

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

SCHOOL

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter October 27th 2023

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# A message from our Principal



### Dear parents,

We reach the end of a very successful first half term of the academic year. The children should be incredibly proud of their achievements so far this year. Each day, I see how they are using their talents wisely and putting their faith in action - well done children!

This week in school our Reception children took part in their first prayer service with Father Philip which was a very spiritual experience for our youngest children in school. In addition to this, many of our children have been bringing in their end of topic projects - and they look wonderful!! Year 3 will showcase their projects and learning about the Egyptians during next half term's 'Egyptian museum' for children and parents- how wonderful! To continue to showcase the children's learning across the curriculum, all classes with have this opportunity over the course of the year. Lots of curriculum information and photographs can be seen on our school website and social media.

Thank you to the children who have taken part in the Rosary challenge. Please bring in your log sheet after half term for a certificate.

Also, a huge thank you for the shoeboxes that are being brought into school towards our Gambia appeal. If you haven't yet done so and would like to donate, please bring in your shoebox with the items suggested in the first week back after half term as they will shortly be collected. Thank you.

As a staffing update, Mr Peniket will take on new responsibility next term as our Higher Level Teaching Assistant across school.

Can I also please remind our Year 6 parents that the deadline to apply for your child's high school place is October 31st. All of the details to apply for Hagley Catholic High School can be found at this link <u>Hagley Catholic High School - Admissions (hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk)</u> The local authority admissions information can also be found at this link.

Please do keep an eye on the dates for your diary within this newsletter as I update when further dates and events are made available.

Please do keep an eye on our school website which we continually update - <u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Home (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

### **Updates:**

**October TEN:TEN Newsletter** The October newsletter from Ten:Ten to support you with prayer at home <a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/">www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/</a>

Finally, thank you to you, our parents, carers and families for the support and partnership that you provide us. This support enables our school to be a successful, vibrant and happy place for our children and school community. I wish you all a restful half term.

Have a great weekend and half term break.

God bless

Mr A. Wilkes

Principal

St Joseph's Open Day- November 29th. All are welcome! Please call to confirm your place.

Reminder- Family Mass takes place each Saturday at 5:00pm. Please come and join us! The latest Parish newsletter can be found at this link <a href="OLAS-Bulletin-22nd-October-2023.pdf">OLAS-Bulletin-22nd-October-2023.pdf</a> and November scripture reflection <a href="OLAS-SCRIPTURE-COMMENTARIES-NOVEMBER-2023-1.pdf">OLAS-SCRIPTURE-COMMENTARIES-NOVEMBER-2023-1.pdf</a>



# All Saints and All Souls Mass times



## **All Saints**

Tuesday 31st October 7pm

Wednesday 1st November 9:00am and 12:30pm

## **All Souls**

Thursday 2nd November 9:00am, 12:30pm and 7:00pm



1 - Instagram @STJOSEPHSCATHOLICPRIMARY

# Children's liturgy - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 22: 34 – 40



There is a lot of talk about something called a commandment. A commandment is a type of rule that God has given us.

Jesus is asked what the greatest commandment is. Can you remember what he says?

Jesus says the greatest and the first commandment is that we should love God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind.

Let's think quietly for a moment about this. When we love someone we try to show this in the way that we treat them. How do you think you can show that you love God?

We can show that we love God when we pray - by giving thanks and praise to God. And by remembering all that God asks us to do. We can also show our love for God by trying to behave in a way that pleases God. This is where the second commandment comes in. Can you remember what it was?

Jesus asks us to love our neighbour as ourselves. When Jesus asks us to love our neighbour, do you think he just means the person who lives next door? Who else is our neighbour?

Our neighbours are the people sitting next to us right now, as well as all the people in the same street, at school and at church, in our town and in our world. After all, we're all part of the same big global family. And we're all loved by God.

Some neighbours live close to us and some live far away. But Jesus asks us to love them all as we love ourselves. What do you think this means?

Jesus wants us to treat other people as we would want to be treated, to make sure all people are treated fairly, and have what they need. How do you think we can do that?

CAFOD works with local experts around the world to help our neighbours to have clean water, to have a home, to have enough food to eat, and to go to the doctor if they are unwell.

We can all put our love into action to support our neighbours around the world and to help them get the things that they need.

Think about your neighbours close by and those far away. What will you do to help your neighbours and show your love for them in the coming week?

We love God with all our hearts and so we pray together:

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may do as Jesus asks, showing love for God and all people. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our neighbours around the world: that together we may work to build a future free from poverty. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be moved to reach out in love to our neighbours around the world. Lord, in your mercy...

