St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2026

www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk

admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk

Go shine in the world



Dear Parents and Carers,

The **Family Fancy Dress Disco** was a huge success on Friday. The group dances were a particular highlight this year- see overleaf for photos. A special thank you to members of our **School Council** for supporting with our **Poppy Appeal** this year.

Finally, a reminder that you are warmly invited to the **in-person Parents and Carers Consultation Session** on Tuesday 17th November between 9.30 and 11.30am in the school hall. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to listen to the Local Authority, share your views and ask any questions. Please do come along.

With best wishes, Ms O'Donovan (Head of School) and Ms. Richardson (Executive Headteacher)

School Attendance is Important...

Children need to have excellent attendance in order to learn well and make good progress. Children must arrive on time before 9am every day so that no learning is missed– remember that the school gates open at **8.40am**. Please make sure your child is in school every single day this term unless they are too sick to come to school. Every day is important.



Reasons **not** to keep your child off school:

- If you or their sibling is ill
- It is their birthday
- They are tired from a busy weekend
- They went to bed late
- For non-urgent medical appointments that can be arranged outside of school hours (e.g. dentist, opticians appointments)

The vast majority of children come to school every day that they can. This is as it should be. This enables your child to enjoy their learning, not miss out and have gaps in their knowledge and to feel proud of their work and progress. Children who are here every day have confidence in their learning, are not worried about making a mistake and know that this is part of their learning journey. Children who are not in school miss learning. Just as importantly, they also miss out on the opportunities, fun and connection that school provides for them; including supporting their social skills, helping their resilience and enabling them to make and maintain friendships.

Please see the information from the NHS overleaf outlining when to keep your child at home and when to send them into school. If your child is unwell, please phone the school office and let them know the reason for your child's absence before 9am. If you need help with something, give us a call.

Thank you as always for working in partnership with us to give your child the education and childhood experiences that they deserve

I have received and read the St Joseph's Primary School newsletter of **13.11.2026**

Signed _____ Name of child _____ Class__ _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND YOUR CHILD MIGHT WIN A PRIZE :)

Family Fancy Dress Disco…















Important Dates…



Tuesday 17th November 9.30-11.30am

Parent and Carer Consultation Session

Friday 27th November

Non-Uniform Day (£1 donation for charity)

Wednesday 2nd December at 1pm

Y4, Y5 and Y6 Choir sing at Central St Giles

Friday 4th December at 10am

Key Stage Two (Y3-6) Carol Service at Corpus Christi

Monday 7th December 6:30pm

School Choir sing at St Paul's in the Piazza

Tuesday 8th December at 10am

Nativity performance for EYFS parents and carers

Wednesday 9th December at 10am

Nativity performance for Year 1and 2 parents and carers

Thursday 17th December

Christmas lunch



Friday 18th December

Last day of Autumn term

Monday 4th January

Start of the Spring term

Our Prayer for Compassion

Dear Lord,

Help us to be people of forgiveness, kindness, and compassion in all our work and play.

Guide us to share your love with everyone we meet. **Amen**

Don't let a little worry turn into a big one...

If you or your child are worried about something or have any questions, please phone the school office and book an appointment to see their class teacher, Ms Stewart or Ms O'Donovan

We are always really pleased to meet with you and chat things through.



Is my child too ill for school?

UK Government NHS

Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in

A cough, cold or sore throat

Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

Threadworms

Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Should go in (let the school know)

Cold sores

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

Head lice & nits

You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

Hand, foot & mouth disease

If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

Slapped cheek syndrome

Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Seek treatment before returning to school

Impetigo

They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

Ringworm

See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Scarlet fever

They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Chickenpox

Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Keep them off (at first)

Ear infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Measles

They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.

Vomiting & diarrhoea

Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

Best Start Family Hubs

Targeted Early Help

Parenting Lead Team

Daytime Group
Thursday
12th November -
10th December 2026
10:30am - 12:45pm

Venue:
Agar Best Start Family Hub,
Wrotham Road, NW1 9SU

Free travel and childcare available

Evening Group
Thursday
12th November –
10th December 2026
5:45 - 8:00pm
Venue:
ONLINE
via MS Teams link

Triple P – for every parent

Family Transitions Triple P

Family Transitions Triple P is for Parents who are divorced or separated with children, and/or teenagers (0 - 16years old) living in Camden.

Family Transitions can help you to:

- Have a positive transition through separation or divorce.
- Create a positive new family identity.
- Develop coping strategies for both you and your children.
- Positively manage conflict.
- Use assertive discipline.
- Develop strategies to co-parent.

Lunch/dinner will be provided each week!

For more information about the group please contact:

Mohammed Hassan: 0207974 2985 Mohammed.Hassan@camden.gov.uk
Adrian Yearwood: 0207974 2574 Adrian.yearwood@camden.gov.uk

For referral form or to self-refer, please contact:
referralsfamiliesinfocus@camden.gov.uk

Camden

SEND SURGERIES

Here to listen. Here to help.

Come along for advice, support and information about SEND services in Camden.

Open to *all* Camden parents and carers of children and young people with SEND.

Free to attend!

At our SEND Surgeries you can:

- Ask questions and share feedback
- Find out about local SEND support services
- Talk to senior staff in a welcoming space
- Representatives from SEN team, Travel team, Educational Psychology team and more

Good to know

- You can attend any session, it doesn't need to be at your child's school or local family hub.
- You don't need to be known to SEND services.
- Come with any questions, big or small.

Everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you!

2026 – 27 SEND Surgery Dates

22 September 2026	**Thomas Coram Centre (Nursery)** 49 Mecklenburg Square, London WC1N 2NY	10.30am – 12.30pm
17 November 2026	**Kilburn Grange Best Start Family Hub** 1 Palmerston Road, North Maida Vale, London NW6 2JL	10.30am – 12.30pm
19 January 2027	**Hawley Primary School** 3 Hawley Road, London NW1 8RP	10.30am – 12.30pm
9 March 2027	**Fitzjohn's Primary School** 86A Fitzjohn's Avenue, London NW3 6NP	10.30am – 12.30pm
28 April 2027	**Harmood Best Start Family Hub** 1 Forge Place, Ferdinand Street, London NW1 8DQ	5.00pm – 7.00pm
22 June 2027	**St Mary & St Pancras Primary School** 81 Werrington Street, London NW1 1QP	5.00pm – 7.00pm

Want to know more?

Scan the QR code to visit the **Camden Local Offer Events and Activities** page for parents and carers.

For SEND enquiries:

sen.enquiries@camden.gov.uk

020 7974 6500

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