

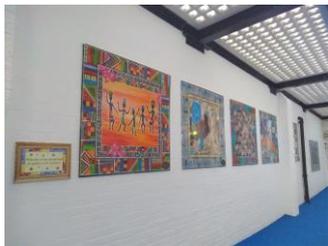
Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler

**Dear Parents and Carers,
 Newsletter No. 20 – Summer Term**

Friday 26th April 2019

Welcome back to all our families. I hope you all were able to enjoy a restful break over the Easter period and benefit from the amazing good weather we were blessed with during the Easter weekend.

PLAYGROUND SURPRISE AND BUILDING NEWS!



I'm sure the children will have shared the great news that the surface of our basement playground has been transformed over the Easter holiday, with a combination of artificial grass and a blue 'wet-pour' impact absorbing surface now providing colour and improved safety to the children. We have kept this a complete surprise from the children and their reaction was a joy to observe! Take a look at the lobby screen next week to share in their delight.



We are grateful to an anonymous donor for a significant portion of the funds used to complete this project, as well as to others who have made contributions to our Building Fund. Our Premises Manager, Jamie Ansley, put in many hours of work to renew and repaint a large portion of the main wall along the corridor in the basement, which also deserves a vote of thanks and appreciation.



EASTER GARDEN & EASTER BONNETS

We have had a great response to the Easter Garden project and have seen some beautiful and thoughtful expressions of the meaning of Easter in the contributions brought in this week. Well done everyone!

Lots of children have also made some lovely Easter hats so well done and thank you for the time and effort taken over the holiday and this week to work with your children on these tasks.

On Monday afternoon parents and carers are invited to join us in a brief Easter Celebration Worship during which the children will show off their hats and to take a look at the Easter gardens with them. I'm sure you will love what you see!

Early Years and KS1 parents and carers are welcome at **2 pm** and KS2 parents and carers (Years 3 to 6) are welcome at **2.45 pm**. Prizes will be awarded for the best efforts in each class.



RE HOMEWORK – due by Friday 10th May

Over the next two weeks we are asking that the children reflect on the School's revised Mission Statement:



"We live, love and learn through Jesus"

They can look at the statement as a whole or, alternatively, concentrate on one of the aspects specifically (i.e. live, love, learn) and think about how this is expressed in our school family as part of our values and ethos. All children should participate in this task, in a way that is age appropriate across the classes. Examples of how their thoughts might be expressed are:

- Poster (any size)
- Prayer
- Letter to prospective parents or children
- Pamphlet or a flyer
- Design for a banner to display in or outside the school

Miss Tyler and Ms Logue will both be assessing this work and any especially excellent examples may be used in promotional materials for the school, for example: banners; postcards; posters etc.

There will be a box in the entrance as usual, where work can be submitted. Please make sure your child's name and class is clearly labelled on every piece of work. Thank you.

POPE FRANCIS TWEET

Pope Francis shares the joy of Christ's resurrection as he reminds us that:

"Christ is risen, and with Him our creative hope arises to face the problems of our day,
because we know we are not alone."



CHILDREN'S MISSIO APPEAL



Thank you to those of you who have sent in your Missio collection boxes. You can still send these in for another week so please collect your pennies if you didn't do this over the holiday. The children will remember that Father Philip visited the school to talk to them about the work of this charity overseas. You can read about it for yourself at: <https://missio.org.uk/> Thank you in advance for your support.

SCHOOL PLACES

If you have a child in Nursery who has been offered a place here for Reception in September, please make sure that you accept this by the deadline of **30th April 2019**. We have sent out reminders to some of you; this is really important to be certain of securing the place.

We do have some vacancies across the school and this does affect our future funding; if you know of any families who would be interested in transferring their children to St Joseph's, please direct them to the office staff, who will be able to help them with this process.

NSPCC Workshops re Online Safety & Parent Workshop



Yesterday we welcomed visitors from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, in partnership with O2, who delivered workshops to parents and children about how to stay safe online. Thank you to those of you who attended the parent workshop. This is such an important aspect of life in today's world; please do all you can to keep yourselves informed about the best way to support your children with this. There are some booklets available in the front entrance and attached to this newsletter. Do take a moment to read

them and to visit some of the recommended websites.

'Buddy' and the NSPCC staff will be returning on 23rd May. In the meantime there will be a sports based fundraising event which will help to support this work in schools across the UK.

CHICKEN POX

Parents and carers will already be aware from our earlier email that we have several cases of children being off school with chicken pox across the school. Guidance can be obtained from your GP and at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/> but children should not return to school until the blisters have dried up and no new ones are appearing.

SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS EVENT

We have had a brilliant response to this event and have collected over £800 in sponsorship. Part of this money goes towards the cost of the wristbands and the event itself and there is then a 60/40% split of any remaining funds between the school and the scheme. This means that St Joseph's will have raised approximately £300 towards sports provision in school. Wristbands will be available in a couple of weeks or so. Well done and a big thank you to everyone who generously donated to this scheme.



BIG BATTERY HUNT

Please do hold on to your used batteries for recycling – if you have already sent in your box but have more batteries, we can still accept these up until we break up for the half-term holiday at the end of May. The school will be entered into a prize draw with a chance to win: a 2-night class trip to the Sustainability Centre, 3 years' subscription to My Maths, £2,000 worth of school equipment vouchers, iPads and/or certificates and trophies. Thank you.



CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The various after school activities run by the school will begin next week. If you have yet to make a payment for these, please be sure to do this over the weekend.

ATTENDANCE

A reminder as we begin a new and important Summer Term that holidays during term-time will not be authorised. In some cases, especially when children are absent immediately before or after a school holiday, you may be asked to provide medical evidence. This is in line with guidelines and targets set by the DfE and the Local Authority, with whom we work closely to support families to achieve high standards of attendance and punctuality. Term dates for the academic year 2019-20 were sent out earlier this week.

SUMMER TERM DATES

We will include a list of up-coming dates for Summer Term events in our next newsletter.

With every good wish for the weekend.

Kind regards,

H Tyler

Miss Helen Tyler
Headteacher