



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

Dear Parents and Carers, Newsletter No. 21 – Spring Term

Friday 2nd March 2018

Thank you to all staff, parents and children for your valiant efforts to make the journey into school during this week of wintry weather. **School will continue to operate as normal**, although the top playground has not been in use due to the slip hazard presented by the iron staircase. Do check on public transport and make sure you allow yourselves enough time to travel in safely.



It has been lovely to be back in school and to catch up with our families this week after being away at the Catholic Headteachers' Conference and Safeguarding refresher training.

Attendance and Punctuality (19th to 23rd February 2018)

Figures for last week show Year 5 as having achieved the highest attendance at 97.8% so well done to Year 5. We are still struggling to make the expected minimum of 96% for every class. Let's work really hard to make this happen!



Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	92.3%
Reception	94.7%
Year 1	95.9%
Year 2	96.8%
Year 3	95.9%
Year 4	93.6%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	95.4%

Despite everything, we are very happy to report only 8 late marks during the same week. Well done! Please do keep it up and make sure you arrive well before 8.55 am, when the **main doors now close**.

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March



Well done to everyone, children and staff alike, who dressed up as characters from literature to celebrate World Book Day yesterday. We had the opportunity to admire all the costumes with the whole school in the afternoon.

The poetry workshops with Joshua Seigal were also a great success on Wednesday, enjoyed by all the classes.

Science Fortnight



We are very grateful to staff from the Crick Institute who delivered some excellent and enjoyable workshops across the school yesterday. Year 5 pupils are spending the day at the Institute today, which is another great learning opportunity.



Today the children in Reception have enjoyed a visit from staff from the City Learning Centre and worked with 'Bee Bots, remote control cars and Ipads to improve their ICT skills.



Thank you to Miss Croxon for organising these events.

Activity Clubs After School (Lego and Art)



The Art Club was opened to the younger children, due to a low take-up from KS2, and has got off to a great start.

Payment will need to be made via ParentPay and the cost will be £12 for this half-term, as there will be only four sessions leading up to the Easter break.

Please note that registration for either of these clubs covers only this half-term. Look out for further announcements before Easter about the club for the Summer Term. Children currently attending will need to re-register to continue, but priority will be given to those who have not yet been able to take part.



Packed Lunches

A reminder that we are a 'water only' school and that we need to continue our healthy eating habits to maintain a good standard of nutrition and health for our children. We would also ask parents of our younger children, especially those in Nursery and Reception, to be sure to chop up any fruit such as grapes, which could present a choking hazard. Thank you.



Red Book Awards – Well done to all the children who are commended or their excellent work, efforts or behaviour, as detailed below:

Year Group	Writer of the week	Pupil of the week	Perfectly Presented	Playground
Nursery	Oscar for recognising and finding the letters in his name and then putting them in the right order.	Scarlett for amazing acting as a doctor in the Hospital role play.		
Reception	Maggie for trying hard to give handwriting a go this week!	Eliza W for instantly stopping to help a child who had fallen when we were playing races!	George	Megan for making lots of effort to eat all her lunch!
Year 1	Annabel for writing a very informative report on weather-appropriate clothing as part of Science week.	George for perseverance in Numeracy, particularly when counting in 2s, 10s and 5s! You're a brilliant mathematician! Keep it up!	Nathalia	Blanca for walking silently and sensibly to playtimes. Kai and Sean for always behaving well in the dinner hall and sitting sensibly at the tables.
Year 2	Luca for focusing on his spellings and full stops to improve his writing.	Elnathan for his explanations about materials during our science investigations!	Nancy	Yasmine for always offering others to join in.
Year 3	Reem – for an absolutely mind-blowing description of the Iron Man!	Ryan – for always setting a wonderful example for the rest of the class.	Frankie A	
Year 4	Victoria D for always using beautiful cursive handwriting and being one of the first to receive her pen license!	Mia for always trying to be helpful and ignore distractions around her. Keep it up!	Noel	
Year 5	Christina for a descriptive piece of writing in her homework.	Sameera for working well with others.	Jaedon	
Year 6	Ella for her very engaging recount of the alien crash landing at St Joseph's.	Conor for making a real effort to improve his focus in all of his work, particularly in maths.	Megan	

Building Fund / NEWS!

We have finally gained permission from Camden to erect scaffolding and a hoist to allow the builders to bring in materials to begin the 'super structure' of our new Early Years classroom. This will be put up at the rear entrance of the school and will remain through the Summer Term. The back doors will still be in use for exit from the school and as a fire exit, although the hoarding surrounding the scaffolding will cover the railings facing out, with access remaining via the gate.



Any contribution you can make to our Building Fund (via ParentPay) will help to make a difference to the project and will be used towards final improvements to the playground, furnishings etc. If you are a UK taxpayer, don't forget to complete a Gift Aid form at the office. Thank you!

Structured Conversations – Spring 2018

Sign-up sheets for these meetings are now available on the table by the entrance to the school hall for Year 6 and outside the classroom for Year 2. Please book a slot as soon as you can. Thank you.

- Thursday 15th March & Friday 23rd March - **Year 6**
- Tuesday 20th March & Monday 26th March – **Year 2**



Online Safety Workshop - Years 5 & 6 – Parents Welcome

Parents of children in Years 5 and 6 are welcome to join their children on **Friday 9th March at 9 am** for a workshop about online safety in the school hall.



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 or an event has been added:

Spring Term 2018	
Monday 5 th March 2018	Book Week / Reading Week begins
Monday 5 th March 2018	Year 4 visit to the London Metropolitan Archives re: Applied Maths (The Blitz)
Wednesday 7 th March 2018 from 9 to 10 am	Parent Workshop: Emotional Well-being & Resilience
Tuesday 6 th March 2018	Year 3 visit to the London Metropolitan Archives re: History of Cake Making & Tour
Friday 9 th March 2018 from 9 to 11 am	Years 5 & 6 Online Safety Workshop Parents welcome.
Friday 9 th March 2018	Taste / Sensory workshop in school – Year 4
Monday 12 th March 2018	Camden Music Festival
Thursday 15 th March 2018	Year 1 visit to the Bank of England
Thursday 15 th March 2018	Structured Conversations – Year 6
Friday 16 th March 2018	Year 4 visit to the City Learning Centre
Monday 19 th March 2018 at 9.30 am	School Mass for St Joseph (Years 1 to 6) at St Anselm & St Caecilia
Tuesday 20 th March 2018	Structured Conversations – Year 2
Thursday 22 nd March 2018 from 9 to 10 am	Coffee Morning with Miss Tyler
Friday 23 rd March 2018	Structured Conversations – Year 6
Monday 26 th March 2018	Structured Conversations – Year 2
Thursday 29 th March 2018	Term Ends at 1.15 pm (Energy Kidz will still run)
EASTER HOLIDAY	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 16 th April 2018	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 17 th April 2018	Children return to school
Thursday 19 th April 2018 from 9 to 10 am	Coffee Morning with Miss Tyler

Do stay safe and warm over the weekend.

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler
Headteacher

