



Newsletter – 10th September 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.

Mass of Dedication – change in date

Father Anthony will now be in school to celebrate our annual Mass of Dedication at 10 am on Tuesday 21st September. You are all very welcome. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Secondary School Open Days

St Francis of Assisi is our nearest Catholic Secondary School and is a natural progression for children from St. Joseph's to continue their education in the Catholic faith.

Wednesday, 22 nd September (5.30 pm)	St Francis of Assisi
Thursday, 23 rd September (6.30 pm)	Friary School
Wednesday, 29 th September (6 pm)	King Edwards VI
Thursday, 7 th October (6.30 pm)	Netherstowe

Y5 Alton Castle Parents meeting – change in date

Due to a clash with the St Francis of Assisi's Open Evening, we have had to change the date of this parents meeting. It will now take place on Monday, 20th September at 5 pm.

Celebration Assembly – 17th September (9.15 am)

Our first Celebration Assembly this year will be Y6 introducing our new Reception children. Parents from both classes are welcome to attend.

Attendance

Congratulations to YR/Y2/Y3/Y6, the classes with the highest attendance this week of 100%!

Revised Dates List

A revised dates list has been emailed to you with changes marked in red.

Monster Phonics Launch

We are so excited to announce that St Joseph's will now be using the Monster Phonics programme to deliver exciting and engaging phonics lessons to our children. Monster Phonics was launched to the children during an assembly this morning with all teachers dressed as the monsters!! We are sure they will tell you all about it.

All parents with children learning phonics in school are invited to attend a [Monster Phonics webinar](#) via Zoom on Thursday, 16th September at 7 pm. This will give you all of

the information about this fantastic programme so that you can fully support your child's learning at home.

Please see the Monster Phonics [introductory letter](#) and [further information](#) about Monster Phonics.

The children are hugely excited about Monster Phonics and have had a great time joining in with fabulous Monster Phonics activities in school today as you will be

Summer Reading Challenge 2021

If your child has completed the Reading Challenge online, we have been advised that the online registration form did not ask for the school they are attending and would therefore not be registered to St Joseph's or Lichfield Library. This is easily rectified by completing a card prior to the closing date on Monday, 13th September, the form is available at Lichfield Library. Competition is fierce, every entry counts!

New School Year Housekeeping

Just a couple of polite reminders as we start the new school year:

- Please name all belongings
- Please do not enter the school car park at any time.
- Please email us at absence@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk before 9 am if your child is going to be absent.

Reception Class Homework

Homework in school is set through Google Classroom. The first Reception Class homework will be sent home on Friday, 24th September. Further details regarding Google Classroom and your child's school Google email address will be sent home in due course.

Please note your child's Show & Tell day and details are on the back of their reading log book.

Inspire Workshops

We are delighted to be able to deliver parental workshops once more. This is a great opportunity for you to come in and work alongside your child in school and find out ways in which you can support them at home. The focus of our Inspire Workshops will be writing.

YR	Thursday, 30 th September & Friday, 1 st October (2.15 pm – 3.30 pm)
Y1	Thursday, 11 th November (2.15 pm – 3.30 pm)
Y2	Monday, 8 th November (2.15 pm – 3.30 pm)
Y3	Thursday, 18 th November (9.15 am – 10.30 am)
Y4	Wednesday, 17 th November (9.15 am – 10.30 am)
Y5	Wednesday, 3 rd November (9.15 am – 10.30 am)
Y6	Thursday, 7 th October (9.15 am – 10.30 am)

Pre-School

- Please can the children come to school with a labelled coat (and wellies to keep in school).
- If you are able to help with the library trip on Wednesday afternoon, 22nd September, please let Mrs Cooper know.
- If you have any dolls prams or pushchairs you would like to donate, we would be very grateful.

PE Days

Classes are now having outdoor and indoor PE lessons during the week:

	Indoor	Outdoor
YR	Thursday	Wednesday
Y1	Friday	Wednesday
Y2	Thursday	Wednesday
Y3	Monday	Tuesday
Y4	Thursday	Tuesday
Y5	Wednesday	Thursday
Y6	Tuesday	Thursday

Parent/Volunteer Induction

If you feel that you can offer some time to volunteer in school you will need to attend the Volunteer Induction, even if you attended last year's induction. This year, the induction will take place at 11 am on Tuesday 14th September. If you are unable to join us at this time, please let me know and I will arrange a suitable date for an alternative meeting. If you will be attending, please let the office know as there is some prior reading for you!



Twitter (@StJoesLichfield) School staff put a lot of effort into taking photos of exciting activities happening in school to post on Twitter. This is the place where you will get to see first-hand what your child is doing at school. Please check Twitter regularly and PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE like our posts!

Admissions

On-line applications for secondary schools has now opened. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2021. The best way to apply is online at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

Parents claiming some benefits can claim free school meals for any of their children who are registered at a Staffordshire school and who would normally be at school at lunch time. School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime, and you can save yourself time and money.

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps their school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives. To apply online, please click [here](#)

After School Clubs

Please see the [school website](#) for more details about After School Clubs [Parents/Extra Curricular and Wraparound Care].

Rainbows

Rainbows provides a safe setting in school in which children can talk through their feelings with their peers who are experiencing similar situations. They are helped to articulate their feelings by a trained facilitator. If you feel your child would benefit from these sessions please speak to a member of staff.

Lichfield Community Games

Lichfield Community Games is taking place at Beacon Park on Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th September. The two-day event will offer everyone the chance to try a wide variety of sports and leisure activities that are available across Lichfield District. Please click [here](#) for more details.

PTFA

You are automatically a PTFA member, but we would be grateful if you could spare some time in becoming an active member. If you are unable to get to meetings but would like to help or have special skills we could use, we would really like to hear from you. Find us on 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) or Facebook "St Joseph's School Lichfield 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. We will let you know future uniform sale dates in due course.

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/S1YFkOg0jl>

And Finally

A very warm welcome to all our new Reception children and their families. All of the other children have helped them settle in very quickly.

May God be with you

Mrs McLeary

Headteacher