### **Closing prayer:**

God of life, we love you, we thank you and we praise you for all that you have done for us. Help us to love our neighbours, both here and around the world, and treat all people as we would wish to be treated. Amen.

Reflection adapted from Cafod children's liturgy

# Curriculum



Have you seen the curriculum area on our school website? It is full of information about the progression of key knowledge and skills that our children learn throughout their time at school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the precise knowledge and skills are learnt and reinforced so

that the children develop a wide schema (web of knowledge) and are able to know more and remember more during their time at school and are prepared for their next stage in education.

Ofsted agreed that we are continuing to develop an ambitious curriculum so that in all areas the children are able to achieve well and use the techniques that they have been taught to tackle a variety of challenges. Our curriculum is rooted in the teachings of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teachings so we make links with the children's learning to areas such as caring for our world, the dignity of workers, developments for the common good and more.

To bring the curriculum to life, we also plan for educational visits and visitors that enrich learning further.

You can view your child's learning in all areas at the link below.

<u>St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Curriculum Plans (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)</u>

# Live Simply Update



Please continue to bring in any food that you can donate which will be taken to the food bank. Our WOW walk to school once a week is up and running! Can you walk to school once a week? Talk to a friend or family member about God's creatures that you see on your journey.

Stones/pebbles needed for our prayer garden - please let school know if you're able to support with any pebbles that can be painted and offered to our prayer garden.

Suggested items for the Foodbank:

Jam/Marmalade, Tinned meat, Cordial/squash, Tinned fruit, cooking sauces (tomato based) Potatoes (tinned or dried packet mash), Dried instant noodles, Tinned Tomatoes, Milk Long life 1L carton, Fruit juice long life 1L carton, small packets of sugar, Toothpaste, Toilet Rolls, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Deodorant (roll on).

# Catholic Social Teaching



Each class has a Catholic Social Teaching focus this year. Links will be made to this throughout the school year. Catholic social teaching (CST) is rooted in Scripture, formed by the wisdom of Church leaders, and influenced by grassroots movements. It is our moral compass, guiding us on how to live out our faith in the world.

The season of creation - Stewardship - Pope Francis invites everyone on the planet to consider how our actions are affecting the earth and the poorest people. Everything is interconnected, and all of creation praises God. It is our Christian vocation to care for creation.

Thank you for all of the Christmas shoeboxes that have been brought into school for our Gambia appeal!

# **Gifts from God**



The following children have been awarded certificates in our Gifts from God assembly this afternoon and will be invited to 'Brew with Mr W' on Friday afternoon to discuss their achievements. Well done children for your hard work and commitment to our school values.

	Gospel values	Good work	
Reception	Alex	Reuben	
Year 1	Charlie T	Rory	
Year 2	Nancy	Louie	
Year 3	Francesca	Iris	
Year 4	Mary	Rhydian	
Year 5	Jude	Elissar	
Year 6	Ollie	Riley	

# **Diary Dates -Autumn Term**



\*Please note all term dates are available on the calendar section of the school website

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Stourbridge - Calendar (st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)

Monday 2nd October - The month of the Holy Rosary and Black History Month

Half term - Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November

Monday 6th November - Start of autumn term 2

Monday 6th November - UK Parliament week in school

Wednesday 8th October - Year 5 class Mass (for children)

Friday 10th November - Remembrance assembly - Year 1 and Year 2 10:45am

Friday 10th November - Year 3 Egyptian museum (Y3 parents to receive information)

Friday 10th November -Swimming begins for Year 4

Monday 13th November - Anti-Bullying week

Wednesday 15th November - Year 6 serving lunch to parishioners

Wednesday 22nd November - Confessions Year 4

Thursday 23rd November - Confessions - Year 5

Thursday November 23rd - Father Philip meeting Year 4 parents for discussion about Holy Communion plans 3:15pm

Friday 24th November - Confessions Year 6

Wednesday 29th November - Year 6 Mass (for children)

Friday 1st December - Catholic Social Teaching sharing assembly 2:40pm

Saturday 2nd December - OLAS Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 6th December - Music and Mince Pies concert 9:15am

Wednesday 13th December - Year 5 Stay and Pray 9:10am

Wednesday 13th December - Year 4 class Mass 2:20pm

Monday 18th December - Reception Christmas carols 2:30pm

Tuesday 19th December - Pantomime for the whole school

Wednesday 20th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity dress rehearsal for children

Thursday 21st December - Nativity for parents 1:30pm and 6:00pm

Friday 22nd December - Whole school Mass 9:10am, Christmas carols 2:45pm

Friday 22nd December - School closes for Christmas

# PTA updates



PTA Spooky disco - This was a great success! Thank you to all who attended.

