

Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

Dear Parents and Carers,

Newsletter No. 9 – Autumn Term

Friday 9th November 2018

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE: ROAD CLOSURE

We have been advised that it will take up to four weeks for the bollards to be replaced, as the parts have to be ordered from abroad. In the meantime we are using traffic cones to close off the top of Macklin Street each morning and afternoon. However, you will need to continue to be vigilant, as the method is clearly not fool proof. Thank you.

Attendance & Punctuality – w/e 9-11-18

We are delighted to see attendance gradually improving and are grateful for your efforts and those of Miss Plivda, who has been working hard to support families in keeping up attendance levels as high as possible. This week Year 3 and Year 6 almost reached the 100% mark, although three classes failed to reach the expected minimum target of 96%.

The number of late marks remains the same, with 22 being recorded this week. Please see below regarding the beginning of the day.

| Year Group | % Present |
|---------------|--------------|
| Nursery | 91.4% |
| Reception | 92.9% |
| Year 1 | 97.7% |
| Year 2 | 92.7% |
| Year 3 | 99.6% |
| Year 4 | 96.0% |
| Year 5 | 97.9% |
| Year 6 | 99.6% |



Start the Day Together

We know that, with a young family, the beginning of the day can be stressful and rushed. We have always encouraged parents and carers to aim to arrive at school at 8.45 am and we would like to confirm that, between 8.45 and 8.55 am, you are welcome to pop in to your child's class if this helps to settle them quickly, or if you have a quick question or worry to share with the teacher. Whilst this is not the moment to enter into a long conversation or to monopolise the teacher's time, it is the perfect opportunity to mention something quickly or to ask for a longer appointment to be arranged at a convenient time. It may be that your child has had a sleepless night or that you have a query about the homework. Whatever the reason, we know that a minute of conversation can be enough to reassure, to put a mind at rest, to clarify queries.

However, in order to comply with safeguarding and to allow for prompt registration at 9 am, a bell will be rung at 8.55 am to signal that parents and carers must now leave the building!



School Uniform and PE Kits

This week we have reminded staff that our uniform policy must be reinforced, to include PE kits, coats and bags. We have noticed a sharp increase in the number of occasions when the policy is not being followed.



Please expect your child to come home with a uniform slip if they fail to come in the correct uniform, if they fail to have the correct PE kits, coats, bags or shoes. This will also be recorded as a behaviour incident at Stage 1 of our Behaviour Policy. We want us all to be proud of our school and our uniform represents this outwardly in a very clear and obvious manner. Bags, shoes and PE kits are increasingly being worn in the wrong colours or with brand names and logos displayed. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the book fair over the last week. Purchases made amounted to just over £300, which was the target we needed to reach in order to qualify for free resources for the school.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you also to those of you who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning. The total raised was **£87.93** which we will be passing on the Charity on your behalf.

CAFOD Harvest Appeal

The 'Brighten Up' envelopes have now all been opened and counted up and we are delighted to be able to send a total of **£158.67** to the Charity for their work overseas.

World Wide Fund for Nature

Some classes have yet to complete their fundraising in support of their adopted endangered animal species. However, the totals raised so far by the others is as follows:

- Nursery (Leopard) - **£231.11**
- Reception (Panda) - **£157.20**
- Year 1 (Tiger) - **£103.05**
- Year 2 (Polar Bear) - **£19.00**
- Year 5 (Elephant) - **£37.85**



This gives a grand total of **£548.21** so far. We look forward to reporting the remaining totals and any updates in our next newsletter.

RE – Remembrance Day



This weekend marks the day World War One ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918. At St. Joseph's we enjoyed a beautiful remembrance worship and held a two-minute silence at 11am to remember the people who have died in wars. As Remembrance Day falls on Sunday 12th November this year, this will be the focus for this week's homework.

KS1 and KS2 – write a special prayer in honour of those who fought and died during war or conflict

Nursery and Reception – design and make a 2D or a 3D poppy

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04p4zsl> Please do take some time to watch this beautiful A beautiful and evocative children's animation that sees war as experienced by animals in a WWI battlefield.

Pope Francis Tweet



This week Pope Francis reminds us that prayer can be a moment to share with God, as we would with our friends, all the joys, sorrows and worries of our lives; a moment to talk and listen with God, as if we were calling on our best friend:

Praying means knocking at the door of a friend. God is our friend.



Prayer Meeting and Coffee Morning (Advent Fair Planning)

The next prayer meeting for parents will take place on **Thursday 22nd November** from 9 to 9.30 am, led by Mrs Blanchfield. Please join us to 'knock at the door of our friend' together!

We will also take the opportunity to plan for the Advent Fair, which is fast approaching.



Fortnightly Newsletters

Please note that we have decided to move to a **fortnightly newsletter** with immediate effect. Therefore the next newsletter will be in two weeks' time. Obviously, if there is any important news in the meantime, we will of course get in touch.

We remind you that the best way to communicate for us is to send the newsletter via email. Paper copies can so easily be lost and we are keen to reduce our paper consumption for environmental and financial reasons. The newsletter is always published to the website each Friday and a copy is also placed in the outside notice board, so please be sure to keep up with news and events this way. Thank you.

Four Walls – Shopping List for Care Packs



Four Walls will be leading an assembly with the children on **Monday 19th November**. In the meantime, following the item in our previous newsletter, they have sent us the attached as a suggested 'shopping list' for the care packs we want to provide. Do take a look and perhaps start adding small items to your shopping list each week, as we approach the colder weather and the Christmas season.

