

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

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<u>Newsletter No.10 Friday 27th January 2023</u> <u>Fortnightly News</u>

Dear Parents,

We've had another couple of very productive weeks with lots of fabulous activities and work going on in school. We have also secured funding from the Sutton Charities Trust to improve the school's outdoor environment and you will be seeing many new editions to the playground and school grounds in the coming weeks and months –we have already had a new roof on the wooden gazebo! Thanks Mr lynch for securing the funding.

Year 6 Play Leaders

This week, our sports captains began their new roles as play leaders! They have been supporting younger children on the playground at lunchtime. Well done to all of them for taking to their roles quickly and being fantastic role models to the younger children.



Year 4R Assembly

Well done to Year 4R for their wonderful assembly on their new history topic on the Romans. You performed your assembly amazingly well and the Roman shields you had made looked very realistic! Thank you to Miss Round and Miss Anderson for helping the children to prepare for the assembly.

-We look forward to Yr4B's Assembly on Tuesday 7th Feb.

Coffee and Chat (tea is available too!!)



At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we recognise the importance of community and positive relationships amongst all stakeholders. We know that opportunities to come together to share, celebrate and communicate is vital in achieving excellence together – making St Josephs a happy and welcoming place. As a school we strive to improve and parental voice is very important to us. We would like to introduce our new monthly 'Coffee and Chat' drop in session where 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 facesall 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.

We will be holding Coffee and Chat Monthly so if you can't make the first one you are welcome to join us on the other dates:

Wednesday 15th February, Wednesday 24th May,

Wednesday 22nd March, Wednesday 28th June Thursday 27th April

Wellbeing Support

We understand that in the current economic climate times are hard for many of our families. If you have any worries or need support then please contact the school office who will do their best to assist you. This week we have added a brand new page to our school website which offers contact details of various agencies and local charities that offer support to parents and their children. Please click on the following link to access this new page <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Wellbeing Support (stjosutton.net)</u>







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Children's Mental Health Week - WC 6th February 2023

Children's Mental Health is of the utmost importance and as a school we will be supporting Children's Mental Health week, the theme this year is 'let's connect'. In order to connect within our school community a group of children in Year 6 are becoming Mental Health Ambassadors and are currently undergoing training - ready to launch on Monday 6th February.

Please follow the link <u>https://sway.office.com/dlHjFST4XxdpggmF?ref=Link</u> to find out more about Children's Mental Health Week and how you can support at home.

Strike action on Feb 1st 2023

You will be aware that teacher members of the National Education Union in England and Wales and support staff in Wales have voted overwhelmingly for strike action and that the ballot has successfully surpassed the restrictive thresholds set by Government for strike action.

As a result of the ballot many schools will face disruption on Feb 1st. St Josephs have NO staff out on strike next Wednesday- however, their decisions may change for the next planned dates and also other unions may call members to strike, therefore with this in mind the proposed action dates are below, we will let you know how our school will be affected as soon as we know. The dates are; Strike Dates

Wednesday 1 February 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.

Wednesday 1 March 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions: East Midlands, West Midlands, Eastern.

Wednesday 15 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.

Thursday 16 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.

Although a very emotive issue, St Joseph's staff are united in their belief to providing and sustaining the highest educational provision. We are united as a staff. I would ask that parents are respectful of the teaching staff regardless of one's personal political opinion. We fully appreciate that there may/may not be disruption on future dates.

Attendance

In November, we sent out 69 letters to families whose attendance had dropped below 92% (the DFE class this as being a Persistent Absentee (PA)). These letters were followed by a phone call from staff to see how we could help improve these numbers. This week we have run the figures through the system again and a pleased to announce that 43/69 have shown an increase in the data and of these 10/69 are no longer in the PA bracket.

23 have dipped but we have to acknowledge that the National increase of Strep A and associated illnesses were prevalent at the time.

We'd like to thank all who made a huge effort to attend school and increase their figures a 62% increase. We will be shortly sending out new letters and making calls to those who may have dipped below the threshold.

Twitter

Just another reminder that you can follow us on twitter where we aim to keep you up to date with what we have been getting up to throughout each day. If you visit the twitter website and search for @_stjosephs_ you will be able to find us.

PTA meeting

Our PTA will be meeting via teams on Tuesday 31st January at 6pm-7pm. We will be sending out the zoom link on Monday.







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This week on the 25thJanuary, we celebrated the Conversion of St Paul the Apostle. Paul, or Saul as he was first called, was not always a saint. Earlier as a loyal and angry Jew he persecuted the Church, but Jesus loved him even so and brought about his conversion. He was then sent on a mission to tell people about Jesus. This is the time that we pray for the conversion of sinners and for Christian unity.

Dates for Diary

Sunday 5 th February 9.00am	First Holy Communion Mass of Commitment for Year 3 at Holy Trinity
Monday 6 th February	Children's Mental Health Week Begins
Tuesday 7 th February	Bishop Walsh Production of Footloose for Year 6
Tuesday 7 th February at 2:40pm	Year 4B class assembly
Thursday 9th February at 2:40pm	Year 6 SATs information talk for parents
Thursday 16 th February at 2:40pm	Year 2 SATS information talk for parents
Friday 17th February	INSET day, school closed to children
Week beginning 20th February	HALF TERM
Monday 27th February	INSET day, school closed to children
Tuesday 28 th February	School re-opens for children
Wednesday 1 st March at 2:45pm	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check talk
Tuesday 7 th March at 2:45pm	Year 4 Multiplication Check talk for parents
Wednesday 8 th & Thursday 9 th March	Parents evenings



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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