

Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

Dear Parents and Carers, Newsletter No. 13 – Spring Term

Friday 18th January 2019

Although we have moved to fortnightly newsletters, there are a number of things that need highlighting so we are sending this extra edition today!

KS2 Carol Service - I omitted to mention in last week's newsletter how sorry I was not to have been able to attend this service last term. I realise many of you were not aware that I was unwell during the last week of term and was so disappointed to have missed the event, which is always a very special highlight for me. So much so that I was able to enjoy a 'private' performance during school yesterday, when the children treated our school family to a second opportunity to worship together and give thanks for Our Saviour's birth.



A huge well done again to everyone and special thanks as always to all the children and staff who helped to make this a prayerful and joyful celebration for us, in particular Miss Cotter and Miss Bear.

Road Closure – Macklin Street

As you know, the bollards were damaged some time back and we have been waiting to hear from Camden Council when they will be replaced. This week we were informed that the work is scheduled for Monday 21st January 2018. Hopefully there will be no further delay but, in the meantime, please be vigilant as drivers do not always take heed of traffic wardens or traffic cones which have been our temporary measure!

Coffee Mornings

The first Coffee Morning date with Miss Tyler has been set for next Thursday 24th January from 9 to 10 am, to discuss events for the coming Spring and Summer Terms, as well as any workshops parents may request. Please do come along, especially if you are new to the school this academic year. We will let you know further dates when they have been agreed. Dates for parent prayer meetings will also be confirmed shortly.



COFFEE MORNING THIS WAY



Family Prayer Afternoon – Year 6 – Friday 25th January

Parents of Year 6 children are the first to be invited to a Family Prayer Afternoon, which will take place next Friday from 2.45 pm in the classroom. After some 15 minutes of prayer and reflection, you will be able to share light refreshments before the end of the school day. It will be lovely to see as many of you as possible and your presence will be a wonderful example to the children. If you are coming along, please bring some squash and/or fresh fruit juices or smoothies, together with a healthy snack to share (remember we are a nut-free school)!

Similar invitations from other classes will follow!

Ten Ten Newsletter for Parents; Living Faith within our Families

A copy of the newsletter for January is attached. Please share this with your children



Pope Francis Tweet



This week the Pope invites us to think of what we can offer to others; let us think of others before ourselves and be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit when we see others in need:

Let us look at our hands, often so empty of love,
and today let us try to think of some gift we can offer freely.

Adoremus Homework

Please take the time to look at the beautiful artwork displayed outside the classrooms and outside the hall. Adoremus is a Diocesan-wide focus to help us celebrate and adore Christ's presence in the Eucharist. Each class has taken their inspiration from different famous artists e.g. Salvador Dali. The children are very proud of their work so do take a moment to have a look when you drop them off in the mornings.



Whole School RE Homework - REMINDER



The feast of the Epiphany is celebrated by the Church every year on the 6th January. This is a very special day which marks the end of the Christmas season when Three Kings followed a star from far-away lands to visit the baby Jesus. Please help your children to complete the task relevant to their year group from the list below, set by Ms Logue. The homework should be brought in **by 25th January 2019**. Thank you.



KS2 - Think about the gifts the baby Jesus was given by the Three Wise Men. Explain in detail why these gifts were given and the prophecy behind the gifts.

KS1 - During our assembly on Monday we talked about a gift that we would like to give baby Jesus. Think carefully about the meaning of your gift and explain why you would give this to the baby Jesus.

Nursery and Reception – Draw a picture of the nativity scene including the Three Wise Men with their special gifts for the baby Jesus.

School Uniform – REMINDER

I have noticed quite a few of our girls have been wearing hair bows and accessories which are either too large or in different colours. Please make sure that **hair accessories are appropriate and in the school colours**. I would refer you to the school uniform policy, available on our website at:

https://www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/St.-Joseph_s-Catholic-Primary-School-School-Uniform-Policy-Revised-June-2018.pdf. Please note the section on shoes and PE kit also.

Clubs and Activities

A summary of the clubs that are running is given below:

Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Cooking Club – KS2 (Yrs 3 to 6) with Miss Plivda & Miss Iglesias	Full
Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Lego Club – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Miss Duffield & Ms Defreitas	Full
Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Benchball / Dodgeball – Y3, Y4 with Mrs Davis & staff TBC	Not enough interest has been registered, so this will not run.
Tuesdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Arts & Crafts – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Mrs Davis & Miss Duffield	Full
Wednesdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Cooking Club – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Miss Plivda & Miss Iglesias	Full
Thursdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Reading Club – Y1 & Y2 with Miss Smith & Mrs Davis	Full

If you have signed your child up to any of the above, please make sure you make your contribution of **£15 for the half-term**, or £5 in the case of Reading Club. Once places are confirmed, payment can be made via ParentPay.

Thank you to the staff who have volunteered to offer these enrichment activities outside of their normal working hours.

PGL – Year 6 and Year 5



A reminder to Year 6 parents that the next payment for PGL is due in February before the half-term break.

Following the discussion at our recent parent meeting with Year 5 parents, it has now been decided that their school journey will take place at the start of Year 6, i.e. towards the end of September 2019. We will write to you with dates and details as soon as they are available, so that you can secure a place and begin making staggered payments in plenty of time. We believe that the experience will benefit the class greatly, giving them the tools for building resilience and providing a really positive and energised start to their final year at St Joseph's.

Building Fund

As we start this new calendar year and a new term, we would be very grateful for a regular termly contribution to our Building Fund, which will help enormously towards the final phase of our project. Since we relaunched this fund in September 2017, parents have donated a total of £3,435.10, so our thanks go out to all who have contributed; please keep your donations coming in.

If you have any corporate contacts which may be useful in this area, please contact Mrs Blanchfield.



February Play-scheme

Coram's Fields have asked us to share details of their holiday play-scheme for the February half-term break. The scheme will run from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February and contact details are:

Tel: 02033842212

Email: oscbookings@coramsfields.org.uk

Places are available for children aged 4 to 12 and the Holiday Scheme will run from 8 am to 6.30 pm, offering a host of activities, including sports, arts and crafts, cooking and offsite visits.

Dates and Events

Term dates for Spring and Summer 2019 are repeated below. Once again we would urge you not book any holidays or time away during term time, as absence will only be authorised in very exceptional circumstances. Thank you.

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler
Headteacher

Spring Term 2019 (29 + 29 = 58 days)

Monday 7 January	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 8 January	Children start school
Monday 18 February – Friday 22 February	Half Term
Monday 25 February	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 26 February	Children start school
Friday 5 April	Last day of term

Summer Term 2019 (23 + 36 = 59 days)

Tuesday 23 April	Staff INSET Day
Wednesday 24 April	Children start school
Monday 6 May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May	Half Term
Monday 3 June	Children start school
Tuesday 23 July	Last day of term

STAFF INSET DAYS (5)

Monday 3 September 2018

Monday 29 October 2018

Monday 7 January 2019

Monday 25 February 2019

Tuesday 23 April 2019



Public Holidays Spring and Summer 2019

Good Friday	Friday 19 April
Easter Monday	Monday 22 April
May Day	Monday 6 May
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 27 May
August Bank Holiday	Monday 26 August