



St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter No. 21

Friday 23rd February 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term. We are now in the liturgical season of Lent and have been really focusing on the power of prayer, the importance of alms giving and the significance of fasting with the children. This year we are raising money for Father Hudsons who support those in need locally, particularly the homeless and enjoyed a visit from 'Kevin' one of their spokespersons on Monday. The other charity we are raising money for is CAFOD who as you may know do amazing work supporting those in need overseas. A huge well done to Joanne, Darcey, Emily, Iris and Isabella who have raised £106.50 for these charities through selling homemade bracelets. We are very proud of your efforts girls and you full deserve the Commendation Award received in today's assembly.

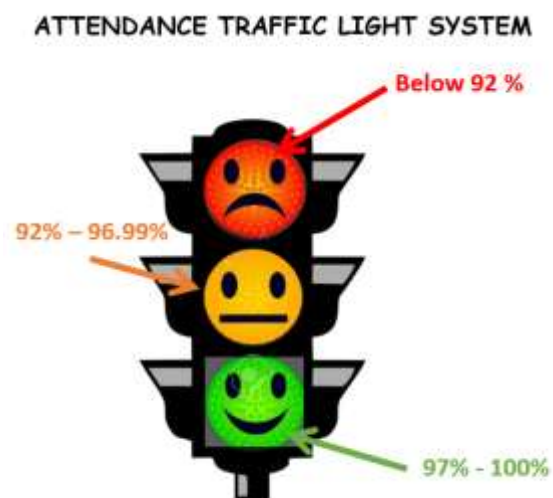
With the heavy rainfall that we have had this week and with more likely in the future we are asking that the children come to school with a coat (hood included). You may also want to consider your child wearing wellies to school with shoes to change into once they arrive. Hopefully this will keep them all as dry and as comfortable as possible.

Dates for next week

Monday- Foundation and Year 6 Height and Weight Checks by School Nurse
From 3:30pm Wednesday & Thursday Parents' Evening
9am Sunday Children's Mass at Holy Trinity Church, all welcome.

Attendance

FYBS	89.71%
FYM	97.06%
Y1S	93.53%
Y1L	94.44%
Y2E	95%
Y2K	95.42%
Y3J	97.27%
Y3G	95.08%
Y4L	95.97%
Y4R	95.16%
Y5W	95.69%
Y5R	99.19%
Y6J	94.35%
Y6H	94.17%



Where we appreciate those parents that contact the school by 9.30am to let school know their child is going to be absent there are a small number of parents that don't make any contact. As per the school policy (and LA requirements), please could you let the school know either by telephone, email or parent mail by 9.30am if your child is going to be absent and a reason why. This will enable us to add the correct absence code to your child attendance record and avoid any unauthorised absences or home calls / visits.

MAC Safeguarding Newsletter

Attached to this week's newsletter is the latest MAC Safeguarding Newsletter. The latest issue focuses on Online Safety.

[Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust School Uniform Grant](#)

Please see attached a copy of the School Clothing Grant Application Form 2024. The eligibility criteria and proof of benefit required is explained on the application form. Successful applicants will receive vouchers to the value of £100 per child.

Parents are requested to return completed forms and **copies of all pages of their proof of benefit** to our school office **Monday 11 March 2024**. Incomplete forms cannot be considered and Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust will liaise directly with applicants if their application is incomplete or unsuccessful.

As stated on the application form, the SCCT aim to process applications and deliver vouchers, for successful applicants, directly to schools by the first week in July. Vouchers will be in individual envelopes and addressed with the child's name and c/o their parent or guardian.

Please note that we require only one application per household, so if an application includes eligible children from different schools, the vouchers will be sent to the school that has stamped the application form.

[Rudolph Run Fundraising](#)

Thank you to everyone who gave what they could to our Rudolph Run which took place before Christmas. We are delighted to have received the following message from Birmingham Hospice who have received the money we raised.

12 February 2024

Dear Friends at St Joseph's,

Thank you for supporting our charity! On behalf of all the patients, their families, staff, and volunteers at Birmingham Hospice, I would like to thank you for raising a fantastic £1026.47 with your Rudolph Run in school. Please extend our thanks to everyone who made this donation possible. We are extremely grateful for your support, which will go a long way towards helping us provide vital care to more local individuals. You have done something amazing by fundraising for us, supporting the services Birmingham Hospice offers to people living with life-limiting illnesses in the area.

Your support really does make such a difference to the charity and your two local hospices. It costs £20 to buy a teddy bear with the recording of a loved one's voice for bereaved relatives, thanks to your kindness we can provide an amazing 51 teddy bears.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside your amazing school in the future.

Thank you once again for supporting Birmingham Hospice!

Best wishes,

John Hurley

Community Fundraiser (Education)

[World Book Day](#)

Another reminder that on Thursday 7th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. To help ease the pressure of getting a costume for your child we are not specifying a particular theme per year group. We only ask that your child dresses as a character from a book- please no football shirts! The idea is to encourage a love for reading books -There is no non-uniform cost for this either.

[Drama Club](#)

Please see the attached flyer for the Drama club which will take place after school for years 4 to 6 on Tuesdays. It will be run by Centre stage who have worked with other MAC schools and also work closely with the Bishop Vesey Grammar School Drama department.

[Tea with mum](#)

Please see below the slightly later start time for each session of 2:15pm.



This Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of Lent



We pray for our parish and school community: that, in this time of Lent, we will listen to the voice of Jesus and grow in love of God and neighbour

Dates for your diary Spring 2024		
Wed 28 th February	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening (night 1)
Thurs 29 th February	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening (night 2)
Thurs 29 th February	9.00am	Phonics information talk for Year 1 parents
Tues 5 th March	2:45pm	Year 2E Class Assembly
Thurs 7 th March	9.00am	SATS information talk for Year 6 parents
Thurs 7 th March		World Book Day- children dress as their favourite book character
Thurs 7 th March	3:30pm- 4:30pm	PTA Meeting
12 th - 14 th March	2.15-3pm (New Time)	Afternoon Tea with Mum
Thurs 14 th March	9.00am	Multiplication Times table Check information talk for Year 4 parents
Friday 15 th March	Y3G- 11.00am Y3J- 1.45pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation in Church
Friday 22 nd March		PTA Non-Uniform Day
Mon 25 th March	9am	Year 4 Palm Sunday Assembly
Tues 26 th March	9am	Year 3 Last Supper Assembly
Wed 27 th March	9am	Year 5 Stations of the Cross Assembly
Wed 27 th March		KS1 Easter Egg hunt & KS2 Easter Egg Design Competition
Fri 29 th March		Good Friday and School closed for Easter Holidays
Mon 15 th April		Children return from Easter Holiday

Yours sincerely,

Mr G M O'Hara
Principal

Mrs L Chambers
Vice Principal

Mr J P Lynch
Assistant Principal