Friday 17th November - PTA family quiz night

We are very lucky to benefit from such an active and passionate PTA - thank you for your ongoing support to our school!

Please see the below videos for how our outside area has been transformed in school with thanks to the PTA! We have lots of exciting plans including a gardening club, vegetable patch, the use of a greenhouse, a pond area, new benches to listen to stories from the storytelling chair and areas for children to be responsible for. All showing how we are caring for our common home - how wonderful!

Thank you so much to our fantastic PTA!

Please see the link below for an update on the PTA outdoor projects for the rest of this year. If you can help in any way, please do let your class PTA representative know. Thank you to the PTA for preparing this wonderful slideshow!

OUTDOOR PROJECTS (canva.com)



Thank you so much to the PTA who joined us last Saturday and helped out with the outdoor area at school. The school environment looks absolutely wonderful and the children had a brilliant surprise on Monday morning! Thank you PTA!











# **PE Timetable**



Please take note of your child's PE days for this half term.

Year 1 & Year 2 - Please remember to send PE kits back into school on Monday 6th November.

**Reception Class - Friday** 

Year 1 - Thursday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Friday (Swimming)

Year 5 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 6 - Wednesday & Friday

## Clubs



## **Lunchtime Clubs:**

Tuesday - Cross Country - Years 4/5 & 6

Wednesday - Y6 leading 'Mindfulness group'

Wednesday - Y5/Y6 girls football training (to start after half term)

Wednesday -- Liam (Parish youth worker) working with groups in school at lunchtime

Thursday - Year 2 - 6 Choir (Mrs Cangiano)

If your child is interested in joining any of our Before & After school clubs, please contact the school office for more details.

Monday 3:25-4:25pm - DPA Drums

Tuesday 8am - KS2 Gymnastics (R&B) -spaces available

Wednesday 8am - Dodgeball - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Thursday 8am - KS1 Gymnastics (R&B) - spaces available

Thursday 3.15-4.15pm - Years 4 -6 Netball

Friday 8am - Archery Club - Years 1-6 (Mark Bennett)

Friday 3.15-4.45pm - Years 1-4 Football (Your sport)

Tuesday & Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Irish Dancing

# Sport in the community



CALLING ALL YOUNG CRICKET FANS, Oldswinford Cricket Club run an U9's team that train throughout the winter and summer and also enter softball festivals. This year's team will be again coached and managed by Dave Hannam. This group is open to year 4 pupils only. Due to popular demand, we are going to be starting the U9's earlier this year after huge success last year reaching county finals. If your year 4 child would be interested in having a go, please follow the link below. Details of venue and cost are also included in this email.

Venue - Redhill School, Junction Road, Stourbridge, DY8 1JX

Time - 5-6pm

Dates - Friday 10th November to 15th December 2023 (6 Sessions)

Cost - £24.00 to be paid by card at the first session.

Can you please fill out the below link to confirm interest

If you require any further information please feel free to contact us.

Cheers

Rich

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfRAihDFeESIsyTfF7Iy3 ZpxIG0FGKbI8HGNx3IPI2n1A0A/viewform

## Our new caterers and lunch menu

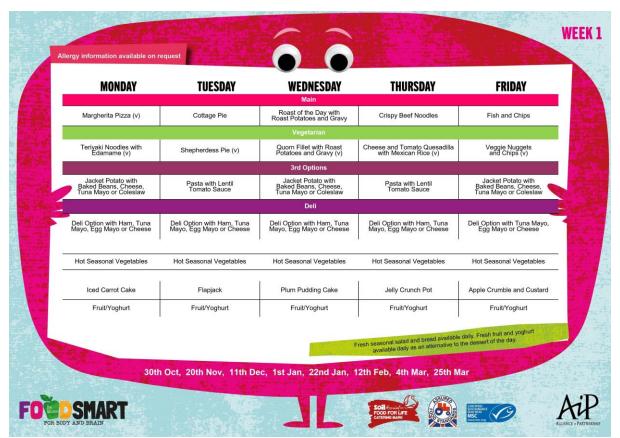


The children have been delighted with our new lunch menu at school. Meals can be pre-ordered daily or weekly on the new School Food United app, details were emailed out to all parents on Monday 27th February. Please remember to order before 8am. Pupils in Reception & KS1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Dinners for KS2 pupils are £2.30 per day.

