



Newsletter - 28th May 2021

[Please remember to view the school calendar/website for further information](#)

Our Catholic Mission

The parish newsletter and website www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk contains information about masses and other church notices.

Pope Francis has announced that this year is a special year in honour of St Joseph. As our patron, the year of St Joseph will be in our thoughts and preparations for celebrations when restrictions are eased.

First Holy Communion

A huge well done to all our Y3/Y4 children who have made their First Holy Communion during May. They were very prayerful and reverent and we are very proud of them.

[If you have borrowed a school's red sash, please return this to school on Monday, 7th June in preparation for the Mass of Thanksgiving.](#) Thank you.

Confirmation

You should have been notified by Holy Cross of the date of your Confirmation Mass, these will all be celebrated by Fr Anthony. Please contact holycross.lichfield@rcaob.org.uk if you have any queries.

Confirmation Thursday, 10th June 2021 (6 pm)

Confirmation Thursday, 17th June 2021 (6 pm)

Children will be provided with a school pale blue tie/sash for the Mass, this will need to be returned in school after Confirmation.

Please note that the Mass of Thanksgiving for Confirmation will now take place in school on Monday, 21st June 2021. Due to the continued restrictions, parents will be unable to come into school on that day. The group photograph will be taken on Tuesday, 22nd June and we ask that all Y6 children arrive at school from 8.40 am – 8.50 am on Tuesday, 22nd June. Any siblings can also be dropped off at school at this time for this day only.

Whole School Mass

The children virtually attended a Mass celebrated by Fr Peter Weatherby in Cannock which they thorough enjoyed. We are very grateful to Fr Peter for enabling our children to attend Mass regularly during this difficult time.

Y3 Cafod COVID Fundraising Appeal

Please read the 'Pedal against Poverty' [article](#) on the CAFOD website about a large group of our Y3 pupils who are completing a charity 5k/10k bike ride in Beacon Park on Saturday 19th June.

Attendance

Huge congratulations to Y1, the class with the highest attendance for the third week running of 98.3%!

Star Workers

Congratulations to our Star Workers this week!

Pre-School: Mary & Renee

Reception: Eve & Harry

Y1: Reuben & Sophia M

Y2: Cora & Holly Q

Y3: Elsie & Genevieve

Y4: Lennon & Lottie

Y5: Noah C & Maisie

Y6: Thea & James

Headteacher's Award: Sophie G & Rory



Social Media

Please closely monitor your child's usage and check your parental settings on any social media apps that your children are using. Please see the online safety section in the Parents tab on the school website for helpful parental guides to social media apps.

County Lines

You were all sent a letter this week from Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire Police to raise awareness of County Lines. This letter has been sent to all Staffordshire schools for distribution.

Covid-19

Your child should not attend school if they have one of the three main Covid-19 symptoms:

- A temperature
- A persistent cough
- A loss or change in taste or smell.

In the event that anyone in the household has one of these symptoms, the whole household should isolate until a negative PCR test result is obtained. Lateral flow tests are only for asymptomatic testing and not used in the event that someone has any of these symptoms.

Contact tracing over half-term

In the unlucky event that a child or staff member develops symptoms in the first 48 hours after school closes or you get a positive test result, we ask that you continue to email the school office (office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk) to keep us up-to-date so we can take any relevant actions given to us by the DfE helpline. Emails will be checked regularly up until Monday 31st May but please do not expect an instant response. We really hope that we do not have to make any contact with you but please be mindful that there is a possibility you may receive this information from school.

Water bottles

Please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle filled with water only (no juice). Thank you

Sports Day

We are delighted to be able to go ahead with Sports Day but following guidance from the Local Authority, we are changing our plans to minimise mixing of class bubbles:

	10 am	2 pm
Thursday, 24 th June	Y3/Y4	YP/YR
Friday, 25 th June	Y5/Y6	Y1/Y2

Parents are warmly invited to attend but we ask that you keep your party numbers to a minimum. Unfortunately, parents will be unable to remain on the school premises for lunch as in previous years. Further details will be sent to you closer to the date.

Y5 Parents

After reading 'Holes', Y5 would like to watch the film during their Golden Time next half term. As this film is rated PG, if you do NOT want your child to watch this, please email school by Thursday, 10th June. Thank you.

Parent communications to school

In order to ensure that your communications to school are dealt with as efficiently as possible, can we please request that you use the following systems when communicating with us:

- Absences – please use the absence form on the school website to report your child absent from school
- Leave of Absence requests – please email a completed form to office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk clearly marked Leave of Absence Request.
- To ensure you receive messages, it is important that you download the school app (School Jotter) to your smartphone/tablet and create your login. If you have not yet set up your login you can do so by following the instructions on the school website [here](#).

Grammar School Entry to Year 7 in September 2022

Parents can now register their child for the optional entrance test by applying online before 4 pm on 30th June 2021. The test will take place on 11th September 2021. To register, parents need to visit www.birminghamgrammarschools.org

After School Clubs

Please see the website or School Information board for after school clubs currently running. If your child attends an after school **sports** club, please can they come to school already dressed in their PE kit.

Staff Lateral Flow Testing

The start of Lateral Flow Testing for staff in primary schools means there is the chance, at short notice, of disruption to remote learning and bubble (class) closures. Please do have a plan in place for care of your child if bubbles have to close at short notice. We appreciate your understanding in this matter. Thank you.

Channel Relay Swim – Mrs Ray

In less than 3 weeks, Mrs Ray is doing a Channel Relay Swim with a fabulous team of women called the Channel Belles raising money for local charities (Pathway Project and Staffordshire Search and Rescue). Please click on this link to donate to these amazing charities.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/clareraychannelrelay>
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Pre-School

Please can children come to school with a named sun hat and sun cream already applied. Also, please can parents ensure that all children have at least one change of named clothes. Thank you.

- If you have any typewriters you wish to donate we would be grateful.

Pre-School are still accepting applications for the next academic year (including 15 and 30 hours funding). If you know of anyone who may be interested, please ask them to email pre-school@stjosephslichfield.org.uk as soon as possible.

PTFA

The PTFA have a collection of great pre-loved uniform, including lots of St Joseph's branded items, which we will have available for you to purchase for a small donation at the school gate on the last Friday of every month.

If you would like to know more about the PTFA and being a part of the committee, please see the school website (<http://stjosephscatholicprimary.sites.schooljotter2.com/our-school/ptfa>) or don't hesitate to give the Chair, Mary, a call or speak to your class rep (names are on the school website).

Easyfundraising

Remember to help collect the easyfundraising donations!

Using easyfundraising could not be easier. Simply search for your retailer on the easyfundraising App or website and shop as normal.

Our school will then get a little "Thank you" donation from the retailer at no additional cost to you.

Visit and support our easyfundraising page here: <http://efraising.org/S1YFkOg0j1>

And Finally

As Year 3 have made their First Holy Communion, our prayers turn to Year 6 Confirmandi who are working hard in preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Come Holy Spirit

May God be with you

Mrs McLeary

Headteacher

