



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 13th January 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

Dates for your Diary

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

Prayer

God of light,
you sent the Spirit down upon your Son
so that others might know who he was.
Send your Spirit on us,
so that we might spread your message
of love and peace to others.
Amen



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 18th January and will be led by Y3. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

New School Gates

Over the coming weeks we will be having some new school gates fitted at the front of the school, both on the car park gates and the pedestrian gate. These will be electronic and operated by an intercom system and will greatly improve security on and around the school site. It will mean that once the gate is closed in the morning, you will no longer be able to just walk into the grounds to come to the door as you currently do. You will need to press the intercom and wait to be admitted.

The gates will start to be installed on Monday and the first stage of this will involve their delivery using a crane. We are expecting this to take place during the school day and so it should not affect the drop off or collection of children, however an exact time cannot be confirmed. Please be aware that parking may be restricted at times during the day and also footpath access on this side of the road. Please be extra vigilant of safety and should the crane be present outside school if you attend, do not attempt to walk under it!



Blessing of St. Joseph's Shrine

As you may know, some of Y5 and Y6 children will be confirmed on Thursday 26th January. As part of their preparation, Bishop Robert will be visiting school during the afternoon on this day. After he has met with the children, he has very kindly agreed to bless our new shrine that stands at the front of the school in a short ceremony. This will take place at 2.45pm and if you would like to come along to share in this special occasion with us, you are very welcome! The service will take place at the shrine outside the school main entrance.

After-school Clubs

Just a reminder that 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.

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 **15th 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

Last week 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!



Attendance – week ending 13th January 2023

Well done to **Year Three, Year Four and Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous 99%!! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	90%	Year One	92%	Year Two	98%	Year Three	99%
Year Four	99%	Year Five	94%	Year Six	99%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 96%

House Champions

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



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

Reception	Matiwos	Super effort in Maths
Year 1	Mazin	Working really hard in Science
Year 2	Samaha	An excellent retelling of the Prodigal Son parable
Year 3	Eldana	Always trying her best in everything she does, well done!
Year 4	Shifaa	Showing excellent maths skills when adding fractions. Well done!
Year 5	Danyal	Fantastic effort in swimming
Year 6	Mariam	Excellent progress and hard work in Maths!

*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*

School Term Dates 2022 -2023

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

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

Bank Holidays - Monday 1st May 2023 / Monday 8th May 2023

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