



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

## Dear Parents and Carers, Newsletter No. 18 – Spring Term

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

### Attendance and Punctuality (22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018)

Well done to our youngest children in the Nursery class for achieving a brilliant 100% attendance during last week! Overall attendance for the whole school was 95.5%, which is just above the DfE expected minimum. Four classes failed to reach that expected minimum, however, which is a little disappointing.

There were a total of 22 late marks recorded in the same period. We do need to improve this in the coming weeks and months. We would remind you once again that **The main doors now close at 8.55 am** and children should be in class and ready to learn at 9 am. Please set out aiming to arrive at 8.45 am, allowing plenty of time for your journey. Thank you.

Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	100.0%
Reception	91.3%
Year 1	94.6%
Year 2	98.6%
Year 3	93.0%
Year 4	95.2%
Year 5	94.4%
Year 6	98.5%

**Exceptional Leave Requests** – Can we also remind you that, in a genuine emergency or an exceptional family circumstance, we will always consider your request favourably. However, if the leave of absence is purely for a holiday during term-time, it will not be authorised. Guidelines have been sent out previously but we attach them again to this newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.

### Extended Schools Provision - IMPORTANT

If you would like your child to attend either the Breakfast or the After School Club after half-term, you must make a booking in advance at: <https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-clubs/>.



There is a link from our own website under 'About Us', Extended Schools Provision.

If your child has not been registered in advance with Energy Kidz, they will not be able to attend, so it is really important that parents complete the registration and begin to make some bookings as early as possible. Thank you!

### Coffee Morning with Miss Tyler

Thank you to everyone who attended the coffee morning yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of you. I'm sorry that we were not able to get through the full agenda but hope to be able to speak to you about the building project and extended schools on a future occasion.

There were some good suggestions from parents and we would like to invite you to get together with some of our class-based support staff on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 9 to 10 am**, to build and plan on these suggestions. This is the same day as our Valentine's Day fundraiser after school, so we would be grateful if some of you could volunteer at the morning meeting, to help run the sale in the afternoon. Thank you so much for your continued support.



There are two further dates in the diary for a similar coffee morning event, i.e. Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

### Valentine's Day – Dress up Fundraiser

Once again we invite children and staff to dress in red, pink or with hearts, to 'Share the Love' on Valentine's Day.



This year we would like to raise funds for the charity 'Children with Cancer', so any money donated will be passed on to them. We suggest a donation of £1 per child for the non-uniform day. Thank you in advance and 'Happy Valentine's Day!'



## Year 6 Meeting re SATs – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Mrs Scott-Phillips will be hosting a meeting on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 3.30 pm for all parents AND children in Year 6. The meeting is expected to last one hour. Year 6 children will remain in class on that day at 3.30 pm and we invite parents to come and join them to listen to the presentation.



If you are unable to attend for any reason, please let Mrs Scott-Phillips know **by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** at the latest, but we do encourage everyone to come along. Thank you.

## Homework Online – Mathletics / Spellodrome / Pobble 365



Those of you who attended the coffee morning yesterday will have heard about the various opportunities we have launched recently for children to complete homework and play learning games online. You will also have received letters requesting permission to register your children for the



Pobble literacy programme. These initiatives are a great way to get the children excited about their learning and some of their literacy work has already been published on the Pobble website.

Many of you will know that this will help your children prepare for secondary school, where much of the homework is set online. We will continue to set paper based tasks as well but, if access to a computer or other device is a problem, please speak to your child's class teacher and we will look at how to resolve this together. Please note that some of the work can be done whilst offline.

As mentioned previously, the Homework Policy is being reviewed in the light of these new initiatives and will be available on the school website in due course.

## Poet Visit and Book Signing – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018

The poet Joshua Seigal will be visiting St Joseph's on 28<sup>th</sup> February and he will be leading workshops during the school day. He will then be available for book signing and sales at 3.30 pm in the school hall. Further information is attached and we invite you to place pre-orders by returning a completed reply slip together with the relevant payment in advance.



## Lego Club – Spring 2

This has been a very successful club and we are grateful to Mrs Hawkins, Miss Defreitas and Mrs Heath for facilitating. The children have been having lots of fun whilst learning and creating with Lego. We are delighted to offer this again in the next half-term, on the same days as previously, i.e.

- Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm for Reception and Years 1 & 2
- Thursdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6



Please sign up at the school office by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at the latest, if you would like your child to attend. Numbers are limited and the place will be confirmed on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Payment will need to be made via ParentPay and the cost will be £15 for the half-term.



## Illness or Injury

If your child is in school but has suffered an injury or illness that requires any adjustments to be made to their school day or routine, please make sure that you inform the office, as well as the class teacher. In this way, any other staff (e.g. midday meal staff) can be informed and we can be sure of providing the best care and environment for the child.

