



St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter No. 1

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first Newsletter for this academic year. We would like to thank the children for the excellent start they have made to the new academic year. A special extended welcome to the new families and staff to our school community.

New Staff- We welcome the following staff to our school community:

- **Mrs Korimbocus** Y2K teacher
- **Mrs Lewis** Y4L teacher
- **Mr Harvey** SENCO
- **Mrs Ryan** Office
- **Mrs Jephcott, Mrs Tansley and Mrs Gallacher** Teaching Assistant support

I am sure you will introduce yourselves to them and make them welcome when you see them.

Father Michael and Father Ryan

Some of you may not be aware that Fr Michael suffered a stroke over the summer holidays and is currently away from the parish resting and recovering. The children are praying for him and have made class cards to send to let him know we are thinking of him.

In Fr Michael's absence we have the pleasure of Fr Ryan Service. Father came into school earlier this week to meet the children and celebrated mass this morning in the school hall.

End of School Day Arrangements and Collection Times

Please note that pick up times are as follows:

3:15pm Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) 3:20pm Key Stage 1 (Foundation, Year 1 & Year 2).

The staggered times are there to help reduce the number of children coming out of the school at once and that they can leave the site school safely.

Many thanks to all parents who have continued to stay behind the blue line on the playground, this has really helped staff to see more clearly who the children need to go to. Please remember that children should not play on the Adventure Trail or climb on the wall if their parent is not with them supervising.

If you have arranged for a different family member, friend or other parent to those who usually collect your child at the end of the day **you MUST inform school**. Please send in a letter to your child's teacher; alternatively, you can ring and let the office know if it is at short notice. Staff will not release children to other parents if notification has not been received.

Medication

If you have not already done so, please ensure that your child's medication is in school and that a medical form has been completed for this academic year. Medical forms are available via the school office and can be emailed out to you if needed. Please make sure that any medication is given to the school office and sent in.

This is for Epipens, inhalers etc... not calpol.

Curriculum Planners for Parents

These will be sent out to all via parent mail before the end of next week and placed on the Year group pages on our website.

House Group Names

We continue this year with the House names being linked to the writers of the 4 Gospels- the Evangelists.

Red house is called St Luke, Yellow house is called St John, Green house is called St Matthew and Blue House is called St Mark. Please speak to your child about these saints who through their writing continue to teach us how to follow in Jesus' footsteps.

Parent's Financial Concerns

As a school we understand that the current energy crisis will be causing financial concerns for many of our families. If you are in need of any advice, please speak to our school office who will help with your enquiry.

Request for an update of details

For the school to run effectively communications in both directions between home and school is vital, therefore I will try to ensure that all newsletters are electronically sent on a Friday. *(Please note that may not be one every week, as some weeks are merely a duplication of information and therefore unnecessary wasted time and effort.)*

It is vital that we have your updated details-

If you were receiving texts and newsletters last year and your details are the same then you do not need to do anything as we still have them in our system. If you have not given us your mobile phone and email details, please see the office for the appropriate form to complete.

All new Foundation parents were issued with the appropriate 'parent mail' form – please ensure this has been returned. Staff are always available for you to pass on any information that you feel they need to be aware of, before and after school. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please contact the office and make an appointment.

Dress Code- Just a quick reminder that school expects children to wear their smart uniform with pride, this includes black shoes and hair styles. Hair should be tied back with plain bobbles / Alice Bands- No bows or ears etc... these can be a distraction and interfere with teaching in the classroom.

Universal Free School Meals - All children in FY, Yr1 and Yr2 are entitled to a FREE SCHOOL MEAL every day- please ensure that you take up your entitlement.

KS2 (Y3-6) can continue with school dinners, and are encouraged to, as these are varied, nutritious and tasty, encouraging the children to try different foods. **Dinner Money** – Payable by 'Parent pay' only, this term is £12.00 per week (£2.40 per day)

Please note that we should not be seeing chocolate bars, crisps, sweets, fizzy drinks, nuts (Not allowed on site) in lunchboxes- Lunchboxes should be healthy and nutritiously balanced

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/> - **recommended**

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/school-lunch-recipes>

Please help us to help you support your child in adopting healthy diets and lifestyle choices.

