



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

Dear Parents and Carers, Newsletter No. 26 – Summer Term

Friday 27th April 2018

Attendance and Punctuality (17th to 20th April 2018)

Last week only Year 3 class exceeded our school target of 96%. Well done to Year 3.

The average attendance for everyone was down to 91.4% for the week. We are still struggling to make the expected minimum of 96% for every class. Let's work really hard to make this happen!

In the same period there were a total of 25 late marks recorded over four days. We will be inviting our Education Welfare Officer to monitor arrivals one morning in the next couple of weeks. It is so important that children are **IN CLASS AND READY TO LEARN BY 9 am** when the register is taken. Please aim to arrive as close as possible to 8.45 am and help your children to develop good routines that will stand them in good stead in later life.

Year Group	Present R/C Marks
Nursery	90.5%
Reception	93.1%
Year 1	92.0%
Year 2	89.3%
Year 3	96.8%
Year 4	88.0%
Year 5	90.6%
Year 6	91.5%

Holidays during term-time are very rarely authorised so be sure to **CHECK DATES** before booking anything. Thank you.

Neighbours and Road Safety

SUPERVISE YOUR CHILDREN

RESPECT THE NEIGHBOURS



A reminder to everyone that our school is in a residential area and we are very close to neighbours on either side of the school entrance and exit doors. Please act considerately and avoid causing a disturbance to others when bringing or collecting your children to and from school. You must supervise your own children at all times and please don't allow them to shout/scream, tap on the windows or climb on the scooter rack.

Although we are fortunate enough to be able to close off Macklin Street at certain times, there is always a risk that a vehicle will come down the road whilst it is closed. This could be a motorcycle, a bicycle or even a car or truck which may have been parked in the street before the closure. Please teach your children to respect the road **AT ALL TIMES**, so they do not forget that this risk is always there.

WATCH FOR VEHICLES IN THE ROAD

Let's work together for a safe and happy environment for children and neighbours alike. Thank you.



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

School Uniform

As warm weather approaches can we please remind you that children have to wear appropriate footwear. Shoes should be plain and in school colours. Please do not send your children in wearing sandals as it is a health and safety hazard. Can we also emphasise that hair accessories and jewellery should be of a reasonable size and hats etc. should not have football team logos.

Lost Property

A pair of Adidas trainers have been lost in school. They are white, Size 4 "Superstar" trainers with 3 black stripes. Can we please ask you to check your child's PE kit in case they have been picked up in error. As a reminder, 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



Parent Coffee Mornings



Numbers have been very disappointing at the weekly coffee mornings on Thursdays from 9 – 10 am in the hall. We are hoping to organise a major fundraising event for early September, to coincide with the opening of our new Nursery class, in aid of our Building Fund. The idea is to plan a street fair come carnival event, possibly on a Saturday, and to get local businesses involved. This type of event will require a lot of planning and therefore we need many more interested and willing parents to help, both before the event and on the day itself. Can we appeal to all of you to come along to the coffee mornings to offer your ideas and time in this way? We cannot rely on only one or two people: Many hands make light work! We would also love to hear from any of you who may have corporate links with firms who might be interested in funding or supporting the project as part of their 'Corporate Responsibility' outreach. Thank you so much!



We have attached a short questionnaire at the end of this newsletter to help us to gauge the level of interest in the kinds of events we are proposing. Please take a moment to complete this and hand it in to the office. **We can make things happen if we work together!**

After School Activities

Our after school clubs have started this week. We are delighted to have a completely full Reading Club with Miss Smith and Mrs Davies for Years 1 and 2. As mentioned previously, we are not insisting on any payment for this club. However, the cost would usually be £15 so if you are able to make a donation of any kind, we would be very grateful.

The Monday and Thursday Lego Clubs are a great success, with some places still being available for KS2 on Thursdays. Thank you to Miss Plivda, Ms Defreitas and Mrs Heath for their commitment and enthusiasm with this activity.

There are also a few spaces available for the Arts & Crafts Club (Years 1 to 6) so please let the office know if you would like your child to take part. Thank you to Miss Bear-Nicastro and Mrs Sesay for their support in running this club. You will have admired the banner displayed outside the office which was the fruit of last term's club!

The Bloomsbury Football Academy sessions began this week and demand was high for these places. It's great to see many of our girls taking part and we look forward to hearing about their progress and successes in the weeks to come. Thank you to Miss Quirke for organising this.

NB: Payment can only be made through ParentPay, as we aim to be completely cashless by September 2018. If you have to pay in cash, this can be done at local newsagents displaying the PayPoint sign, with a bar coded letter that the office can provide for you.



We have now counted up the last few donations received in the CAFOD envelopes and can report a total of **£ 54.89** was raised, which we will be passing on to the Charity directly. Thank you to those who contributed to this Lenten Appeal.