## FREE Cycle Training at half-term - REMINDER

We are very fortunate that Camden is offering FREE cycle training for children, adults and families during the half-term break. Details are as follows:

Our next two-day holiday courses for children are on Mon-Tue, 12-13, and Wed-Thu, 14-15 February. The morning sessions are for complete beginners. The afternoon sessions are for children who can already ride.

Courses for adults are held every second weekend. There are sessions for people who have never cycled and for those who want refresher training.

The training is delivered at Haverstock School, NW3. There are bikes and helmets free to borrow. Camden also offers 1:2:1 training for adults and young adults who would like to cycle on-road. You will need your own bike for this training.

All the training is free.

For further information and to register, visit [www.camden.gov.uk/cycleskills](http://www.camden.gov.uk/cycleskills) . Alternatively, call 020 7974 1451 or email [richard.riddle@camden.gov.uk](mailto:richard.riddle@camden.gov.uk)



**Red Book Awards** – Well done to all the children who were commended at our Worship assembly this week, as well as everyone who received a ‘red letter’ for their excellent work, efforts or behaviour. It’s great to celebrate your success together.

Year Group	Writer of the week	Pupil of the week	Perfectly Presented	Playground
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Talia</b> for recognising familiar shop logos and using the ‘Tesco’ logo in her writing.	<b>Skylar</b> for helping her peers with their drawings in news books.		
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Raul</b> for making a big improvement in his writing recently!	<b>Danny</b> for trying his best at everything!	<b>Diego</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Jace</b> for completing a wonderful plan, ready to write his instructions tomorrow.	<b>Blanca</b> for persevering in every single lesson.	<b>Ava</b>	<b>Ivy</b> for being an amazing front line leader and always lining up beautifully. Well done for setting such a great example!
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Elnathan</b> for his brilliant retelling of the story Tuesday.	<b>Julia</b> for showing such dedication during our PE lessons, especially when trying to beat her personal bests.	<b>Almudena</b>	<b>Ahsanul</b> for following instructions and playing safely.
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Scarlet</b> for her great explanation of why Anthony Brown uses beautiful illustrations in his books	<b>Meklit</b> – for getting her pen licence	<b>Luca</b>	
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Miley</b> for big improvements in her writing and always 100% effort	<b>Alejandro</b> for making good choices	<b>Sienna</b>	<b>Abel</b> for having positive playtimes.
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Archie</b> for using really interesting and varied sentences.	<b>Silvia</b> for always listening well and following instructions	<b>Angelo</b>	<b>Redeat</b> for being very helpful and tidying up at the end of playtime.
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Marley</b> for planning and writing a great script based on The Viewer.	<b>Erika</b> for making such amazing progress in her SATs Reading practice tests. She improved her score by 15 marks!	<b>Antonio</b>	

### Building Fund / News – GIFT AID

Look out for story boards which will shortly be displayed in school, showing the plans for the new Early Years classroom, kitchen and playground improvements etc.

Thank you to those of you who have made a contribution to our Building Fund. As always, this is very much appreciated.

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.



## Dates for the Diary

A list of the main known events for the term follows – please note the highlighted dates which indicate a change has been made:

<b>Spring Term 2018</b>	
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 from 2.45 pm	<b>Taster Session re school lunches (Caterlink)</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	<b>Dress in Red, Pink or with Hearts for Valentine's Day £1 requested as a charitable donation</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 (normal finish time)	<b>School ends for the half-term break</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	<b>HALF-TERM BREAK</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	<b>Energy Kidz begin Breakfast &amp; After School clubs</b>
w/c Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	<b>Science Fortnight begins</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	<b>'No Pens Day'</b>
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	<b>World Book Character Day</b>
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	<b>Science Workshops delivered by the Crick Institute in school</b>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018	<b>Reception visit to the City Learning Centre</b>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018	<b>Year 5 visit to the Crick Institute for Science workshops</b>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Book Week / Reading Week begins</b>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Year 4 visit to the London Metropolitan Archives re: Applied Maths (The Blitz)</b>
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 9 to 10 am	<b>Parent Workshop: Emotional Well-being &amp; Resilience</b>
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Year 3 visit to the London Metropolitan Archives re: History of Cake Making &amp; Tour</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 Online Safety Workshop Parents welcome.</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Camden Music Festival</b>
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Year 1 visit to the Bank of England</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Year 4 visit to the City Learning Centre</b>
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 9 to 10 am	<b>Coffee Morning with Miss Tyler</b>
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	<b>Term Ends at 1.15 pm (Energy Kidz will still run)</b>
<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	<b>INSET Day – school closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	<b>Children return to school</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 from 9 to 10 am	<b>Coffee Morning with Miss Tyler</b>

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Kind regards,

*H Tyler*

Miss Helen Tyler  
Headteacher

