

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

11th September 2017

Autumn Term - Issue 1

"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

A Message from the Head Teacher

Welcome to this first edition of our weekly newsletter for this academic year. I was delighted to meet so many parents whilst on the front gates and I appreciate the time taken to make me feel welcome. It was also a good opportunity to hear the views of stakeholders. Everyone is so proud of the school and are keen to see it grow from strength to strength. In particular, you have expressed the importance of communication. The purpose of this weekly newsletter is to provide up to date information about what is happening within the community of St. Joseph's School. I hope you will find this first and future editions informative.

Miss Strachan

School Improvement - Handwriting Blitz

At St. Joseph's we believe handwriting to be an essential skill for life. Every child is entitled to receive skillful teaching and our handwriting scheme enables pupils to develop a fluent and legible handwriting style. In order to raise the profile of handwriting within school, we have implemented a three week handwriting blitz. This means pupils are taught handwriting everyday by a member of staff which is reinforced by a homework sheet that must be completed in the evening and returned the following morning. By the end of the blitz we expect to see a vast improvement in handwriting across the school. Please speak to your child's class teacher should you have any questions regarding this new initiative.

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



Macmillan's Coffee Morning

St. Joseph's will be taking part in the world's biggest coffee morning. There will be a special cake sale on Friday 29th September for parents.

All funds raised at this event will be donated to Macmillan charity which actively encourages people to donate for those living with cancer. We look forward to seeing you.

More info about timings will follow.

Dates To Remember

Next week we will be sending home a list of dates for the academic year.

This document will include dates for educational visits (trips), workshops, events and important meetings for parents/carers.

In the meantime please make a note of the following:

Year 4 trip to Crofton Roman Villa
Thursday 14/09/17.

Liturgy & Celebration Assembly
resumes next Friday 15/09/17.

Harvest Assembly will take place on
Friday 06/10/17.



During the summer a number of works have taken place to improve the school premises. These include improving the interior lighting, the fire alarm system and the laying of external pathways to improve access to the play areas.

New Reception Pupils

This week we will begin to welcome the youngest members of our school community. From Tuesday 12th September, Reception pupils will join the St. Joseph's School. Mrs. Simmons and Mrs. Parmenter have met the children during their home visits and were very pleased to meet their parents too.

Once the children have started their new class Mrs. Simmons will meet with parents collectively on **Thursday 21st September (3:00pm)**. This session will focus on the Early Years curriculum, reading, phonics, the early years assessments and routines in the classroom. Mrs Simmons will provide handouts to help parents support their children, particularly during the first term.

We know that the first day at school for any child is such a special time for families so we look forward to capturing those moments with you.



ParentPay

ParentPay is a cashless online payment service for parents and schools which is used to pay for trips, lunch meals and after school clubs. St Joseph's has invested in this service in order to help staff administer payments efficiently. Therefore, this is a gentle reminder for parents to sign up. If log in details have been lost, please contact Mrs Hannon or Mrs Nolan via the main office as they will be happy to regenerate usernames and passwords.

If parents cannot access the site then we kindly ask that all monies are sent via the green box beside the external black gates. Funds should be within a sealed envelop with the necessary information written on the front. If parents come to the office with money they will be asked to post it via the green box outside.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

House Captains

I am pleased to announce the House Captains for this year are:

St John Fisher - Jack and Zoe

St Edmund Campion - Luke & Liam

St Thomas Moore - Amelie & Jack

St Margaret Clitherow - Roberto & Mia

Pupil Of The Week

From next Friday Pupils of the week will be invited to attend afternoon tea with the Head Teacher. Teachers will choose a child each week to receive the award and winners will enjoy a special treat on Friday afternoon.

The school will contact parents of the winners on Thursday afternoon to invite them to the Liturgy and Celebration Assembly. Pupils that have been given the award will be named in the weekly newsletter.