



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Hill Top, Hednesford, Cannock, Staffs., WS12 1DE
Email: headteacher@st-josephs-hednesford.staffs.sch.uk
Tel: 01543 227225
Headteacher: Mrs K L Bennett BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

6th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new term after the summer break.

We welcome our new children in reception and across the school and their families to our school and parish community.

We also welcome Miss Mayer, year 3 teacher to our school team.



Swimming

Swimming for children in year 3 at Burntwood Leisure Centre begins Friday 13th September. Each Friday they will leave school at 9.30 am and return at approx. 11 am.

Please ensure that your child has his/her swimming kit each week. Girls will require swimming hats and a reminder that no jewellery is permitted to be worn in the pool. Earrings **MUST** be removed. Boys need to wear swimming trunks rather than swimming shorts. For those children who wish to wear goggles during their swimming lesson consent is required. A consent form is available at the end of the newsletter. If your child is unable to do this activity please inform their class teacher in writing.



SCHOOL GROUNDS

For health and safety reasons please do not bring dogs onto the school premises.

After School Clubs

Please see detailed below the after school clubs being offered this term

CLUB	DAY	Year Group	Number of places	Commencing
Art Club	Mondays 3.15-4.15pm	For years 1&2	20	16 th Sept
Netball Club	Mondays 3.15-4.15pm	For years 4, 5 & 6	20	16 th Sept
Performing Arts/Drama Club	Mondays 3.15-4.15pm	For years 3&4	20	16 th Sept
Multi skills	Tuesdays 3.15-4.15pm	For years 2,3,4,5 & 6	22	17 th Sept
Football Club	Wednesdays 3.15-4.15pm	For years 3,4,5 & 6	50	18 th Sept
Dance Club	Fridays 3.15pm-4.15pm	For years 1,2,3,4,5	Limited	20 th Sept

Please collect your child from the main entrance.

School Uniform

Our pupils have begun the new school year looking smart in their new uniforms. Thank you. As part of the school uniform policy jewellery is not to be worn in school. Please note that shoes should be black in colour. Boots are not permitted. Small stud earrings are acceptable, however, they need to be removed for PE.

Until half term, summer uniform is still able to be worn. Following our return to school on 4th November our winter school uniform of collared shirts and ties is in place. Please refer to our school website if you require further information about school uniform. Please note that all jumpers/cardigans should have the school logo embroidered on.

Long hair needs to be tied back. Please note that bows, including jo-jos, are not part of St Joseph's school uniform and should not be worn. Any hair adornments e.g. head bands etc should be black/grey or red.

Please note that nail varnish of any kind is not permitted.

PE/Games uniform

A reminder that football shirts are not to be worn for games. Earrings are to be removed for PE/Games and replaced after PE/Games by your child.

Weather permitting the children will be outside for PE - please send a suitable sweatshirt/track suit bottoms for warmth.

Reception Parents Meeting - Wednesday 25th September - 6pm

Parents of children in our Reception class are invited to join us on September 25th at 6pm in reception classroom.

During this meeting you will have an opportunity to meet school staff and your child's teacher will introduce and explain how we teach reading and literacy skills.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Erasable Pens * NOW AVAILABLE *****

Pilot Frixion Erasable Pens.

Frixion Pens for pupils in years 5 & 6 are available to purchase at a cost of £2 each and refills £1.25 each.

Please make payment via ParentPay. Once paid your child can collect their pen from the office.

Privacy Notice

Please find our privacy notice for this academic year on the school website,

<http://www.st-josephs-hednesford.staffs.sch.uk/home/parents/policies>

Easyfundraising

Please register by following the above link to raise money for St Joseph's.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjosephshednesford/>

Dinner money for years 3-6

The cost of dinners is £2.35 per day/£11.75 per week. Please pay all dinner money through ParentPay. You are welcome to pay weekly, monthly or termly. However all dinner money must be paid by the Friday of the week your child has a dinner. Please review your ParentPay account regularly to ensure that no monies are owed.

Thank you.

Morning Break Sales - Please note this money is separate to dinner money

If your child would like a smoothie, milkshake or juice during morning break these can be purchased via ParentPay at 45p each.

You are welcome to pay weekly, monthly or termly. Children from all year groups are welcome to have these items during morning break.

Payment needs to be made by 8am on a Monday morning for the same week. The staff in the school kitchen will not be aware of any payments made after this time and your child will not receive their drink.

