

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	School Mass	2.00pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Confirmations in St. Joseph's Church	6.00pm
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>School closed – Teacher Training Day</b>	
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>School finishes for half-term</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	School re-opens	8.45am

## Prayer for the beginning of a new school term

Lord, as we prepare for the coming of a new term, make us ready, attentive and available to hear you.  
Thank You for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance that You walk through it with us.  
Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use.  
Amen.



Happy New Year to you all and welcome back. The staff and I would like to send our sincere thanks to you for all your cards, good wishes and gifts which we received during the Christmas period. The staff and I were most touched by your kind words and generosity. May the coming year be a good one for you all, filled with the peace and joy that Christ alone brings.

## St Joseph's Parish

Mass at St Joseph's Church takes place every **Sunday morning at 9.45am**. Please do try to attend Mass as often as you can.

## School Mass

From now on, School Mass will now take place on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.00pm. Our first Mass will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

## After-school Clubs

If you have been into school for places in after-school clubs this week, they start from Monday. Please note that Y3 & 4 Multi-skills and Y5 and 6 Multi-skills are now full. We do still have places available in the Cricket club on a Monday which is open to Y3, 4, 5 and 6. Clubs must be paid for in advance each week, and children must attend every week unless they are absent from school, as places will be withdrawn and offered to other children in the event of non-payment and regular non-attendance. Clubs are very popular and we do have a waiting list of children for places and so it is unfair to keep a place for children that are not paying or not attending.

All clubs finish at 4.15pm and children must be collected on time. Clubs are run by outside agencies and their staff leave at this time.

## Swimming

Swimming starts for Y5 from next Friday 13th. You should have received a letter about this today.

## Starting School - Reception 2023

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2018 and 31-08-2019, online application is now open on the Birmingham City Council website for Reception school places for September 2023. Please note that paper applications are no longer available and applications must be submitted via the website. Preferences for school places must be submitted to the city council by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. Please ensure that you have applied for places by then, as late applications are less likely to get the school of their choice



## Attendance – Important Information

You will have received both an email attachment and a paper copy of a letter that we have sent out today with some very important information on about attendance. Please read this carefully and familiarise yourself with valid reasons for absence from school. We are focusing especially on attendance this term and will be issuing fines where applicable for non-attendance. In cases where persistent absence due to illness is an issue, we may also request proof of illness, such as evidence of attendance at a Doctor's surgery.

On this note, please also pay special attention to the term dates at the bottom of this newsletter. These have been on the newsletter each week since June last year, and clearly show the dates when school is open and your child should be attending. **No holiday or leave within term time will be authorised.** Please especially note the Easter holiday which is different to the Birmingham City council dates as in previous years. The reason for this is that as a Catholic school, we stay open for Holy Week.

Thank you for your support with this serious matter.



## Snow!

In the event of any heavy snow over the coming weeks or extreme weather which causes significant disruption, any school closures will be listed on local radio stations, as follows: Free Radio 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. We will also send a text message out so please ensure that you keep us up-to-date with any changes of contact numbers. Thank you!

## Pastoral Team

In school we have a team of safeguarding DSLs, Wellbeing staff and we also have a Pastoral Team. Our Pastoral Team is made up of myself (Mrs Ashley), Mr Caffrey, Miss Teague, Mrs Pattinson, Mrs West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

## Class Attendance – weekly attendance treats

Every week, the class with the highest attendance are rewarded with a certificate and an extra day during the week to attend our lunchtime 'Board Games' club. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!



*This half-term's virtues are: Eloquent & Truthful  
If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;  
Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Mrs West*

## Attendance – week ending 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Well done to **Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with 97%!!

The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	89%	Year One	85%	Year Two	95%	Year Three	93%
Year Four	92%	Year Five	93%	Year Six	97%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 92%

## House Champions

Well done to St Josephine Bakhita who were our House point Champions this week!



Congratulations to the following children who have shone in school over the last week;

Reception	Zephaniah	A super sensible start to the New Year!
Year 1	Esmee- Grace	Super independent Maths work
Year 2	Penelope	Excellent questions in our RE lessons
Year 3	Jack	Sharing his excellent space knowledge with the class
Year 4	Mackenzie	Trying his best to improve his handwriting
Year 5	Jannat	An excellent start to the year
Year 6	Nobel	Making a good start to the half term!

## School Term Dates 2022 -2023

Autumn Term 2022	Spring Term 2023	Summer Term 2023
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023 to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 to Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 to Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023
END OF TERM	END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

**Teacher Days** - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 / Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 / Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022 /  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July / Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July  
+ MAC teacher day - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

**Bank Holidays** - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 / Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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Mrs Ashley, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Mrs West*