Red Book Awards – Well done to all the children who were commended or their excellent work, efforts or behaviour last week:

Year Group	Writer of the week	Pupil of the week	Perfectly Presented	Playground
Nursery	Amanda for the detailed description of the family event she attended in the 'News book'.	Sophie for her fantastic attitude to learning and for always trying hard with the class challenges!		
Reception	Diego for trying hard practising his tricky words over the Easter holidays!	Anto for being really confident sharing her thoughts and feelings with her friends.	Henry	



Year 1	Zachary for explaining how he solved his problems in clear, full sentences in Numeracy.	Anoushka for extremely systematic problem solving in Numeracy	Martim	
Year 2	Mazie for her improved spellings and thinking about her best bets with phonics.	Teddy for explaining a quick method on how to find a quarter of an amount once you have found half.	Beau	
Year 3	Ryan for huge effort in his presentation.	Victor for a week of very positive behaviour. Well done!	Santino	
Year 4	Noel for always pushing himself to include advanced vocabulary and different sentence structures.	Miley for persevering with her Numeracy and volunteering her answers in class.	Oliver	
Year 5	Christine for working hard on an engaging piece of writing over the holidays.	Adam for being sensible, mature and hardworking all week.	Frankie	
Year 6	Alexander for his brilliant descriptions of a storm at sea.	Marley for his positive attitude to learning.	Megan	

Congratulations to Sonny in Year 5 for his recent participation and success with the Vectis Festival of Mini Rugby on the Isle of Wight. His team, Wanstead RFC U10s won the prize for their group.



Do let us know about any other special achievements that your children may like to share from their activities outside school. We are always happy to celebrate success together!

Pupil Premium / Free School Meals Eligibility

There has been a recent change in the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals. Please remember that, even if your child receives a free meal because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, it is still important to apply for FSMs because the school will receive a sum of money under the 'Pupil Premium' scheme, for every child who is eligible. Applying is easy at:

<https://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/content/education/schools/pupil-benefits-and-allowances/free-school-meals.en?page=2>

The GOV.UK website explains that a child may be eligible for free school meals (FSM) if their parents are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parents are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax credit
- Universal Credit – for those applying on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they get)



Building Fund Update

Work is progressing well on the Early Years classroom, where our new Nursery entrants will be based from September 2018. The scaffolding allows access for building materials via a hoist and gantry, so there is no need for access through the school.

We are also looking forward to a new kitchen, which will be located where the current Nursery classroom is. The playground infill will then follow, to make up for the lost playground space.



We are working hard to access further funding for the final phase of the project, for which we will have to submit a new capital bid to the Diocese in the Autumn, having been unsuccessful on the last occasion. We will be looking carefully at major fundraising efforts in the coming months, in order to achieve the final goal of a new secure entrance for the school.

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. As we start the new term, please consider a contribution for the Summer Term. If you are a UK taxpayer, don't forget to complete a Gift Aid form at the office.

If you have corporate contacts you think may be able to help, please get in touch with us.

Dates for the Diary

Below is a list of the diary dates we have planned in so far this term:

Summer Term 2018	
Monday 30 th April 2018	Personal Safety Talk – Year 4
Monday 7 th May 2018	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thursday 10 th May 2018	School Mass for Ascension Day
Friday 11 th May 2018	Scooter Training – Year 2
w/c Monday 14 th May 2018	KS2 SATs – Year 6
Thursday 17 th May to Tuesday 22 nd May	Bookfair
Thursday 17 th May 2018	Young Women's Sports Day – Years 3 & 4
Monday 28 th May to Friday 1 st June 2018	HALF-TERM break
Thursday 14 th June 2018	Class Photographs
Thursday 21 st June 2018	Workshop for Year 2 – Who to ask for help?
Friday 29 th June to Monday 2 nd July 2018	PGL School Journey – Year 6
w/c 2 nd July 2018	Sports Week (TBC)
Wednesday 11 th July 2108	Sports Day
w/c Monday 16 th July 2108	Visits to Phoenix Gardens Exhibition
Friday 20 th July 2018	Term ends at 1.15 pm
Monday 3 rd September 2018	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 4 th September 2018	Children return to school

Wishing you all a good weekend despite the rain!

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler,
Headteacher

Please complete the parent questionnaire that follows - thank you!



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE
Coffee Mornings and Events



- Have you ever attended a coffee morning at school? YES / NO
What would you like to see happening at a coffee morning?

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- Would you like to come along to a coffee morning and, if so, which day suits you best?
YES / NO Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday / Friday

- What skills or time could you offer as a contribution to events?

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- Would you be interested in a street fair / carnival event at school:

- o Attending? YES / NO
o Helping to plan? YES / NO
o Helping on the day? YES / NO

- Would you be interested in an evening social fundraiser for parents:

- o Attending? YES / NO
o Helping to plan? YES / NO
o Helping on the day? YES / NO

- Do you have any corporate contacts that might be willing to partner or support the school with major fundraising? If so, please give details below or contact Mrs Blanchfield in the office.

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- Would you be interested in becoming a Class Representative for your child's class?
(Ask Miss Tyler, Michelle Zini or Charlotte Gubb what this would entail.)

YES / NO