# School Menu- Autumn term



## Menu autumn





# Allergy information available on request

13th Nov, 4th Dec, 25th Dec, 15th Jan, 5th Feb, 26th Feb, 18th Mar  MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY				
MUNDAI	TUESDAT	Main	INUNSDAT	rribai
Ratatouille Pasta Bake (v)	Meat Feast Pizza	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Gyros	Fish and Chips
		Vegetarian		
Korean Cauliflower with Rice (v)	Veggie Pizza (v)	Mediterranean Gnocchi Bake (v)	Mushroom and Spinach Enchilada (v)	Cheese and Tomato Pinwheel with Chips (v)
		3rd Options		
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Pasta with Lentil Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslaw
		Deli		
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese	Deli Option with Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Sticky Orange Cake	Gainsborough Tart	Fruit Crumble with Custard	Cinnamon Fruit Pudding	Chocolate Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt











## **Attendance**



Congratulations to Year 2, Year 4 & Year 5 who have achieved the highest attendance this week. You will receive an extra play time!

Attendance for the whole school for this week is 93.86%.

Here is the attendance for this week for each class:

Year R: 95.9%

Year 1: 94%

Year 2: 96.7%

Year 3: 91.3%

Year 4: 96.7%

Year 5: 96.7%

Year 6: 86%

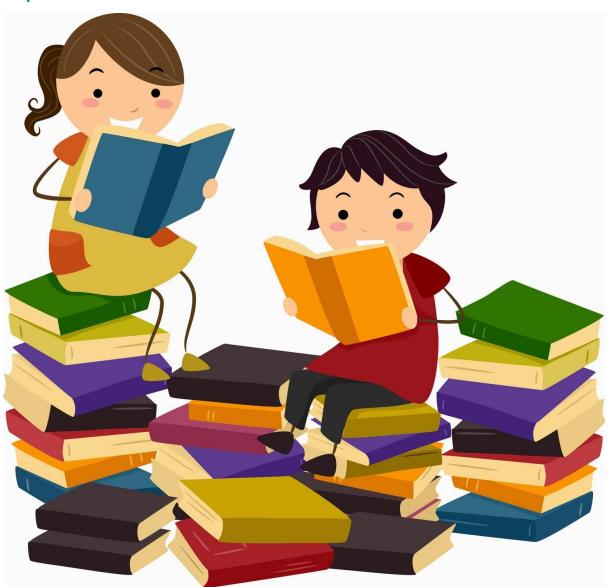
Please make sure your child is in school every day unless ill. Remember illnesses such as colds can be managed well with Calpol and although children can feel unwell first thing in a morning they do tend to brighten up during the day. We will always contact you if we are concerned that your child has become unwell throughout the day.

If there is no reason provided for your child's absence an unauthorised code is marked in the register. This will impact your child's overall attendance. Please contact school before 8.55am where possible and leave a message . If we are not aware of why your child is not in school we will try and contact you, if we are unable to contact the parent/carer we may call one of the other contacts on your child's records.

Please try to be as punctual as possible, we have noticed a small number of children are arriving late to school. If your child arrives after the close of the registration period (9.05am) this again is recorded as an unauthorised absence on the register and will affect your child's overall attendance figure. If your child arrives at school after 8.55am they MUST be accompanied by a parent/carer for signing in purposes.

In line with Government guidance all pupils who test positive for COVID-19 are recorded as ill in the register.

# **Pupil Premium and Free School Meals**



If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

We get an extra [£1,385 (for primary schools) / £985 (for secondary schools) – these figures are for the 2022/2023 financial year] for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free schools meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please go to <a href="https://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals">www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals</a>

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Teams by:

Telephone - 01384 814988

Email - freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

# **Safeguarding**



You can reach out to Mr Wilkes, Mrs McCole or Mrs Riley or any member of staff in school.

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

# The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for this school are:



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr A. Wilkes



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs J. McCole



Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs M Riley

# Dudley Early Help Strategy



EARLY HELP STRATEGY | healthandwellebing (dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)



2 - National Online Safety

This week we have emailed you with information on how to sign up for resources, courses and webinars around online safety using the National Online Safety platform. I will shortly add suggested resources to your parent 'watch list' which I believe will be of great support to us all as we keep our children safe in an ever changing environment online. Please do sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children.

Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up.



3 - Please scan for our Instagram page.

Twitter @StJoStourbridge

## **Contact us**



Mr Wilkes and Mrs McCole are available at the start and the end of the school day and can usually be contacted by telephone throughout the school day or a meeting arranged with a senior member of staff.

You will always receive a warm welcome at St Joseph's!

If you have any concerns or worries, no matter how small, please let us know so we can do everything we can to make things better and resolve your concerns. Never hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Telephone-01384 431980

Email - info\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com