



Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Term Newsletter – Second Half Term

We hope you enjoyed the half-term break and, as always, it’s been our great pleasure to welcome all the children and families back to school for the second 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 second half of Summer Term.



Our Catholic Schools Pupil Profile values for this half term are ATTENTIVE and DISCERNING.

Attentive: Being attentive to God’s call, ready to listen to the type of person He is asking us to be.

Discerning: Making good, unselfish choices to help the common good.

End of Year Reports – out on Monday 6th July



We will be sending out an end of year report to keep you up to date with your child’s achievement and progress at school during this academic year. There will be an optional parents’ evening on Monday 13th July if you wish to discuss any aspect of the end of year report with the class teacher. Don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher if you need to discuss anything with them – **you never have to wait for parents’ evening!**

Ofsted Parent View

Parent View is used by both Ofsted and the school to monitor and respond to the thoughts and opinions of parents. Ofsted use Parent View to inform their evaluation of the school, and school leaders use it to plan for improvements and to check that parents are happy with what is provided at the school.

It’s really important we have as many reviews on Parent View as possible. **All we ever ask is that if you are not happy with something you let us know first so we have the chance to put it right.** Equally, if you are happy with what the school provides – it would be much appreciated if you could tell us and Ofsted by submitting a review! Please go to www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and leave your review – we are very grateful for your support.

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
- 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 or Working Tax Credit

How do I apply?

Online: Using a PC, tablet or phone

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>.

NSPCC Keep Safe and Discipleship Weeks

NSPCC
Cruelty to children must stop.

During the week beginning 15th June we will be working with the NSPCC and providing Keeping Safe workshops to all of the children in the school. The children will be watching video session and completing age-appropriate activities about how to keep themselves safe in the real and online world. We will be holding our annual special Discipleship Week beginning Monday 13th July. During this week the children will be reflecting on Catholic Social Teachings and our Catholic Gospel Values – thinking about how we can look after the beautiful world God created for us and how we can show love and kindness to our brothers and sisters around the world.

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.

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.



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.

Summer Performances

Our end of year summer performances are linked to our work in Discipleship Week this year. Each year group will be focusing on a particular disciple of Jesus and performing a dance linked to them! Performances take place on **Friday 10th July**. **Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will perform at 9.15am and children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will perform from 2.15pm.**

Brilliant in Britain Week – WB 29th June

We will be holding our second Brilliant in Britain Week where we will be learning about other faiths, including: places of worship, festivals rituals and customs. During this week we will also finish our Health and Relationship programme from Ten:Ten where children focus on living in a community. We finish this special week by holding our well-known dance festival on Friday 7th July! **Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will perform at 9.15am and children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will perform from 2.15pm.**

Summer Get Together – Surf's Up!

The Summer Get Together (Friday 17th 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. This year we have – to test your surfing skills, summer games, mocktails, face painting, summer photo booth, BIG raffle and much more! Please join us for this exciting event!



Parents in school



It's lovely to have so many parents joining us for our weekly Masses and assemblies. The children work so hard to practise readings, acting etc. and are so happy to see their parents in school. With this in mind, could we politely request that parents are quiet during our gatherings, do not use mobile phones to have conversations and that unsettled children are accompanied to the school reception area until they re-settle as some of our children find the noise distracting. A number of parents have also been upset when they can't hear their children due to other parents speaking. Thank you for your support.

Looking Ahead – Transition

This half-term is where our thoughts turn to next academic year. We have a very comprehensive transition programme for all of our children, this includes starting school, moving through school or leaving school. We do all we can to ensure that children are prepared and read for the next step in their education journey. Part of this transition is having their new teacher teach them during this half-term, this is so that the children and the new teacher can get to know each other a little better!

At the end of this Academic year, we will be saying a temporary goodbye to **Mrs Sharma** who will be taking Maternity Leave – we wish her and Mr Sharma all the very best as they get ready to welcome their new baby!



Miss Lyttle is also leaving St Joseph's. Miss Lyttle has been at St Joseph's for five years and has been a wonderful addition to the school. Miss Lyttle is leaving to take on a promotion at another Catholic School, and we know that she will be brilliant in her new role and wish her lots of luck.

Miss Caddick, who has previously worked in our Nursery, will be covering Mrs Sharma's maternity leave in Year 1 and we look forward to welcoming her back to St Joseph's. Miss Millard will also be joining St Joseph's as our new Reception Class teacher as Miss Bate makes a move to Year 5.



So, our teaching staff for September 2026 looks like this –

- Nursery** – Miss Hughes, supported by Miss Newey
- Reception** – Miss Millard, supported by Miss Gioenco
- Year 1** – Miss Caddick, supported by Miss Sibley
- Year 2** – Miss Cresswell, supported by Mrs Duggal
- Year 3** – Mrs Stretton, supported by Mrs Wroblewski
- Year 4** – Mrs Hickman, supported by Mrs Parker
- Year 5** – Miss Bate, supported by Mrs Philpott
- Year 6** – Mrs Cheema, supported by Mrs Toddington
- Joseph's Jigsaw** – Miss Oakley, supported by Mrs Arachchige and Miss Alonso

Mrs Hickman remains as our **SENCO**, Miss Oakley as **EYFS Leader** and Mrs Buckley as our **Assistant Principal**.

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

Tuesday 9 th June	Year 2 leading Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can
Thursday 11 th Jun	Year 5 Trip to the MeFestival
Friday 12 th June	Year 5’s assembly– join us at 9.15 if you can
WB Monday 15 th June	NSPCC Stay Safe Week
Tuesday 16 th June	Year 4 visit to Dudley Canal Year 1 leading Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can
Wednesday 17 th June	Year 6 to visit St Mary’s Oscott
Thursday 18 th June	Confirmation Retreat Day for Year 6
Monday 22 nd June	Year 5 Trip to the Space Centre
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 5 leading Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can
Wednesday 24 th June	1.30pm Cat Purser in Year 6 for transition workshop Nursery Trip to Dudley Zoo
WB Monday 29 th June	BIB Week – Other Faiths & Module 3 of Ten:Ten
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 4 leading Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can Year 5 Trip to the Synagogue
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 6 to visit Warwick Castle
Friday 3 rd July	Summer Get Together – Surf’s Up!
Monday 6 th July	Sports Days - 10.30am Year 1 and 1.30pm Year 2
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 3 leading Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can After Mass Year 6 Reconciliation Sports Day 1.30pm Year 6
Wednesday 8 th July	Confirmation 6pm for Year 6 Sports Days 9.30am Year 3, 10.30am Year 4 and 1.30pm Year 5
Thursday 9 th July	Sports Day 9.15am Reception, Nur AM 10.30am and Nur PM 1.30pm Year 3 to Visit Wroxeter City
Friday 10 th July	Summer Performances – Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 at 9.15am Years 3,4,5 and 6 2.30pm
Monday 13 th July	Optional Parents’ Evening Year 1 trip to the Botanical Gardens
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers and Confirmation Celebration Mass– join us at 9.15 if you can
Thursday 16 th July	9.30am Year 6 Graduation– join us at 9.15 if you can
Friday 17 th July	End of year Celebration Assembly– join us at 9.15 if you can