For children in reception/key stage 1 - your child's class teacher will ask your child at the beginning of the week what their choice of drink will be. This can be for specific days or all week. Their drink will then be sent up to class at break time.

For children in key stage 2 - your child will choose their own drink each day and collect from the school kitchen during break time.

PTFA - Toast

Dedicated members of our PTFA prepare toast at 8.45am on a Thursday commencing 12th September at 20p a slice. If you would like your child to have toast, please send in money on Monday morning in a named envelope. Payment is preferred on a half termly basis. If you are able to give 30 minutes of your time we would welcome your help - please sign up at the school office. Please note that a DBS check will be undertaken by school prior to commencing this volunteering role. Thankyou

Water Bottle

In order for the children to access water during class time, could we ask that you please send in a named water bottle each day. This is in addition to a drink with their packed lunch. Thank you.

Break Times

We respectfully ask that children are not given crisps/biscuits/chocolate bars as their morning snack and rather a piece of fruit or cereal bar (without chocolate). Thank you

Birthday Celebrations

As a Healthy School we encourage children to eat healthy snacks, therefore, please consider this when sending items into school when celebrating birthdays. We respectfully ask that birthday cake is not sent into school for distribution to the class. We also have children in school with severe nut allergies. Please be mindful if sending a packed lunch in for your child that it does not contain any form of nuts. Thank you

Mobile Phones

We would like to remind parents that mobile phones are not allowed in school. If your child is in year 5 or year 6 and requires their mobile phone in school as they walk home on their own, this needs to be previously discussed and agreed. Please contact the school office for a consent form. Mobile phones are also not permitted at the termly school disco.

PTFA Functions Before/After School - responsibility of parent

We remind parents that during PTFA events children are the responsibility of the parent and not the school.



PTFA Cake Sale - Y6 - Monday 16th September

Year 6 are invited to donate cakes for the PTFA cake sale on this day. Cakes will be sold to all pupils during morning break - 20p each.

PTFA Meeting

The first meeting of the autumn term will take place on Friday 20th September after school at 3.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along. Please support your PTFA. They work tirelessly to raise funds for the children.

Term Dates 2019-2020

2019

Autumn Term

Tue 3 September	Start of Autumn Term – School Opens
28 Oct-1 Nov	Half Term
Fri 20 December	End of Term – Break up for Christmas Holidays

2020

Spring Term

Mon 6 January	Start of Spring Term – School Opens
17-21 February	Half Term
Fri 3 rd April	End of Term – Break up for Easter Holidays

2020

Summer Term

Mon 20 April	Start of Summer Term – School Opens
Fri 8 May	May Day Bank Holiday
25-29 May	Half Term
Mon 20 July	End of Term – Break up for Summer Holidays

INSET Dates -

Mon 2nd September 2019

Fri 25th October 2019

Thur 13th February 2020

Fri 14th February 2020

Mon 20th July 2020

Dates for the term

Some of the dates below may be subject to change

Monday September	2 nd	INSET day
Tuesday September	3 rd	Children in school Confessions for Y4,5,6 1.30pm
Friday 6 th September		Whole class music lessons for Y1-6
Thursday September	12 th	Dance sessions for Y6 and Year 5 begin
Friday September	13 th	Swimming starts –Y3 WOW assembly – 2.45pm
Monday September	16 th	PTFA Cake sale- Y6
Thur19 th Sept – Wed 25 th Sept		Book Fair – after school in the hall
Friday September	20 th	Finance Governors 8am Swimming Y3 Year 5 retreat day at Our Lady of Lourdes Hednesford Y4 Prayer assembly 3.30pm PTFA meeting
Monday September	23 rd	Bikeability -Y6
Tuesday September	24 th	Bikeability-Y6 9.15am - Welcome Mass led by Y6
Wednesday September	25 th	Reception new Parents Meeting 6pm
Friday September	27 th	Year 5 prayer assembly – 2.45pm
Tuesday 1 st October		PTFA Cake sale- Y2
Friday 4 th October		Health and Safety Governors meeting 8am Swimming Year 3 WOW assembly – 2.45pm
Sunday 6 th October		Mass Our Lady of Lourdes 9.15am - commitment Mass for Year 6

