

**ST. JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**GEORGE ROW, SE16**

[www.stjosephsgeorgerow.org](http://www.stjosephsgeorgerow.org)

Newsletter: February 2018



Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you had a relaxing half-term and a good start to Lent. Below are some notices for your attention...

**Important Dates**



Term Dates

- We break for Easter on Fri. 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. 2018 at 2pm
- We return after the Easter break on Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> Apr. at the usual time of 8:55am (supervision in the playground from 8:40am) – children should wear their school summer uniform

Lenten project

In our Lenten project this year 'Open your Heart to God', your child will be encouraged to actively show love to others in practical ways such as: playing with different children, sharing a compliment or giving up a seat on the bus. Furthermore, they will be encouraged to share the talents God has given them by, for example: trying their best in class, helping others with an aspect of their learning that they find easier and embracing new challenges. During this special period of the liturgical calendar we advise all children to make an extra effort to make more time for God in their lives by reflecting on themselves, praying to God and giving thanks for all that they have. We also promote the children giving their time during this period to make an extra effort to help at home by doing chores or other jobs around the house. The children will record the positive actions they have undertaken this Lent on heart templates which will then be displayed in class prayer areas to celebrate their achievements.

Book Week

Book Week is next week, (WC: 26<sup>th</sup> Feb.) and our theme this year is 'Dream, Believe and Achieve'. We will be encouraging all children to use their reading as a source of inspiration for what they would like to be and to achieve as they get older, and to reflect upon what it is they need to do in order to achieve their full potential. See the Book Week letter for further information.

School Photographs



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

- Thurs. 15<sup>th</sup> March – individual child photographs and siblings (winter uniform)
- Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> 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 Thurs. 15<sup>th</sup> Mar. and Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2018 from 2:45-4pm in the Thames Room (entry through George Row Entrance).

## Safer Internet Day 2018

We marked 'Safer Internet Day' in school last half-term on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Reminders

### Uniform

We have noticed some variations to school uniform items being worn/used by some children in the school.

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.



Please also ensure children do not attend school with stylised haircuts. Boys' hair length should be the same all over – not shaved on one part and long on another. Any parents of children with these styles have been spoken to and have agreed to change this once their child's hair has grown out. Please also ensure girls have long hair tied back so this does not become an issue when they are working.

### 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.

### Payment

We remind parents/carers that all payments for after school clubs; St Joseph's After School Club; Uniform; Nursery and school trips are due by the first day of the club or the day of purchase unless otherwise agreed with the school. Following up late payments takes up a lot of our administrative staff's time which would be better spent elsewhere. For any issues regarding payment please make an appointment with Mrs Byrne through the school office.

## 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 Mrs Byrne or Mr Hoyes by appointment through the school office.

St. Joseph's School Staff