



*To follow Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray.*

**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School**

Little Sutton Lane, Sutton Coldfield B75 6PB

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Principal: Mr G. O'Hara

**Newsletter No.11**  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
**Fortnightly News**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our 11<sup>th</sup> fortnightly newsletter of the year. We have been pleased with the work the children have been producing as we approach the half waypoint of this academic year.

**St Joseph's Historical photos and artefacts**

This academic year is the 150<sup>th</sup> year of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School! We are hoping to collect photographs, old school reports, programmes of events or any other artefacts that may have that are a part of our school history to show to the children and to add to our school website. Thank you to Deacon Daniel (who is also a past pupil) who has sent in our first contribution of a newsletter that was created when the school celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary (1972), this can be found in a new section of our school website. Please visit [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - St Joseph's School - Step into the past! \(stjosutton.net\)](http://StJosephsCatholicPrimarySchool-StJosephsSchool-Stepintothepast!(stjosutton.net))

*If you or older relatives have any nostalgic memories for us to add, please bring them to the school office, we can copy them and return your originals to you- thank you in anticipation!*

We will keep you posted on other activities that will take place through the rest of this academic year.

**PTA**

Many thanks to those that came to the PTA meeting at 3:30pm yesterday. It was fantastic to start to plan events that will be taking place between now and Easter. The PTA have also decided on a target of £3500 to buy a lovely climb on train for the children to stretch their imaginations. We will be holding another PTA meeting after February half term in school with the option of attending online via zoom. We will let you know that date in due course.

**Year 4B Assembly**

Well done to Year 4B for a fantastic assembly this week on your topic about the Romans. Your enthusiasm for the topic really shone through and we were impressed with how well each of you played your part. A special thanks to Miss Birch and Mrs Lyden Burke for helping the children to prepare for the assembly.

**Coffee and Chat** *(tea is available too!!)*

Another reminder that the first 'Coffee & Chat' drop in session will take place on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February**. All parents are welcome to come into school, have a coffee and cake and talk to Mrs Chambers about different areas of school life. The purpose of these drop ins is to discuss anything that might be on your mind in relation to school life. You might have a suggestion that could help us improve things at St Josephs? You may just want a coffee, cake and to see some friendly faces- all are welcome. Please note these sessions are not to discuss specifics about your child but more general matters. It would be great if you could join us. The first session will be held on Wednesday 15th February from 8.45am until 9.45am.

On **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** we will be joined by Pete Brindley from the BEAM Project. Our Year 3 and 4 staff have received training from the project which helps them provide immediate effective support to the children. Children in Year 3 and 4 will soon be taking part in the project in class to support them in articulating their feelings and deal with their emotions. Pete Brindley will be available for a short session in the school hall to explain BEAM to parents, explain how you can implement this at home and answer any questions you may have.

**The "Big Lent Walk"**

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February we will be having a free trade cake sale with the money raised going to CAFOD. Please see flyer attached for more details.

**Parent Parking**

We have had a number of complaints regarding parent parking on the pavements, which causes other parents with push chairs and members of the public to go into the road to get around the obstructive vehicle. Also, unfortunately, a number of parents have been parking in the 'passing bay' on our School Drive which also causes an obstruction. Please consider others when you are parking your cars.



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### World Book Day

World Book Day celebrations will be taking place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. A separate Parent Mail letter has been sent out last week regarding the arrangements for this. - Please read this as we are doing things differently this time!

### Year 3 Mass of Commitment

Well done to all of the children who attended the mass of Commitment on Sunday. Thank you to the parents for making the effort to bring the children to church. It was also great to see the church full with parents and children from other year groups – bringing our Mission Statement to life... we following in Jesus' footsteps....

### Book Fair

Please be aware that the Scholastic book fair has arrived and will be with us until Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. The book fair will be open between 3:30pm and 4pm each day. You will have the opportunity to purchase books via cash or card. We would be grateful for any purchases that you make as the school receives an income from each sale and the money raised is used to replenish books for our library.

