



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 20th January 2023



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

Dates for your Diary

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

Dear Lord,

Open my heart and my mind as I prepare for Confirmation.

Help me to know that you are confirming all the goodness that I am, and all the goodness that I will become.

Increase my desire to know and follow Jesus as his disciple with a grateful and courageous heart.

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 Mass next week will be led by Y6. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

Thank You!

Just to say thank you once again for your understanding yesterday with regards to the school being closed and keeping your children at home. As you know, a minor gas leak was discovered in an outbuilding **outside of the main school**. The gas was immediately turned off and the gas company called however this left school without heating, hot water or the gas ovens yesterday. Everything is now back to normal and we were delighted to welcome the children back in today.

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.

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 at this time.

Confirmations

The Mass of Confirmation for this year's candidates takes place at 6.00pm on Thursday (26th) evening in St. Joseph's Church. Everybody is more than welcome and encouraged to attend. It would be lovely to see lots of people there to support and welcome the children as they become fully initiated into the faith of the Catholic Church. Please come along and celebrate with your friends in this very special event in their lives.

Bishop David Evans will be confirming the children, and we are very much looking forward to his visit.



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 David 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.

Feedback from Parents' Evening Questionnaire

As you know, at Parents' Evening last term we conducted a questionnaire amongst parents and carers in order to find out your views on the provision delivered by school. Of 142 families within school, we received 119 completed questionnaires which is amazing! And also the reason why it has taken so long to collate all of the data!!! This represents 84% of our families in school. All of the questions asked had a majority of positive answers, with 75% of all questions having a 90% or higher positive response rate. Over the next few weeks, we will share with you some of the feedback that we received....

Q1: My child enjoys school

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
55% (66/119)	40% (48/119)	5% (5/119)	-	-
95% positive responses		5% neutral	-	

95% of respondents felt that their child/ren enjoyed school

Q2: My child feels safe at school

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
54% (64/119)	44% (52/119)	2% (3/119)	-	-
98% positive responses		2% neutral		

98% of respondents felt that their child/ren felt safe at school

Q3: The school understand my child's needs and responds to them

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
36% (43/119)	57% (68/119)	6% (7/119)	-	1% (1/119)
93% positive responses		6% neutral	1 % negative	

93% of respondents felt that school understood their child's needs and responded well to them.

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

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.



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 20th January 2023

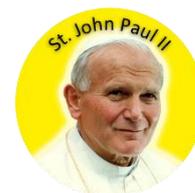
Well done to **Year Four and Year Six** who had the best attendance this week with a fabulous 99%!! The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	94%	Year One	88%	Year Two	97%	Year Three	97%
Year Four	99%	Year Five	96%	Year Six	99%		

This gives a whole school attendance of 96%

House Champions

Well done to St John Paul II who were our House point Champions this week!



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



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

Reception	N'Zaria	Being very helpful
Year 1	Adonay	Fantastic effort in his work all week
Year 2	Michael	Lovely handwriting
Year 3	Kayla	Always giving 100% in everything she does
Year 4	Lidya	Always trying her best in class and always thinking about the adults in school
Year 5	Meron	Fantastic work in History
Year 6	Ayana	Always putting her very best efforts into everything she does!

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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