If you wish to send these items in to school, we will hold on to them until we are ready to make up the packs following the assembly on the 19th November.

Christmas Cards – There is still time!

If any of you had the opportunity to make a Christmas card during the half-term break, please bring it (or them) along to the office and we will hold on to them for sale at the Advent Fair. So far we have not received any, but there is still time! Hint: Make sure the size fits a standard envelope!



Any unsold cards can be included with the care packs and will bring some Christmas cheer to those who really need this.



Poppy Appeal

The new stationery items have proved extremely popular and we still have some available. We will let you know how much was raised once the British Legion come and collect their money box.

Advent Fair – Wednesday 12th December

This year's Advent Fair will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 12th December. We will need volunteers to organise and run this event, so please come along to the coffee mornings as they are advertised. Thank you.



Christmas Decorations will be put up in the school hall on the afternoon of **Friday 30th November**.

Red Book Awards - Congratulations to all children who were commended by their teachers and support staff for excellent work, effort or behaviour during last week:

| Year Group | Writer of the week | Pupil of the week | Perfectly Presented | Playground |
|------------------|--|--|---------------------|--|
| Nursery | Oliver - for learning to form his own name. | Arabella - for speaking up during carpet session for the first time. Well done Arabella ! | | |
| Reception | Kamilla – for creating beautiful posters and cards accompanied with letter writing practice. Well done! | Yonael – for always being a kind friend to others and participating well in class. | Filipa | |
| Year 1 | Diego – for always producing such beautiful, neat and easy to read handwriting. | Tiana – for trying really hard to be helpful and considerate to others. | Megan | Hugo – for trying harder to play sensibly with his friends in the playground. |
| Year 2 | Aaron – for writing a lovely remembrance prayer. | Annabel – for trying hard to improve her handwriting. | Martim | |
| Year 3 | Vincent - for this great WW1 poem about a soldier living in a trench. | Shang - for being so happy and kind within the classroom. | Khairathun | |
| Year 4 | Anthony - for showing a HUGE improvement with his handwriting. | Meklit - for remaining focused during every lesson and making thoughtful contributions. | Natnael | |
| Year 5 | Albert - for a great improvement on his presentation, meaning he now deserves to receive his pen license. | Miley - for her fantastic effort when converting units of measurement when problem solving. | Abel | |
| Year 6 | Christina – for writing an excellent setting description. | Adam – for working really hard in RE this week. | Lucia | |

Good Luck to Ms Quirke!

Ms Quirke leaves this evening for Greece, where she will be running the marathon in Athens, where the Olympics began! We wish her lots of luck and I know you will be cheering her on as you remember her over the weekend. We look forward to her triumphant return on Monday!

If any of you would like to make a donation to honour her great achievement, this will go towards the School Building Fund. Please come along to the office on Monday or look for the collection bucket as you arrive!



Reception and Nursery Admissions – Deadline is 15th January 2019
IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL OUR NURSERY PARENTS

Parents of our current Nursery aged children can already apply for a Reception place for September 2019. This must be done online with the Local Authority and our own Supplementary Information Form is also required. Contact the office or visit the school website for details.

Children who will have their 4th birthday between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 can apply directly to the school for a Nursery place starting in September 2019. Information is on our website.

Dates and Events

Please check the dates in the table below, which are correct at the time of writing. Thank you.

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler
 Headteacher



| Autumn Term 2018 | |
|--|---|
| Monday 12 th November 2018 | Anti-Bullying Week |
| Wednesday 14 th November 2018 | Year 3 Visit to Keats House |
| Thursday 15 th November 2018 | Year 4 Visit to Keats House |
| Monday 19 th November 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y6 |
| Wednesday 21 st November 2018 | Structured Conversations – Reception and Y5 |
| Thursday 22 nd November 2018 at 9.00 am | Parents' Coffee Morning |
| Friday 23 rd November 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y2 and Y3 |
| Monday 26 th November 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y5 only |
| Tuesday 27 th November 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y6 |
| Friday 30 th November 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y1 and Y4 |
| Monday 3 rd December 2018 | Structured Conversations- Reception |
| Tuesday 4 th December 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y1 and Y4 |
| Thursday 6 th December 2018 | Parents' Coffee Morning |
| Thursday 6 th December 2018 | Structured Conversations- Y2 and Y3 |
| Friday 7 th December 2018 | Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day |
| Thursday 13 th December 2018 at 2.00 pm | Infant Nativity |
| Friday 14 th December 2018 at 10.00 am | Infant Nativity |
| Wednesday 19 th December 2018 | Christmas Carol Concert at Corpus Christi |
| Tuesday 18 th December 2018 | Christmas Lunch |
| Thursday 20 th December 2018 | Class Parties and Own Clothes Day |
| Friday 21 st December 2018 | Term ends @ 1.15 pm |

Structured Conversations - IMPORTANT

Lists are already available for you to sign up for an appointment with your child's class teacher. KS2 lists are on the table outside the hall and the younger classes have lists outside their classrooms.

Please note the highlighted dates above, as there have been a couple of changes to these.

NB: Nursery parents will have a parent workshop in place of the Structured Conversation. A letter will go out separately about this, inviting you along on Wednesday 5th December 2018. The Structured Conversation will take place in the Spring Term for these parents, once staffing has been confirmed.

