



Newsletter: February 2015

Dear Parents / Carers,

Remember to wrap up warm for the cold weather! Below are some notices for your attention...

Important Dates

Term Dates

We finish this half-term on Friday 13th February at the usual time of 3:15pm.

- Shrove Tuesday (Tues. 17th Feb.)
- Ash Wednesday (Wed. 18th Feb.)

We return to school on Monday 23rd February at the usual time of 8:55am with pupils still wearing their winter uniform.

- Book Week (W/C: 2nd March)

Please find attached the term dates for the academic year 2015/2016 – please refer to these when arranging holidays and short breaks. Please keep them for your reference in a safe place.

School Photographs

The dates for this year's school photographs are as follows:

- Thurs. 19th March – individual child photographs and siblings (winter uniform)
- Thurs. 30th April – class photographs (summer uniform)



Further details will follow shortly, but please make a note of these times on your calendars/in your diaries.

Summer Uniform Sales

Summer uniform sales will be held on Wed. 18th Mar. and Thurs. 26th Mar. 2014 from 2:30-4pm in the school.

Nativity DVD (2014)

We have viewed the first version of the YR & KS1 Nativity DVD and have suggested some edits be made. We are hoping this will be ready for collection after half-term – it will be worth the wait!

Safer Internet Day 2015

We will be marking 'safer internet day' in school on Tuesday 10th Feb. by sharing some of the engaging resources produced by the 'UK Safer Internet Centre' to help children increase their awareness of how to be safe when using the internet. Please see the following website for more information to reinforce this learning with your child at home - <http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources>

Education Sunday

Last Sunday, you would have heard in church was 'Education Sunday'. It is a day to think about the potential in people and helping them to realise it. Whether we end up being bankers, shop workers, carers, politicians or teachers we can all help to build God's kingdom of love and justice, and ensure that everyone can live to their full potential, and become the person God intended them to be.

St. Joseph's Governing Body

We have a vacancy on the school governing body for a parent governor. If you are interested in this position, please see Miss Alford by Friday 13th February. A parent governor must be elected, therefore, the process would involve nominations followed by a vote from our parent community.

Reminders

Uniform

We have noticed some variations to school uniform items being worn/used by some children in the school. Therefore, we will be carrying out uniform spot-checks towards the end of this half-term. Please attend to any messages you receive about this during the half-term break – many thanks.

Children are not permitted to wear any boots in school, including ankle boots. School shoes only must be worn. 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 😊

Ready for School!

Thank you for helping our pupils to be properly prepared for school each day, through ensuring that PE kits, homework books, reading folders and records and permission slips are ready on a regular basis. Everyday in school is very busy and each minute is precious! Please continue to support us by making sure your children have had enough sleep to take advantage of each day's learning opportunities.

The NHS recommend that children aged five to eight have 11 hours sleep each night and that children aged nine to eleven have 10 hours sleep. To follow this guidance children in upper KS2 should be asleep by 9.00pm and lower KS2 8.00pm (approx). We have noticed recently a small number of children coming to school who appear to be too tired to do their very best. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Pupil Safety

Please do not leave children unattended at the school gates. The main entrance opens at 8:00am to admit children attending breakfast club and the pupil entrance opens at 8:40am to admit children for school. Please ensure you stay with your child, if you bring him/her to school, until they are safely within the school grounds. Leaving your child unattended may have serious consequences to their safety.

Further, please be extra vigilant when bringing your child to school by car. Stopping and double-parking to let the children out onto the road by the school gates needs careful attention for the children, other drivers and pedestrians wishing to cross the road. If you happen to be late for school, please **Do Not Rush!** This only increases the chance of accidents. This can be put right the next day by waking and leaving your home earlier.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Macauley or Miss Alford by appointment through the school office.

St. Joseph's School Staff