		and family session
Tuesday 8 th October		9.15am - Mass led by Y4 Blessed John Henry Newman
Wednesday 9 th October		Live streaming across school prayer with Archbishop Bernard
Thursday 10 th October		Year 3 parents meetings for Sacramental preparation Flu Vaccine - all classes
Friday 11 th October		Own clothes for Autumn Fair items – KS2 filled jars/ KS1 filled gift bags Y6 Prayer Assembly – 2.45pm
Sunday 13 th October-		Canonization of Blessed John Henry Newman
Wednesday 16 th October		Confirmation 7pm in Church
Friday 18 th October		Own clothes day Bottles /gift tombola WOW Assembly - 2.45pm
Tuesday 22 nd October		9.15am - Mass led by Y3 ST John Paul 11
Wednesday 23 rd October		Own clothes day - cakes
Thursday 24 th October		Autumn Fayre 3.15pm
Friday 25 th October		INSET DAY – school closed to children
Monday 28th October-		Half Term
Friday 1st November		
Monday 4 th November		Return to school
Wednesday 6 th November		Parents’ evening 3.30-6pm
Thursday 7 th November		Parents’ evening 4-7pm
Friday 8 th November		Year 6 Reception special friends assembly - 2.45pm
Monday 11 th		Anti-Bullying Week

November		
Tuesday November	12 th	9.15am Mass led by Y2 - St Martin of Tours
Wednesday November	13 th	12pm - Reception class family lunches Full Governors meeting
Friday November	15 th	Y2 Topic assembly - 2.45pm
Monday November	18 th	Photos individual
Tuesday November	19 th	PTFA Cake sale- Y5
Friday November	22 nd	Own clothes day Parish Fayre items WOW Assembly – 2.45pm
Tuesday November	26 th	9.15am Mass led by Year 5- St Andrew
Thursday November	28 th	St Andrews house wear blue
Friday November	29 th	Finance and School Fund Governors meeting 8am Own clothes day – Chocolate items for Chocolate Bingo Y5 Topic assembly
Saturday November	30 th	Parish Christmas Fayre Y4&5 singing
Sunday 1 st December		9.15am Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes – led by Year 3 commitment Mass and family session
Monday December	2 nd	Year 6 to Shugborough
Friday 6 th December		No assembly- Year 6 return from Shugborough PTFA Christmas Chocolate Bingo
Tuesday December	10 th	9.15am Christmas Mass followed by Confessions for Y4,5,6
Wednesday December	11 th	Dress rehearsal-N & R 10am Dress rehearsal-Y1 and 2 –2pm
Thursday	12 th	Nursery and Reception nativity play - 10 am

December		Y1 & 2 nativity play - 2pm
Friday	13 th	Last Swimming
December		Nursery and Reception nativity play - 10 am Y1 & 2 nativity play - 2pm No assembly
Tuesday	17 th	KS2 – Christmas Theatre Trip
December		KS1 – Christmas Theatre Trip Christingle in Church 7pm
Wednesday	18 th	Nur/Rec – Christmas Theatre Trip
December		Disco Reception & KS1 6-7pm KS2 7-8.30pm
Thursday	19 th	Christmas Jumper Day
December		Christmas Dinner Day for children
Friday	20 th	No Assembly
December		Finish for Christmas 3.15pm
Monday	6 th January	Return to school
2020		

Parking

Please be considerate of our neighbours when bringing your child to and from school. The car park opposite school is available to use as well as the church car park at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please do not park on pavements outside our neighbour's homes as it is very difficult for them to access their properties and can cause a hazard for pedestrians. A reminder that the car park adjacent to school is for staff use only. Thank you

Please also use the car park opposite when bringing your child to and from Farlea.

We also ask that the disabled car parking space is left free for use by disabled drivers/passengers. Thank you

We remind parents of children in year 6 that the next instalment of £19 for Shugborough is due by 30th September. Please pay through ParentPay.

Our Lady of Lourdes - tel 01543 422576

Our parish church of Our Lady of Lourdes is key in developing the faith life of our school community and our pupils.

Mass Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9.15am

Book Fair - 19th September - 25th September

Our book fair will be here between the above dates. You are welcome to come and view/purchase books every afternoon from the end of school until 3.45pm. The last afternoon the fair will be here is Wednesday 25th September. Alternatively you can send money into school with your child who can purchase from the fair during the day.

First Holy Communion - 2020

Advance notice to all our parents in year 3 that First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 2nd May 2020 at 10am.



