



Autumn First Half Term 2018

A copy of this newsletter can be found on our school website in the 'Newsletters' pencil icon.

To have a copy of our newsletters e-mailed to you please subscribe on our website www.washingtonstjosephs.com.

Please put this somewhere safe as it contains a great deal of important information!

It is wonderful to see our children after their summer break. They always come back much bigger than they left. We thank you for your kind words and best wishes as we said goodbye to Mrs Jary, Mrs Thomson, Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Fletcher at the end of term. They were overwhelmed by your kindness and asked us to pass on their thanks to you all. We welcome Mr. Morris, our new Deputy Headteacher into Year 5, Mrs Rawlings, who will be working across the school and Miss Harrigan in Reception.

Nursery and Reception

It is beautiful to see our new starters taking their first steps into St Joseph's. Mams, Dads and Grandparents keep being brave. The kids will be fine, it's you we worry about!

Facebook/Twitter/Website

It is increasingly common for schools to use Facebook and Twitter as a form of communication with parents and a way of sharing key events as they happen in school. Remember to visit our school website where you can find everything from policies to class pages.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephswashington>

Twitter - [stjoswashington](https://twitter.com/stjoswashington)

Afterschool clubs - these begin Monday 17th September.

Uniform and P.E. Kits

The children are all looking smart but we already have some lost property! We cannot stress enough the importance of labelling ALL your child's clothes and belongings. Staff will always try to help locate lost items but without names inside this can be very frustrating and near impossible. All uniform, including PE kit and book bags can be purchased at Little Gems in the Galleries.

Golden Mile

After a positive trial during Healthy Me Week, we have now fully embraced the Golden Mile challenge. Our term started with an assembly led by Ryan from the Golden Mile. He reminded us that pupils can choose to run, jog or simply walk and chat to their friends whilst travelling around the track. We've challenged the pupils to complete a total of 50 golden miles by the end of the year. Certificates for 10 miles (bronze), 25 miles (silver) and 50 miles (gold) will be presented in Friday's celebration assemblies. The Golden Mile has been adapted for Nursery and Reception.

Raffle Tickets

Your child will receive a book of raffle tickets for the parish raffle drawn the 9th November- Please return to school asap.

Family Mass

This term we warmly invite all our families to join us at Sunday Mass, 11am at Our Lady's Church. Once a month, on the last Sunday of each month, we invite our school community, families and parish community to worship together. Our first Family Mass is on **Sunday 30th September**- we look forward to seeing you there.

Masses and Liturgies

Please come and be part of these celebrations, they are an important part of our school life and your children love seeing you there.

Autumn Term Class Masses, Class Liturgies and Family Masses

Date	Year Group	Time	Location
Thur 20 th Sept	Welcome Mass Year 6	9.30 am	Our Lady's Church
Sunday 30 th Sept	Family Mass	11 am	Our Lady's Church
Fri 5 th Oct	CAFOD Family Fast Day Liturgy Year 4	9.15 am	School Hall
Thur 18 th Oct	Harvest Mass Year 5	9.30 am	Our Lady's Church
Sunday 28 th Oct	Family Mass	11 am	Our Lady's Church
Thur 1 st Nov	All Saints Day Mass Year 4	11 am	Our Lady's Church
Sunday 25 th November	Christ the King Family Mass	11 am	Our Lady's Church
Fri 30 th Nov	Start of Advent Year 2 Liturgy	9.15 am	School Hall
Tues 4 th Dec	Year 3 Advent Liturgy	9.15 am	Year 3 Classroom
Thur 6 th Dec	Year 1 Advent Liturgy	9.15 am	Year 1 Classroom
Wed 12 th Dec	Year 5 Advent Liturgy	9.15 am	Year 5 Classroom
Mon 17 th Dec	Carol Service Year 2-Year 6	2 pm	Our Lady's Church
Sunday 30 th Dec	Family Mass	11 am	Our Lady's Church

Restart a Heart Day

The North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust are organising a World Restart a Heart Day on Tuesday 16th October. We are in the process of planning this important day. To focus the day on the heart we invite all pupils to wear red or hearts and bring a donation of £1. Watch out for more information about this event.

Harvest Food

This year our Harvest food collection will be donated to the Washington Community Food Project based at Oxclose Church. We invite donations of tins and other dried foods for this cause. Our collection will begin on **Monday 15th October** and end on **Thursday 18th October** as we give thanks for our harvest of plenty in our whole school harvest Mass.

CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 5th October

As part of our charitable work there will be no tuckshop on **Friday 5th October**- instead a collection will be taken for CAFOD. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Parents Evening

We will be holding parents evening this term on **Tuesday 16th October and Wednesday 17th October**. Letters will be sent out nearer the time.

Remembrance Day

Our current Year 6 will plan and lead us in a Whole School Remembrance Day Service on the yard at 9am **on Monday 12th November** weather permitting. Please stay on the yard and join us for our service.

Anti-Bullying

Our school counsellor, Emma, will re-join us this year and lead our new Bully-Busting Team. We will celebrate Anti-Bullying Week between Monday 12th and Thursday 15th November. During this week each class will prepare a Bully-Busting Rap and new Bully Busters from each KS2 class will be announced.

Children in Need- Friday 16th November

The school theme for Children in Need this year is 'Do your thing!' Throughout the day each class will hold their own talent show where children can 'Do their thing!' - dance, sing, magic, keepy-uppy! The list is endless! This can be alone, in pairs or groups. One act from each class will be chosen to 'Do your thing!' in our end of the day celebration assembly.

School Dinners and Packed Lunches

We are delighted to see so many KS1 pupils having a school lunch however, we cannot accommodate changes between packed lunch and school dinners without two weeks' notice. Lunch money must be paid on a Monday morning £2 per day (£10 per week), in a packet clearly marked with your child's name and class via your child's class teacher or through our online service at [Sunderland City Council website 'Pay for it' http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=7866](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=7866). Dinner money will not be accepted at the office. If your child is in KS1 and is having a packed lunch I must inform you that the kitchen can provide a packed lunch as part of the KS1 Free School Meals provision.

A Reading Army

A huge thank you to all our parents who gave their time to help out regularly in classes last year. Parent volunteers are a valuable addition to any class. This year, to support reading across the school, Mrs Lawton and Mrs Johnson would like to create a 'Reading Army' of volunteers who read regularly with our children. Could you spare an hour or two to join our 'Reading Army'? Please see Mrs Lawton or Mrs Johnson.

Earrings, jewellery and nail varnish

Children should not be wearing earrings or jewellery in school as it is a genuine danger to their safety. There are no exceptions to this rule. Please ensure all nail varnish is removed as make-up is not permitted in school.

Attendance

Congratulations to our 100% attendance pupils from last year. They were awarded with a certificate and £5 gift voucher for the Galleries.

Important Dates

Friday 14th September - Year 4 visit to Beamish
Thursday 20th September - Welcome Mass led by Year 6
Thursday 20th September - 4 pm Year 2 SATS meeting
Thursday 20th September - 5 pm Year 6 SATS meeting
Sunday 30th September - Family Mass 11am Our Lady's
Wednesday 3rd October- Nursery and Reception Parents' Meeting - Tapestry
Friday 5th October - Year 4 CAFOD Family Fast Day Liturgy
Monday 15th - Thursday 18th October - Harvest Food Collection
Tuesday 16th October - Restart a Heart Day - wear red and bring £1 donation
Tuesday 16th/Wednesday 17th - Parents' Evening
Thursday 18th October - Harvest Mass led by Year 5
Friday 19th October - BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
Sunday 28th October - Family Mass 11am Our Lady's
Monday 29th October - children return to school
Thursday 1st November - All Saints' Day Mass led by Year 4
Monday 12th - Friday 16th November Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 12th November - Remembrance Service led by Year 6
Friday 16th November - Children in Need
Thursday 22nd November - Year 3 visit to Synagogue
Sunday 25th November - Family Mass Christ the King Mass 11am at Our Lady's
Friday 30th November - Year 2 Advent Liturgy
Tuesday 4th December - Year 3 Advent Liturgy
Thursday 6th December - Year 1 Advent Liturgy
Monday 10th December - Reception Nativity 2 pm
Tuesday 11th December - Reception Nativity 9.30 am
Wednesday 12th December - Flu Vaccine
Wednesday 12th December - Year 5 Advent Liturgy
Thursday 13th December - Nursery Nativity
Friday 14th December - Pantomime for Y1-Y6
Friday 14th December - Reception and Nursery Whitehouse Farm Christmas visit
Monday 17th December - Carol Service Year 2 - Year 6 2 pm
Tuesday 18th December - Year 1 and Year 2 party day
Wednesday 19th December - Nursery, Reception and Year 6 party day
Thursday 20th December - Year 3/4/5 party day
Friday 21st - Christmas jumper and seasonal accessories - sing-along coffee morning!
Sunday 30th December - Family Mass Our Lady's 11am

All dates and times are correct at time of going to print.