



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 19th January 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff and Parishioners,

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



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 24 th January	School Mass	2.00pm
Friday 9 th February	School finishes for half-term	3.15pm
Monday 19 th February	School closed – Teacher Training Day	
Tuesday 20 th February	School re-opens	8.45am
Wednesday 21 st February 2024	First Reconciliation for Holy Communion for Children & Parents at St Joseph's School	1:30pm
Sunday 9 th June 2024	Actual Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church	12:20pm

School Term Dates 2023 -2024

Autumn Term 2023	Spring Term 2024	Summer Term 2024
Monday 4 th September 2023 to Friday 27 th October 2023	Monday 8 th January 2024 to Friday 9 th February 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024 to Friday 24 th May 2024
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Monday 6 th November 2023 to Friday 22 nd December 2023	Monday 19 th February 2024 to Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 3 rd June 2024 to Monday 22 nd July 2024
END OF TERM	END OF TERM	END OF YEAR

Teacher Days –

Monday 22nd July
3 tba

Friday 19th February – MAC training day

Bank Holidays –

Friday 29th March 2024
Monday 6th May 2024

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.

First Holy Communion Reconciliation Mass

Wednesday 21 st February 2024	1:30pm	First Reconciliation for Holy Communion for Children & Parents at St Joseph's School
Sunday 9 th June 2024	12:20pm	Actual Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Measles

With your newsletter today you will receive a leaflet with some important information about the increase in measles cases. Please read this – it is very important as there is currently an outbreak of Measles in Birmingham.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT IF WE DO GET A CASE IN SCHOOL AND YOUR CHILD IS NOT VACCINATED THEY WILL HAVE TO STAY AT HOME FOR 21 DAYS. These are the current regulations from the public health team, **who will inform us of those children who have not received vaccinations** in the event of a case within school (which must be reported to the Public Health team).

Likewise, if someone in your family has measles, or if your child comes into contact with someone with measles outside of school and they have not been vaccinated, they must stay at home for 21 days. **It is very important that you inform us of this, as we have vulnerable children and adults in school.**

If your child has not been vaccinated, please contact your GP who will arrange this for you – there are NON-GELATINE vaccinations available. Your GP will also be able to confirm whether your child has received a Measles vaccination previously.

Measles is a very serious illness which cannot be treated. It can lead to severe illness, with an estimated 20-40% of children hospitalised, according to the UKHSA. Measles can cause serious complications in children including permanent disability and sometimes even death, and particularly in people with weakened immune systems and those who are pregnant. Measles is one of the most infectious diseases in humans. On average, in communities with low protection, one person will spread the virus to 15 others - that makes it far more infectious than coronavirus.

Further information on the MMR vaccine can be found on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>

After-school Clubs

Just a reminder that if your child attends an after-school club you **MUST** ensure that you are here in time to collect them at **4.15pm**. More than two occasions of a child being collected late will mean that your child will not be allowed to attend any more.



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!

This half-term's virtues are: Compassionate and Loving

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Ashley, Mr Caffrey Mrs Gowan, Miss Teague and Mrs West*



Free@Last Warm Space

Free@Last hold a 'Warm Space' session every week, where you can enjoy the warmth of some friendly company, tea, coffee and toast. It runs on a Friday from 10am until 3pm

and you can drop in at any time during the day. There is no need to book. Free@Last can be found at 49 Nechells Park Road.

The POD Food Pantry

The POD now have a 'Food Pantry' up and running. You can join the Food Pantry scheme and visit twice monthly, where you will be able to purchase £20 worth of food for £3 per visit. It is open to all who live within the B7 postcode or use the POD currently, and you will need to bring ID with you on your first visit. You must register to attend. For more information contact the POD on 0121 681 2173.

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 West, Mrs Koumi, and Miss Crane.

This Week's News

Reception had a wonderful time learning about animals and their habitats.



Year One have been joining fabrics together in DT using various methods, we discussed which method we found to be the best N - "glue is best because it's really sticky" P - "we needed to be careful because the staples and the paper clips can be sharp".

Year One have had a fantastic time using the glockenspiels in their music lesson.



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Year 6 worked in groups this week to create their own fraction walls. The children were able to say what was happening to the fractions along the wall, as well as find equivalent fractions.



Lunch-time Award

Mrs Gowan has started a new weekly lunchtime reward system in school. The award is open to all children, and children can earn a reward certificate for good behaviour during lunchtimes. One boy and one girl from each key-stage will be chosen each week and will receive their certificate in assembly and be mentioned in the newsletter.



Our lunchtime award winners for this week are:

KS1 Award

Elizabeth - Reception
Mariam - Year 1

KS2 Award

Miheret - Year 6
Lincoln - Year 5

Class Attendance – weekly attendance treats

As you know, it is very important that children attend school every day, both for their wellbeing and academic achievement and also to encourage good habits of their future working life. At the end of each half term, the class with the most certificates will be given a treat!



Attendance – week ending 19th January 2024

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

Reception: 96%	Year One: 93%	Year Two: 96%	Year Three: 96%
Year Four: 97%	Year Five: 98%	Year Six: 99%	

This gives a whole school attendance of 97%



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

Reception	Yukang	Super Artwork - mud paintings!
Year 1	Abenob	Good recall of number bonds to 10
Year 2	Adonay	Excellent writing in English and RE
Year 3	Abigail	Being a maths superstar and her excellent recount in RE.
Year 4	Daniel	Persevering when learning about fractions.
Year 5	Whole Class	A fabulous first swimming session
Year 6	Fiona	For her brilliant progress in Maths!

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