totally assured that as soon as you tell us we will do everything in our power to sort things out and make things better.

Here is a reminder of our communication process:





St Joseph's Communication Flowchart



Step 1

Class Teacher or
Office



Step 2

Assistant Principal
Mrs Buckley or
SENDCO
Mrs Hickman

Step 3

Principal
Mrs Chapman

This is the first point of contact between families and school.

The table below clarifies whether the communication requires the attention of your child's class teacher or if the school office is more appropriate.

Teachers are available most days after school and appointments can be made by contacting the school office.

If further support is required, Mrs Buckley is available.

This can be organised through the school office or in collaboration with the teacher currently dealing with the query.

For SEN specific queries, Mrs Hickman can support.

Having followed Steps 1-2, if a matter needs further attention, it can be brought to Mrs Chapman.

This can be organised through the school office or in collaboration with the member of staff previously involved.

Anything of an urgent safeguarding matter can be brought straight to Mrs. Chapman.

"At St Joseph's we work, learn and grow together guided by Jesus' teachings"

Thanks for your support

Everyone at St Joseph's loves working with each and every one of the children and their families. We are grateful for your support of the school and the personal kindness and courtesy you show to us.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs S Chapman, Principal

Summer Term Dates

Monday 12th May – Year 6 SATs Assessments in school – please keep the children in your prayers.

Monday 12th May – Year 3's trip to The Oratory

Tuesday 13th May – Year 3 First Reconciliation at 10.15am in school.

Friday 16th May – Year 4's assembly – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Saturday 17th May – Year 3's First Holy Communion in Church at 10am – everyone welcome.

WB Monday 19th May – Anti-bullying and anti-racism week in school.

Tuesday 20th May – Year 3's celebration Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 20th May – 2.30pm May Procession – please join us if you can.

Thursday 22nd May – 2:30pm-4pm School Nurse Drop-In Session

Friday 23rd May – Year 2's assembly at 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Friday 23rd May – Poetry Recital – all children from Nursery to Year 6 – 2.30pm, please join us if you can.



Monday 26th – Friday 30th May

MAY HALF TERM

WB Monday 2nd June – NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Week.

Tuesday 3rd June – Year 1's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Wednesday 4th June -Year 5 to visit the Thinktank

Thursday 5th June – Year 6 Confirmation Meeting, 2pm in school.

Friday 6th June – Year 3's assembly – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 10th June - Year 6's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 17th June - Year 5's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 17th June – Year 3 Trip to Rock City

Wednesday 18th June – Year 3 trip to the Buddhist Temple

Thursday 19th June – Reception's trip to the farm.

Friday 20th June – Reception's class assembly – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Friday 20th June – Year 1 trip to the Botanical Gardens.

Tuesday 24th June - Year 4's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 24th June - 2:30pm-4pm School Nurse Drop-In Session

Wednesday 25th June – Year 4's trip to the Canal Trust

Thursday 26th June – Nursery's trip to Dudley Zoo.

Friday 27th June – Year 6's trip to Oscott College.

Friday 27th June – Year 1's assembly – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Monday 30th June – Year 5 to visit the Synagogue.

Monday 30th June and Tuesday 1st July – Bishop Milner Transition Day for Year 6 children transferring to Bishop Milner in September.

WB Monday 30th June – Brilliant in Britain Week – learning about other Faiths.

Monday 30th June – 10.30am Sports day for Year 4, 1.30pm Sports Day for Year 2

Tuesday 1st July - Year 3's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Wednesday 2nd July – Year 6's Confirmation Retreat Day in school.

Wednesday 2nd July – Full school reports to go to out to parents.

Thursday 3rd July – Year 6 to visit the Islamic Experience.

Thursday 3rd July – 9.15am – Year 3's Sports Day, 10.15am Year 1's Sports Day, 11.15am and Year 5's Sports Day.

Friday 4th July – Year 6's Assembly – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Friday 4th July – Year 4 to visit the Sikh Temple.

Friday 4th July – Summer Get Together 3.30pm onwards – please join us if you can!

Monday 7th July – Brilliant in Britain dance performances from Nursery, Reception, Joseph's Jigsaw, Years 1 and 2 at 2.20pm – join us if you can.

Tuesday 8th July – Brilliant in Britain dance performances from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 at 2.20pm – join us if you can.

Tuesday 8th July - Year 2's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Tuesday 8th July – Reconciliation for children in Year 6 after Mass in preparation for Confirmation.

Wednesday 9th July – Year 6 Confirmation, in Church 6pm – everyone welcome.

Thursday 10th July – MAC Games – Years 5 and 6 to represent St Joseph's.

Thursday 10th July – Optional Parent's Evening.

Friday 11th July – Year 2 to visit Portishead.

Friday 11th July- Year 6 Sport's Day 1.30pm.

Monday 14th July - 8:30am – 9:30am School Nurse Drop-In Session

Monday 14th – Wednesday 16th July – Year 5 and 6 Residential.

Tuesday 15th July - Year 1's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can.

Wednesday 9th July – Reception Sports Day 9.15am, Morning Nursery's Sports Day 10.30am and Afternoon Nursery's Sports Day 1.30pm

Thursday 17th July – Year 6 Graduation 9.30am – please join us if you can!

Friday 18th July – Final Assembly of the Year – 9.15am – please join us if you can!