Meet the teacher Sessions

We are pleased to inform you of an upcoming meeting for you to come into school to meet the teacher and hear of their expectations, how you can support your child at home;

Monday 18 th September	9.00-9.25am	Year One
Monday 18 th September	2.45-3.10pm	Year Two
Tuesday 19 th September	9.00-9.25am	Year Three
Tuesday 19 th September	2.45-3.10pm	Year Four
Wednesday 20 th September	9.00-9.25am	Year Five
Wednesday 20 th September	2.45-3.10pm	Year Six

The staff are looking forward to meeting you!

Renovations over the Summer Holidays

Thank you to Mr Carroll for overseeing the installation of new windows and frames to the Sunshine building and to our 2 FY classrooms.

We have also had a new ceiling and lighting installed in the Hall, had it redecorated and the wooden floor stripped back and polished.

All these works look great and will be enjoyed by the children.

Parking Cars

Although the school, Academy Committee or Directors have no jurisdiction beyond the school gates, please could I remind parents to park legally and with due care and consideration towards our local neighbours, residents and other road users.

Unlawful behaviour not only upsets and causes anxiety; it can also put the safety of all, especially your children at risk.

PLEASE NOTE – there are enforceable changes to parking on the local roads especially Bromwich Drive, Knights wood Close and Tamworth Road. Please check the signs and act accordingly.

As a school we have been advocating parking a little further away from the school entrances and walking for 5 minutes with your child. Please have a look on the website under the section 'Newsletters' here you will find a document titled 'PARK AND STRIDE' it has many feasible and safe parking options that will allow you free and easy pick up and drop off options avoiding all the new restrictions. Thank you.

Afterschool Clubs this term – run by an external Sports club providers and school staff

Monday –	Yoga Jo for Years 2 to 6
Tuesday –	Boys’ Football Years 5 & 6 (Mr Rothwell & Mr Wigley) Stem Science Years 5 & 6 (Miss Harris)
Wednesday –	Leap Frog Years 1 & 2 Chess Years 5 & 6 (Mr O’Hara) Cricket Years 5 & 6 (Mr Lynch) Pudding & Pie Cookery (Lunchtime only)
Thursday –	Football by Premier Sports Key Stage 2 Walk and Talk Years 2 to 6 (Mrs Chambers) Choir Years 5 & 6 (Miss James)
Friday –	Rugby tots Years 1 & 2 Pudding & Pie Cookery (Lunchtime only)
All these clubs will commence next week or some the week after – separate letters to follow	

Virtues

The children have made a wonderful start to the new year this week, our whole school virtues this term are **Grateful and**

Generous

Grateful means feeling really thankful for all the good things that God and others have given us. It's like saying "thank you" to God and those who care for us.

Generous means being kind and willing to share with others, just like how Jesus taught us.

We have been talking about building God’s community at school and home by being living examples of the gospels through; helping each other, being respectful, having manners, using our gifts to through hard work and effort, sharing and putting the thoughts of others first because we want to, not because we need to. Well done Children!!!

Today, the Church celebrates the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

‘Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you’



May the Lord bless us as we begin this new school year together.

May his loving presence surround us.

May we find peace and happiness as we follow our school Mission Statement

“To follow in Jesus’ footsteps caring for each other when we work, play and pray.”

Amen

Yours sincerely,

G M O’Hara
Principal

L Chambers
Vice Principal

J Lynch
Assistant Principal

Dates for your diary September 2023		
Wednesday 27 th Sep	9am	Year 6H Class Assembly
Thursday 28 th Sep	8:45am	Coffee & Chat- all welcome
Wednesday 4 th October	9am	Year 6J Class Assembly
Sunday 7 th October	9am	Family Mass at Holy Trinity Church
Monday 9 th October	Various	Arise Project Assemblies (Anti-Racisim)
Monday 16 th October		Reading Workshop
Wednesday 18 th October	9am	Year 5W Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th October	6pm	Y6 Parents meeting with Fr Ryan about Confirmation –in School
October Half Term- School closed- 30 th October to 3 rd November		
Monday 6 th Nov		INSET Day- school closed to pupils
Tuesday 14 th Nov	9am	Year 5R Class Assembly
Wednesday 15 th Nov		Parents’ Evening
Thursday 16 th Nov		Parents’ Evening
Saturday 18 th Nov	6.00pm	Year 6H Confirmation Mass with Archbishop Bernard Longley
Sunday 19 th Nov	11.00am	Year 6J Confirmation Mass with Archbishop Bernard Longley
Wednesday 22 nd Nov	9am	Year 4R Class assembly

Lost minutes = Lost learning

Bee on time

