



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Macklin Street, Covent Garden, LONDON WC2B 5NA
Tel: 020 7242 7712 Email: admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk
www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk



Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler



Dear Parents and Carers, Newsletter No. 15 – Spring Term

Friday 12th January 2018

Welcome back to all our families and we hope everyone has returned refreshed and ready for a great Spring Term. We look forward to a successful 2018 together.

A big thank you from all the staff, both teaching and support, for your generous gifts and good wishes for Christmas. Your kindness is always very much appreciated by all of us.

Attendance and Punctuality (11th to 19th December 2017)

In the last week of the Autumn Term it was our Reception Class that achieved the highest attendance so well done to them! We will continue to monitor attendance very closely so please support the school in this endeavour, which is in the very best interests of your children.

Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	92.2%
Reception	97.4%
Year 1	96.7%
Year 2	94.1%
Year 3	95.2%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	92.9%
Year 6	96.4%

Punctuality was particularly worrying in that last week of term, with a total of 39 late marks recorded between 11th and 19th December. Please remember that the doors are open to pupils to arrive **from 8.45 am** and the best start you can give your child is to aim to arrive at school at this time. The school day begins at 9 am and the whole class should be settled and ready to learn at 9 am. To this end, **the door will be closing at 8.55 am** from Monday 15th January onwards, when Miss Collins will head up to class herself. Make it your New Year Resolution to leave in plenty of time to allow for any problems with traffic or public transport. Thank you all so much.

Carol Singing

We are delighted to report that the Choir raised an amazing **£2,063.46** over the two mornings of carol singing at Holborn Tube Station – an amazing achievement! This will be shared between the school (for music resources) and the charity Cancer Research UK.



Healthy Schools Gold Award



Together with this newsletter you will find a copy of the letter received from the Executive Director of Camden and the director for Public Health in Camden and Islington, congratulating St Joseph's on achieving this award, as mentioned in our last newsletter. A huge thank you and well done once again to all involved in the hard work that made this possible, not least our parents and children, for all their efforts. We look forward to maintaining these high standards of healthy eating and an active lifestyle as we begin this new year.

Year 4 and Year 6

Parents in Years 4 and 6 will know that sadly, following a period of absence, Miss James decided to leave St Joseph's at the end of the Autumn Term. Fortunately we were in a strong position to manage this with Mrs Scott-Phillips and Miss McCarroll already in place in these classes.

School Uniform

Following on from our item about the uniform policy, can we please emphasise that children must not wear nail varnish in school. As part of the ongoing review of this policy, we will be stressing that coats, bags and shoes should be plain and in school colours (i.e. dark green or black). We would also remind you that hair accessories should be of a reasonable size and hats etc. should not have football team logos. Items brought to school should not be of a high value, as the school cannot be responsible for any losses. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



FOOTBALL & TENNIS

We apologise for having to cancel these clubs this week, which was due to low numbers. They will be starting now from next Monday 15th January and will continue from that week as follows:

- Monday 15th January – Football for Years 4, 5 & 6 after school until 4.45 pm.
- Tuesday 16th January – Tennis for Years 4, 5 & 6 before school from 8 am to 8.45 am.
- Friday 19th January – Tennis for Years 1, 2 & 3 before school from 8 am to 8.45 am.
- Friday 19th January – Football for Years 1, 2 & 3 after school until 4.45 pm.

A reminder that payment will be required for the whole half-term, i.e. £15 payable by ParentPay or directly to the school office. **We will NO LONGER accept weekly or ad-hoc payments.** There will be no refunds for non-attendance.

We do have spaces in both clubs so please let the office know if you wish your child to attend.

Extended Schools Provision



You will know from the parent survey sent out earlier this week that we are having to look at an alternative provider for these clubs from this coming half-term. Thank you to those who returned the questionnaire. We are collating the results and will be in a position to let you know about the new arrangements in the next week or so. Please be assured that there will be no gap in provision.

We hope to be able to offer other types of after-school activities as part of this change, which may be of interest to those of you who do not necessarily require childcare after school, but would be interested in an activity for the first hour, i.e. up to 4.30 pm.

Building Fund / News – GIFT AID

We hope to have some display boards ready soon to show you all what the building project will look like once all the work is completed. In the meantime we can update you that the foundations are not quite completed but we hope to see progress on the new classroom build very soon!



In September we suggested a regular donation of £20 per term to this fund. As we begin the New Year, please consider making a further donation for the Spring Term. We are very grateful for anything you can give. Thank you.

Don't forget that if you are a UK tax-payer and have made a donation, please call in to the school office for a **Gift Aid form**. Signing this declaration will give an extra 25p to the school for every £1 you give! This can be applied retrospectively and linked to your donations, so don't worry if you didn't complete it straight away.

Primary Admissions for Entry in September 2018

The deadline for applications to both Nursery and Reception entry in September 2018 is this coming **Monday 15th January 2018** so please be sure to have submitted your application so that it can be classed as 'on time.' See previous newsletters and the Camden Primary Admissions website for all the details or contact the School Office if you are unsure.

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

'**Red Book**' Awards – On Monday 15th January many of the children will be receiving our termly 'Red Letters' if they have had a really good term. This replaces our usual 'Red Book' awards for this week. Well done in advance to all those who will receive these special letters next week at the Worship assembly.

Meat Free Mondays

As mentioned last year, we are going to be participating in this initiative and the Caterlink Menu is attached reflecting this choice. We are offering a Taster Session on 1st February at the end of the afternoon, when you will be able to sample some of the items on offer.

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler, Headteacher

**MEAT FREE
MONDAY**