Our new school lottery launches on Saturday 28th September with the first draw taking place on this day. Tickets cost just £1 per ticket, per week and 40% of all ticket sales are

donated to our school. Draws take place every Saturday at 8pm.

Buy your tickets now!

To start supporting, visit:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play

and search for:

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

Secondary School Open Evenings

For all parents of children in year 5 and 6 please note that secondary school open evenings will very soon be taking place. These provide you with an opportunity to view a range of schools. Applications for year 6 pupils for secondary school need to be made online by 31st October.

For year 5 parents this is a useful opportunity for you to visit the secondary settings before having to make your decision next year.

Cardinal Griffin's open evening will be held on 3rd October - please visit the school to find out more about it. We have been informed by Cardinal Griffin that their open evening will take place between 6.30pm-8.30pm

Curriculum at St Joseph's

During the course of the summer term the staff at St Joseph's have reviewed and renewed the curriculum that we teach to our children. Teachers have refreshed the topics that they teach to ensure that they support the children's learning more closely and engage the children with new and exciting topics.

When you receive your termly parent's overview you will be able to read more about the topics your child will be learning about. The new layout of the

parent's overviews will enable you to see the links between the topics that the children will be covering.

Topics themes will vary across each term with the areas of Geography, History, Art, Design Technology and English being linked in most cases. In class the children will have a termly topic book for all their work on the topic, which you will have an opportunity to look at on parents evening.

We are very excited about the new topics and look forward to having exciting learning opportunities with the children throughout the year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: SWIMMING GOGGLES

We would ask that you inform the school in writing if you wish your child to wear goggles and that you fully understand the risks involved. Swimming for this academic year commences on Friday 13th September 2019. If your child requires goggles please ensure that school is in receipt of the permission letter below before this date.

If the permission letter is not received in time for the swimming lesson on 13th September 2019 your child will not be permitted to wear his/her goggles until written permission is received.

Many thanks.

Staffordshire Schools' Swimming Service

Guidance notes for the use of swimming goggles in Schools (December 2008)

1. Goggles are not necessary within short curriculum swimming lessons (typically 20 to 25 minutes water time) or for single, short races in school galas
2. Goggles are intended for use in long, regular swimming sessions when:
 - a. the eyes would be exposed for long periods to the effects of the chemicals in the water

- b. the tissue around the eyes does not dry out between training sessions and thus becomes more susceptible to infection
3. For reasons of Safe Practice in School Sport, it is recommended that the use of goggles should not be allowed unless a school is satisfied that a pupil has ‘exceptional circumstances’ – i.e through involvement in long and frequent training sessions, outside school hours, or if the individual has particularly sensitive eyes, or for some other exceptional circumstance.
4. Wet plastic can be slippery and, frequent, incorrect or unnecessary adjustment or removal of goggles, such as pulling them away from the eyes instead of sliding them over the forehead, could cause an eye injury and parents should be made aware of this risk.
5. In crowded water space there is an increased likelihood of accidental collision that may lead to eye injury by those wearing goggles.
6. When large numbers of pupils complain of eye irritation it is likely to be a chemical imbalance which can be easily rectified.
7. In the rare circumstances where the use of goggles are allowed in a school, as described in (paragraph 3), the adult responsible for the group has the right to require the pupil to remove them for reasons of safe practice if a pupil uses them inappropriately.
8. It is a parents’ responsibility to ensure their child is able to safely apply and remove the goggles.
9. Certain aspects of the Water Safety and Personal Survival Award do require a pupil to remove their goggles.
10. A medical certificate is not essential for a school to allow a pupil to use goggles. However, schools do, as a minimum, require a letter from a parent stating the pupil’s

‘exceptional circumstances’ to enable a school to consider a request for their child to use goggles during a school swimming activity.

11. Please note it is important that all parents of children who swim under the care of a school have access to these guidance notes prior to commencing a swimming activity. This will ensure that parents are aware of the current Safe Practice in School Sport guidelines referred to in this document concerning the use of goggles.

SWIMMING GOGGLE CONSENT

I confirm that I have read and fully understand the guidance notes for the use of swimming goggles in Schools (December 2008) issued by Staffordshire Schools’ Swimming Service and understand the risks involved.

I further confirm that it is in order for my child..... to wear swimming goggles during the school swimming lesson each week at Burntwood Leisure Centre.

Signed.....

Print..... Date: