



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Thursday 1st March 2018



Dear Parents and Carers...



“Every new snowflake comes to the earth as a picture of our Saviour’s birth, because they are sent from up above and remind us of God’s care and love.

Each one is so intricate and small because Christ sees the details of us all, and just as two are never the same He knows and calls us each by name.

Snowflakes gently cover the world in white and hide what’s unlovely from our sight, showing us how He covers our sin and gives us His grace when we come to Him.

So may every snowflake bring Christ to mind and in every bit of white may you find a reason to celebrate anew and a reminder of His love for you.”



Holley Gerth

Dates for your Diary

Monday 5 th March	Y3/4 Mother’s INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Tuesday 6 th March	Y1/2 Mother’s INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Wednesday 7 th March	Y5/6 Mother’s INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Friday 9 th March	Reception INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Friday 9 th March	Family Prayer Group/Women’s World Day of Prayer	2.15pm
Monday 12 th March	Sacrament of Confirmation	7.00pm
Tuesday 13 th March	Y2 Parents/Carer SATs meeting	2.00pm
Thursday 15 th March	Y6 Parent/Carer SATs meeting	2.00pm
Friday 16 th March	Wear Green Non-Uniform	cost £1
Thursday 22 nd March	Sponsored Bounce	

Term Dates

Thursday 29 th March	School closes for Easter holiday	1.00pm
Monday 16 th April	Return to school	8.55am
Monday 7 th May	School closed – May Day Bank Holiday	
Friday 25 th May	School closes for half-term	3.15pm
Monday 4 th June	Return to school	8.55am
Monday 2 nd July	School Closed - INSET day	
Friday 20 th July	School closes for Summer	1.00pm

School Mass

School Mass next week will take place on Wednesday 7th March for the feast of St Perpetua & Felicity. It starts at 9.30am. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

Confirmation Meeting

Due to the weather forecast today the Confirmation meeting was cancelled. It will be rescheduled for next week. It is essential that all parents attend this meeting, particularly as we are getting closer to the Confirmation date on Monday 12th March.



Snow!

In the event of heavy snow over the coming days or extreme weather which causes significant disruption, any school closures will be listed on local radio stations, as follows: BRMB 96.4, Heart FM 100.7 and Radio WM 95.6. **If you do not hear our school name or any mention of ‘blanket closures’, then school is open!!** Remember that there are several St Joseph’s schools and you must listen out for ours.

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Treadwell, Miss Price, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Miss Collins.*

Curious & Active

New Uniform Supplier

Our new supplier is called Gogna Schoolwear and our uniform is now available in their shop. This shop is situated at 67-69 Rookery Road, Handsworth, B21 9QU, and you can also order online at www.gognaschoolwear.co.uk **Girls Blouses are still purchased directly from the school office**

We will also have uniform sale days here in school at the end of the school year where you can purchase uniform directly. I hope that this will make things much easier for you when buying your child's uniform.



SATs Meetings

You will see above that we have arranged two meetings for Parents regarding SATs. There will be a meeting for Y2 parents and carers on Tuesday 13th March at 2pm and a meeting for Y6 parents and carers on Thursday 15th March at 2pm. This is an important meeting which will be an opportunity for you to find out about the SATS tests and their importance to your child's education. We will show you the sort of work that your children have to do and discuss the ways that you can be more involved in your child's progress. Please put this date in your diary!

Mother's Day Inspire Workshops

Our Mother's Day INSPIRE workshops take place next week, starting with Year Three & Year Four on Monday. The workshops will be craft-based and for a Mother, grandmother, auntie or female relative, who must be an adult over 18 years of age. Please make every effort to come along and support your child. The children love having their parents and carers in school with them.

Monday 5 th March	Y3/4 Mother's INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Tuesday 6 th March	Y1/2 Mother's INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Wednesday 7 th March	Y5/6 Mother's INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm
Friday 9 th March	Reception INSPIRE workshop	1.30pm



Family Prayer Group – Women's World Day of Prayer

On Friday 9th March we will be holding our family Prayer Group once again at 2.15pm. Combined with this we will be having a special day of prayer and reflection in school for the Women's World Day of Prayer. We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a small celebration of Mass, with the opportunity for individual confessions. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come along.



St. Patrick's 'Wear Green' Non-Uniform Day – Friday 16th March

On Friday 16th March we will be having a non-uniform 'Wear Green day' to celebrate the Feast of St Patrick. The cost of this will be £1 per child, which will go towards our Lenten Charities Fundraising.

Father Hudson's Good Shepherd Appeal

As part of our Lenten fundraising, your child has received a small collecting box for Father Hudson's Society, in which they can collect spare change. Father Hudson's Society is a local charity, which works with families and children to ensure their welfare. In particular, it covers fostering and adoptions, family support, care for older people and care for adults with disabilities. The boxes should be kept through Lent, and any odd change can be collected in them. They can then be brought back into school at the end of Lent, when the money will be counted and sent to Father Hudson's. Thank you!



Easter Egg Raffle

There will be an Easter Egg Raffle taking place in school over the next few weeks. Each member of staff has donated Easter Eggs and I would like to thank them for that. Tickets are priced at 20p each. If your child would like to buy some, please send the correct money in an envelope, clearly marked. All money raised will go to our Lenten Charities. The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term.

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Sponsored Bounce

On Thursday 22nd March, we will be holding a 'Sponsored Bounce' in school. We will have a bouncy castle, and each child that is sponsored will have the chance to complete their bounce session. This is to raise money for our Lenten charities. Sponsor forms will be sent home tomorrow, so that they can start collecting sponsors. Thank you for your support with this.



Third Sunday of Lent

This weekend is the third Sunday of Lent. The theme of the readings you will hear at church this week is the 'Covenant' or agreement that God made with his people. There are many stories in the bible that talk about the covenant between God and his people, for example, the story of Noah. Noah makes a sacrifice, and does as God asks him, building the ark. In return, God makes a covenant, or agreement, with Noah, and creates a rainbow in the sky as a sign that he will not break his promise. The theme of a covenant is therefore very important in both the Jewish and Christian faiths. The covenant is constantly renewed throughout the history of God and his people; and you can see this throughout the bible. The Old Testament reading today tells us of another covenant made between Moses and God, where Moses was given the Ten Commandments to give to the people of the earth, as their side of this special agreement. This renewed the covenant made with Noah. Then the Gospel story today tells us that Jesus is the sign of the new covenant. The story tells us of when Jesus went to the temple at Passover, the busiest time in the Jewish year. When he got there, lots of people were in the temple, using it as a market place. Jesus got very angry with the people, turning over their tables, and telling them that the temple was God's house, and that it shouldn't be used for such things. This was a very shocking thing to do, as the Jewish people believed that the temple was a sign of the covenant, like the rainbow had been, and was therefore a very holy place. But at the end of this story, Jesus says 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will rebuild it', and the reading then tells us that Jesus is talking about himself when he says this. This tells us that it is not the actual building of the temple that is important, but the 'temple' that is within us. He is saying that God lives in our hearts and souls, in each and every one of us, and not just in a holy building. Christians and Catholics believe that Jesus is the new sign of the promise between God and his people, and that through his resurrection, our 'temples' within us will be cleansed of sin, and the covenant will be renewed.



This is an important theme during Lent, because Christians believe that Lent is a time when we can say sorry for our sins and try hard to be better people. Lent is a time of preparation for Easter, when the covenant was renewed, and for Christians and Catholics, is a time to think about our relationship with God and maybe renewing our relationship with God if it has lapsed.



St. Joseph's Mass Times

Weekly Mass at St. Joseph's is on Saturday evening at 6.00pm. St. Joseph's Church can be found on Thimblemill Lane and the telephone number is 0121 327 0235. All families are invited and more than welcome to attend church. I look forward to seeing you there!

Father Stephen

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday this week to Daniel (Year One), Hebron (Year Three) and Yasmin (Year Five)



Attendance – week ending 16th February 2018

Well done to Year Two who achieved a brilliant 99% attendance for the week before the holiday. The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	94%	Year One	97%	Year Two	99%	Year Three	96%
Year Four	96%	Year Five	92%	Year Six	95%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 96%

Many thanks,

A. Treadwell

Head Teacher

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Curious & Active