



# St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter No. 7

## Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Dear Parents,

We have had another great week of learning at St Joseph's and were particularly impressed with Year 5W's assembly which taught us all about their history topic on the Ancient Greeks. Well done to all the children and staff involved.

A huge thank you to the large numbers of parents who were able to attend our Reading 'Viper skills' workshops with the children. We hope you found them useful and can use the information/ideas when supporting your child's reading at home.

### PTA

Over the past few years our wonderful PTA have worked tirelessly in raising money for our school which has been used for many different improvements including books for our library and reading areas, computers in our ICT suite and also our playground climbing wall. We are pleased to announce that enough money has been raised for a wooden playground train to be installed over half term.

This year the PTA would like to raise money for more iPads to be available for the children and would appreciate any help you can give. On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 3:30pm our PTA will be hosting their annual AGM meeting to discuss new ideas on how to raise money and proposals to change the PTA constitution (more details to follow). If you are able to come along it would be greatly appreciated, meetings usually last no longer than an hour. The PTA will also be hosting school Film Nights and a Christmas Disco providing there are enough helpers.

### BEAM project Assembly

Thank you to Pete from the Beacon Family Services BEAM project who gave a wonderful assembly to our children in Years 3,4 and 5 to discuss the importance of looking after our mental health and how they can regulate their emotions. We appreciate parenting can be challenging at times and would highly recommend their website for useful tips and advice on a range of topics including reducing screen time, the importance of outdoor play and how to ensure your child feels safe. <https://www.beaconservices.org.uk/category/beacon-family-services/>

### Thrive 365

Recently we have seen terrible images coming from the conflict in the Middle East which have shocked us all. Attached is a document to help you approach any worries which your child may have from what they may have seen on the news. We are sure you will find it useful should your child have any worries.

### New Lunchtime Menus

We have been working with our catering firm Miquill to continually develop the school dinners lunchtime menu. From the first week after the October half term their menu's will be changing. See attached. **Please note that our first week back will be week 2 on the menu- w/b 6<sup>th</sup> November as Miquill cater for other schools with different holiday dates.** The new menus will also be on our website as a further reference from next week.

### Coats in school

As the weather gets colder and wetter we still aim to get the children outside as much as possible. We are concerned that there a number of children who are coming to school without any coats Please ensure that your child has a winter coat to wear at school. Please also label the Blue school jumper- we have several lying around with no name and therefore we cannot reunite them with their owner!!

### Collection from Clubs

If your child attends a club please ensure they are collected on time. We have seen an increase in the amount of parents turning up late to collect their child/ren from clubs. Staff are giving up their free time to provide extracurricular opportunities for pupils. Please be respectful of staff's time.

### An Apology

Unfortunately, some mixed messages or non-messages were issued regarding certain recent events and whether parents could attend. We are sorry for any confusion or disappointment caused. This is not our current approach; myself and Mrs Chambers like to get information out to parents with ample time, to allow parents time to adjust things their end to support school events where they can. Thank you to those parents who pointed the errors out to us. We are ensuring that these issues are addressed and will not happen again moving forward.

**The dates below are the correct dates – please check and amend your calendars if necessary.**

Please note for future, if your child's class is leading a Mass or Assembly then you are invited

### Attendance

We have been really pleased with the attendance across the school this week. Well done to Year 5W who are this week's winners with 99.57% attendance!

FYBS	94.12%
FYM	94.12%
Y1L	87.5%
Y1S	96.88%
Y2E	96.67%
Y2K	94.58%
Y3G	96.67%
Y3J	98.33%
Y4L	97.5%
Y4R	97.92%
Y5W	99.57%
Y5R	97.58%
Y6H	96.55%
Y6J	89.92%

*'Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.'*  
*'The future starts today, not tomorrow.'*  
*Saint John Paul II (feast day 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct)*



Dates for your diary Autumn 2023		
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	PM	Y6J Swimming at WHC school
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	2.30pm	Coffee & Chat with Cherished - all welcome
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	All day	Year 4 trip to Cadbury World
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am	Y4 Mass at Holy Trinity Church – parent helpers required
October Half Term- School closed- 30 <sup>th</sup> October to 3 <sup>rd</sup> November		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov		INSET Day- school closed to pupils
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November		First day of the term
6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> November		Parliament Week
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	PM	Y6H Swimming at WHC school
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	9-10am & 2-3pm	2 OPEN DAY sessions for prospective new parents FY 2024
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30-4.30pm	PTA AGM meeting in school
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	9:30	Year 1 Trip to Sutton Park
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	12:00pm	Foundation trip to Theatre
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	Y5 Mass at Holy Trinity Church – parent helpers required
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Mass of Commitment for Y6 Confirmandi at Holy Trinity Church
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	All day	Y6 Alton Castle Retreat day
13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> November		Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Year 5R Class Assembly (Parents invited )
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	PM	Y6H Swimming at WHC school
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	3.40-	Parents' Evening – more to follow
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	3.40-	Parents' Evening – more to follow
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	Y1 Mass at Holy Trinity Church – parent helpers required

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	6.00pm	Year 6H Confirmation Mass with Bishop David Evans
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	11.00am	Year 6J Confirmation Mass with Bishop David Evans
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	PM	Y6H Swimming at WHC school
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	9.00am	Year 4R Class assembly
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	All day	Year 3 Stone Age Man visit
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Y6 Mass of Thanksgiving in School
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	9am	D & T Parent Workshop- Christmas crafts
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	3:30- 4:45pm	PTA Film Night for KS1
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	3:30pm- 5pm	PTA Film Night for KS2
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	FY & Year 1 Carols in the school hall
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9am	Year 2 Nativity in the school hall
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	3:30-5.30pm	PTA Christmas Disco
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	9am	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church

Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara  
Principal

L Chambers  
Vice Principal

J Lynch  
Assistant Principal