



Newsletter: April 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back! We hope you enjoyed the Easter break.

Please find some items for your attention below:

School Lenten Project

Again our school Lenten project was a success! The children really embraced this project and actively made *new friends* each week of Lent – it was evident at playtimes and wonderful to see. The children regularly reflected on how many new friends they had made and if they had developed and strengthened their existing friendships too. They were given time to record their efforts on templates which can be seen in our hall and class prayer areas. Below are a few examples we shared in assemblies...

'AN played *Tag, Mums and Dads* and *Duck, Duck, Goose* with LMO'S.'

KW - 'I made a friend called LB who is in Year three. He was lonely and wandering around the playground on his own. I started to talk to him and play with him. Now every time I see him I check to see if he is okay and we have a chat.'

BB - 'I made friends with TRL when we were decorating our gingerbread men/women. We talked about what we have in common: we both have bikes. My sister is in his class and she is one of his best friends.'

JUV - 'Today I made a new friend in Year five called MG. I found out that MG is ten years old; she likes football and art. I also found out that MG sings in the shower.'

Forthcoming Important Dates and Events

- Friday 1st May – St. Joseph's Day service (parents can attend our whole school assembly starting at 10:45am, doors open 10:35am)
- Thursday 30th April – class photographs
- Monday 4th May – May Bank Holiday
- W/C: Monday 11th May – Year 6 SATs week
- We break for the summer half-term – Friday 22nd May at 3:15pm

- Term dates for next academic year 2015/2016 are available on our website. Please refer to these as required, especially when organising family holidays ensuring these do not fall in term time. Thank you.



Uniform

All children should attend school in their summer uniforms this term:

- Girls – summer dresses (blue and white check) and blue cardigans
- Boys – light blue polo shirts with either grey shorts or trousers and grey jumpers (please remind your son(s) to tuck shirts in!)
- Parents of nursery children can choose whether to send their children into school wearing a summer uniform or their usual track suits.



Please remember jewellery, shaved/coloured hair patterns are not permitted nor distinct, stylised haircuts. Please also ensure long hair is tied back – thank you.

Parents' Suggestions and Comments

Thank you for your comments and suggestions. The parents' suggestion box is located in the entrance area of the school please speak to a member of the admin team if you have a suggestion or would like to make a comment and would like some assistance. We do not have any new suggestions to respond to at this time.

Parental Conduct

Thank you to the many parents who came forward to report a distressing incident that took place outside school on the last week of the spring term, following a dispute about parking. The matter is currently being investigated by the authorities. We are of course all aware that our children should not be exposed to foul language, anger, violence or any other form of unacceptable behaviour.. As always we ask that all our parents support and contribute to our Catholic school ethos.

Thank you to the parents who reported and tried to intervene to stop the incident. Please be aware that Mr Macauley, and school governors have the authority to ban any member of our community from the school grounds if acceptable standards of behaviour and conduct are not met.



Admin Notices

Thank you to parents/carers for providing school payments in blue school money pockets. These can be purchased from the main reception desk at a cost of £1.00 for 10 pockets.

School uniform can be ordered via the main reception desk. Alternatively, you can collect a uniform order form from main reception to complete and return at a later date. Please ensure you have ordered uniform prior to sending in payment – thank you.

We are unable to administer medication to any child unless it has been prescribed by a doctor. If prescribed medication is required during the school day, please ensure you have completed a 'Medication Permission' form which can be obtained from the main reception area.

Please ensure you and your child are organised for school. Whilst we appreciate, at times, you may forget PE kits and water bottles, it helps us all if the children arrive in school, on time, with all their belongings. The member of our admin. team, positioned at the pupil entrance at 8:40am is primarily there to ensure pupil safety. Please keep interactions with this member of staff to a minimum and visit the main reception should you have a detailed enquiry – many thanks.



Nativity DVD (Dec. 2014)

Our Nativity DVD is ready for collection! Please pop into school to sign the required declaration where you agree that the DVD will be used for personal viewing only and will not be copied or shared publicly in any form. Then you can collect your DVD and have fun watching it at home this week!



Reminders

If you have any questions regarding our school policies, procedures or any items in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with Mr Macauley through the school office.

Also, if your child takes home any items of uniform belonging to somebody else in error, please ensure these are returned at the next available opportunity – many thanks ☺

We hope to see a lot more warm weather this term, if we do, please apply sun cream to your child's face, neck, arms and legs before school. We will be talking to the children about regulating their play, e.g. using the shaded areas in the playground, not playing running games for the whole duration of break-times, but making use of the quiet areas too and keeping well hydrated with the use of water bottles and water fountains.



Kind regards,

St. Joseph's School Staff