



St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School

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Autumn 1 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Sainsbury's Gold Award

I am pleased to announce that we were again accredited with the Sainsbury's Gold Schools Games Award 2018-19 just before the Summer Holidays This is the third year in a row. We thank Miss Bradley, as PE subject leader, for all her hard work and for all the children throughout school for ensuring that we achieved this.

Uniform, PE Kits and Earrings

The children have started the new school year very smartly in their new uniforms, thank you. Please ensure that all articles of your child's uniform, including PE kits, are labelled with their name. We are looking into a school tracksuit for the colder months and we will inform you when we have more information in regards to this. Due to safety reasons, earrings are not allowed to be worn for school. If your child is presently wearing earrings please ensure they are removed at the earliest opportunity.

Attendance and Unauthorised Holidays

The attendance figure for 2018-19 is 96.5 % which is a big improvement on last year's figure of 95.3 % and better than national of 95.8%. Thank you for all your support in improving this as it was identified as an area of development in the OFSTED letter March 2019. In addition to this our Persistent Absence has halved and is now below the national figure.

Please can I remind parents that if families plan to take a holiday during term time, a 'Leave of Absence' form must be completed at least 4 weeks in advance. Also, for safeguarding reasons, if your child is absent from school you **must contact** the office before 9.30 am **everyday** that they are absent.

Year 6 SATs take place during the week commencing 11th May 2020, Year 2 SATs can take place anytime during May 2020 and Year 1 Phonics Screening takes place the week commencing 8th June 2020. If your child is in any of these classes please ensure they are present in school during the dates stated.

School Dinners

If you change your child's meal pattern from school dinners to packed lunches or vice versa please can you inform the office as soon as possible so they can complete the necessary paperwork. The office requests that, if there is a change, it is at the beginning of a half term and not during the term. Also, all dinners must be paid for each week. If this has not been paid for more than a week, this will result in your child requiring a packed lunch to be provided from home. In line with the school's Oral Health Policy, pupils with a packed lunch do not require a drink from home as cool, filtered water is provided for them every lunchtime. School also provides all children with a water bottle that they can drink from throughout the day.

If your child is in Rec, Year 1 or Year 2 they are automatically entitled to a daily free school meal. However if you think they would have been entitled to this anyway please can you contact Mrs Morgan or Mrs Swainston in the office at the earliest opportunity as this can have implications for the school budget.

Website

The school has an app where parents access the site easily via a mobile phone which most parents now have. If you would like more information in regards to this please contact Mrs Morgan in the office. This has also enabled us to stop sending out paper copies of newsletters as parents now access them directly on the website. Please continue to check the website for dates, details of the curriculum, homework etc. and remember a copy of every newsletter is always put on there. The website address remains the same.

Dates for the Term

These are a few dates for this term, there will be further information to follow in order to clarify some activities. The dates are also displayed on the calendar on the website and the outdoor noticeboard.

Thursday 19 th September	Andrew Ramsey and St Michael's staff talk for Year 6 pupils and parents-5.00 pm St Joseph's Hall
Thursday 26 th September	6.00 pm St Michael's Open Evening for Year 6
Week beginning 30 th September	Judaism Fortnight
Monday 30 th September	Macmillan Cake Sale and Refreshments straight after school-All Welcome
Tuesday 1 st October	Year 4 Romans Trip
Monday 7 th October	Start collections for the Food Bank
Monday 7 th October	Year 5 Beamish Trip
Tuesday 8 th October	9.00 am Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Parent's Information Morning -Information to follow
Monday 14 th October	Olympic Athlete Sponsor Forms given out
Tuesday 15 th October	Year 4 Assembly 9.00 am Parents Welcome
Friday 18 th October Wear it Pink Day	Children wear something pink and bring in £1 for cancer research-Other voluntary contributions gratefully received
Wednesday 23 rd October Thursday 24 th October	Parents Evenings Arrangements to follow
Friday 25 th October	PD Day School closed for pupils
Monday 28 th October-Friday 1 st November	School Closed Half Term
Wednesday 31 st October	Year 6 applications for secondary school closes
Monday 4 th November	Photographs-Individual and Family
Week Beginning 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week 'Change Starts with Us'
Monday 11 th November	Olympic Athlete in school
Friday 22 nd November	Non-Uniform Day-Tombola/Raffle Prizes for Christmas Fair
Tuesday 26 th November	Flu Immunisation Reception-Year 6/Information on website
Thursday 28 th November	Christmas Fair 3.15 pm
Friday 29 th November	PD Day School closed for pupils
Monday 2 nd -Friday 13 th December	Year 4 Swimming Fortnight
Wednesday 4 th December	Advent Mass in church-Parents Welcome
Wednesday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day-£1 Christmas Dinner 6.00 pm Carol Service KS2
Friday 13 th December	Rec/ KS1 Nativity 9.30 am and 2.00 pm
Monday 16 th December	Yrs 2,3 & 4 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December	Nursery Nativity 10 am Yr 5 & Yr 6 Christmas Party Year 4 Snappy Christmas-Thornaby Pavillion
Wednesday 18 th December	Yrs 2-6 Pantomime visit to the Arc Nursery, Rec and Year 1 Parties
Thursday 19 th December	9.00 am End of Term Achievement Assembly Parents Welcome
Friday 20 th December	-school closes for Christmas and reopens on Monday 6 th January

There will also be a number of sporting events this term. The pupils involved will be informed individually as they occur.

May I take this opportunity to remind parents that we have an open door policy at St Joseph's.

If you wish to discuss a matter with a class teacher or myself please do not hesitate to make an appointment with Mrs Morgan or Mrs Swainston in the office.
As always, thank you for your continued support.

Mrs R. Whyte

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Multi Academy Trust
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Registered Number: 10034058