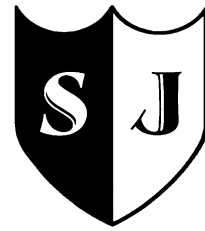


St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Guided by Jesus, learning together, striving for excellence'



December 2018

Dear Parents / Carer

I am delighted to announce that from the 1st of December I have been appointed as the permanent Head Teacher of St Joseph's. Thank you to everyone who supports the school. We have so much to look forward to and hope this will continue to be a successful year for St Joseph's.

The current building work to improve the school entrance is on the final home run and we hope to be using the new Reception entrance from Monday 10th December. Also from Monday 10th December the children in KS2 can go back to entering and leaving the school via the junior playground. At home time the children in KS2 can be collected from the external classroom doors which lead out to the playground. The EYFS children will continue to use their usual entrance at the front. EYFS children will enter and leave via the EYFS door. The KS1 children will enter school via the KS1 door at the front but can be collected from the external classroom doors at the rear of the building. At home time KS1 and KS2 Parents can access the rear of the building via the junior playground.

Once the building work is fully completed parents and carers will be invited to a coffee morning to see the improvements. We aim to have an open partnership with parents and carers.

School Mission Statement

Following the training day in October, staff and governors agreed a new mission statement. This becomes the basis of our Catholic school.

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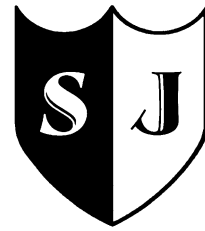
Catholic pupil profile

Our new virtues for this half term are Faith-filled and hopeful which is perfect at this time of year when we prepare for Advent and Christmas. Pupils and staff at St Joseph's are growing to be: Faith-filled in our beliefs; and hopeful for the future

Rough Hay Road, Darlaston, West Midlands, WS10 8HN
Telephone / Fax: 0121 568 6496 email: postbox@st-josephs.walsall.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs K Hinton

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Advent charity

This advent, as a school, we will be supporting the Good Shepherd Mission, who work with the homeless in Wolverhampton. We will be asking for support with this as it is such an important reminder of how fortunate we are. Our school will be putting our faith into action by collecting items requested by the mission. A collection box for the donations will be available in the school hall. See the attached flyer which is also on the home page of the school website.

Wednesday word

Each child in KS2 will receive a copy of the Wednesday word which is a reflection on Sunday's gospel reading. Please take the time to share this with your child.

Confirmation commitment mass

Children in Year 5 and 6 who are baptised Catholics are to receive the sacrament of Confirmation by His grace the Archbishop Bernard Longley on 10th February 2019 at St Joseph's church. They attended a Confirmation commitment mass on Sunday 11th November. It was wonderful to see the Parish and school together supporting the children and their families.

Children in Year 3, will be making their first holy communion in the Summer, on Sunday 23rd June 2019 at St Joseph's church, will be contacted shortly to arrange details.

Masses

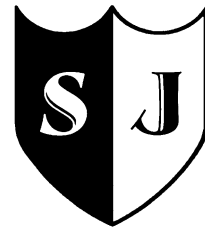
Each KS2 class attends church for Mass on a Tuesday morning on a rota basis. Parents and carers are very welcome to support their children. We will also have whole school masses in the school hall for years 1 to 6 every 5th week.

Need to see a member of staff

If parents need to see a member of staff please arrange an appointment at the end of the day. If you need to speak to a senior member of staff then please contact the school office. We have an open door policy to encourage communication between home and school. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Website

Please be aware that all information and dates for your diary will be available on the school website. www.st-josephs.walsall.sch.uk

Safeguarding

The designated safeguarding lead is Mrs Hinton and the deputy lead is Mrs Waller.

Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for your child, Mrs Sheffield has organised an app to assist with this.

Attendance

As a school we have a high focus on attendance and again this year we will be supported by the local authority. Holidays during term time will not be authorised.

I would like to improve attendance throughout the school and we will be introducing a reward scheme for the children who achieve 100% attendance.

Breakfast club

Our Breakfast Club is open each morning from 7:30 am. Breakfast Club can provide your child with a breakfast for £2.50 or can be used as a drop off session (without breakfast) for £2.00. Breakfast is served between 7.30am and 8.25am. No food will be served after 8.25am. If you would like your child to attend please see Mrs Brown.

Breakfast can only be supplied by the club. Please speak to staff if you have any specific requests and we will try our best to cater for them.

Medication

Please ensure that if your child has a diagnosis of asthma then they will need an inhaler in school. If your child requires medication to be administered then a medical form will need to be completed. Forms can be collected from the school office.

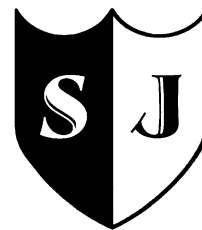
Homework club

Children who wish to attend homework club can do so on a Tuesday after school (3.15pm to 4.15pm). Members of staff will be available to guide and support.

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Events that have taken place this term

Years 5 & 6 - Knife Talk, Darlaston Police

Years 1 to 6 – British Values Assemblies

Years 1 to 6 – Assemblies on Sikhism and Hinduism

Year 6 trip to Selly Manor Birmingham

Individual School Photographs

Bubble & Squeak Assembly – Aspens Catering

EYFS visit to Santa at Cannock Chase

Netball squad to high 5 tournament at St Francis of Assisi

School book fair.

Premier Sports – Booster Day

Author Visit (Years 5 and 6)

Nursery Music Concert 9.00 am in Nursery

Up and Coming Events this term

Friday 7th December 2018 - Nursery Music Concert 9.00 am in Nursery

Tuesday 11th December 2018 - EYFS Nativity Play (AM Performance 9.20am to 10.30am) (PM Performance 2.00pm to 2.30pm)

Tuesday 11th December 2018 – Catholic Carol Service, St Mary the Angels, Aldridge 1.30pm

Wednesday 12th December 2018 - Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Year 5)

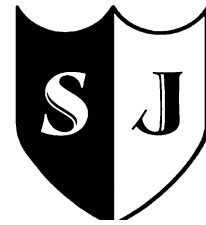
Thursday 13th December 2018 – Spiritual Council Mass at St Thomas More School.

Friday 14th December 2018 - KS1 Music Concert 1.30pm, KS2 Music Concert 2.15pm, Steel Pans Concert

Friday 14th December 2018 – All Children – Christmas Decoration Workshop

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Monday 17th December 2018 - Christmas Carol Service (1.20pm to 2.30pm at church)

Wednesday 19th December 2018 - Christmas Lunch/Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 20th December 2018 - KS1 Nativity Play (AM Performance 9.30am to 10.20am) (PM Performance 1.30pm to 2.30pm)

Friday 21st December 2018 - Break up for Christmas Holiday at 3:15pm

Macmillan coffee morning

We raised a total of £225.03 a big thank you to all who attended and especially the children who lead the spiritual council for their support in ensuring everyone had enough cakes and biscuits.

Book Fair

A big thank you to all the children and parents who supported the recent book fair, it was lovely to see the children enjoying a wide range of books. Part of the money raised will go towards resourcing guided reading books in the classroom.

God Bless

Mrs Hinton

Head Teacher