



Newsletter: April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back! We hope you enjoyed the Easter break.

Please find some items for your attention below:

Forthcoming Important Dates and Events

- Thursday 28th April – class photographs
- Friday 29th April – St. Joseph's Day service (parents can attend our whole school assembly starting at 10:45am, doors open 10:35am. The actual feast day is 1st May)
- Monday 2nd May – May Bank Holiday
- W/C: Monday 9th May – Year 6 SATs week
- We break for the summer half-term – Friday 27th May at 3:15pm

- Term dates for the next academic year 2016/2017 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/jumpers
- 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.

NB: Party Bags – please ensure you check these when your child receives them. If sending in party bags, please ensure these do not contain party poppers or items containing nuts – 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.

Community Notice

There have been reports of bag snatches in the local area with some crimes being committed from moped vehicles. Please exercise extra care with your belongings given this information. Parents of children in Y5/6 who travel to/from school alone should re-iterate advice to keep mobile phones out of sight – these should only be used for necessary communications.



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.



St. Joseph's Kitchen

Our school kitchen is a growing success! Thank you to Mrs Castagno, Mrs Budd, Mrs Otomewo, Miss Garcia and Miss Jenny for their hard work and energy! Our school menus are available on the school website to download, however we have attached a copy of the summer term menus for your reference with this newsletter.

We now make our own bread every day and we offer milk at lunchtimes as well as water. This is a trial operation and so far we have been very impressed with how many of our children enjoy a healthy cup of milk with their lunch. Obviously this is an additional expense and the government does advise that schools charge for milk. At present, we are able to absorb the costs through the school.

We will be marking important upcoming events in school such as Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday, the Euro Championships 2016, the Tour de France and Bastille Day as well as the Rio Olympics! Check our website for the super speciality menus served to launch and celebrate these days!

Reminders

The pupil entrance opens from 8:40am every day. The school whistle sounds at 8:55am signalling the start to the school day. Children will be admitted into school via the pupil entrance after the whistle has sounded, but they will be given a late card and will be asked to join the late line as their class may have already entered the school building. Once all classes have entered, a member of staff supervises children in the late line into school. To avoid your child being late, please ensure s/he is on time by arriving at school at least 5 minutes before the whistle sounds.

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.



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 ☺

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.

Kind regards,

St. Joseph's School Staff