### Year 6 visit to Bishop Walsh Musical production

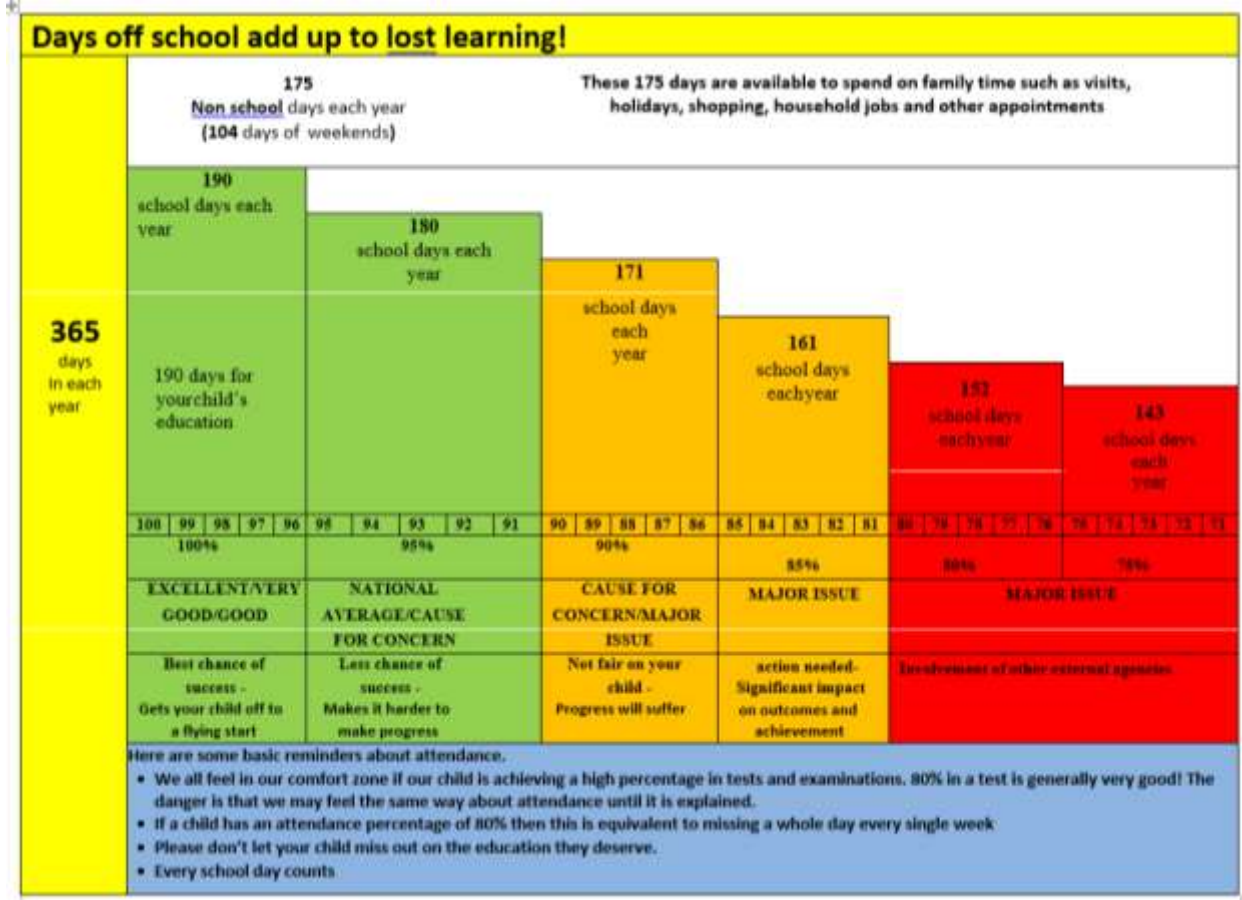
On Tuesday our Year 6 children visited Bishop Walsh Catholic School and watched a musical production of 'Footloose'. The children were amazed by the talent shown by the Bishop Walsh children and were hopefully inspired to take part themselves in future musical productions. Thank you to the Bishop Walsh staff for hosting and inviting us.

### Attendance

This academic year's attendance to date is as follows:

FY 92.1%                      Y1 93.1%                      Y2 94.8%                      Y3 94.7%                      Y4 94.9%  
 Y5 93.8%                      Y6 93.3%

**Our overall total for the year is 93.9%.** Thank you to those families who have responded to our letters home highlighting absence issues. However, please have a look at the attendance graph below:



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This week on the 8th February we celebrated the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita. Josephine Bakhita is the Patron Saint of Human Trafficking. She is a shining ray of hope for human trafficking victims and an inspirational demonstration of how a victim can recover from their trauma and become whole again.



O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Amen



### Dates for Diary

Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February at 8:45am	Parents 'Coffee and Chat'
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Big Lent Walk Cake Sale
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February at 2:40pm	Year 2 SATS information talk for parents
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>INSET day, school closed to children</b>
Week beginning 20 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>INSET day, school closed to children</b>
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	School re-opens for children
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March at 2:45pm	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check talk
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March at 2:45pm	Year 4 Multiplication Check talk for parents
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents evenings
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March at 9.00 am.	FY Phonics Talk for parents
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March at 8:45am	Parents 'Coffee and Chat' with special guest Pete Brindley



To keep even more up to date please follow us on twitter @StJosephsCP



Yours sincerely,

Mr O'Hara  
Principal

Mrs Chambers  
Vice Principal

Mr Lynch  
Assistant Principal



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