



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
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### **School Mission Statement**

*'To inspire, to learn, to love with God'*

This half term we are focusing on being:

#### **Eloquent and Truthful**

Pupils are growing to be eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

#### **What does this mean?**

Catholic schools help their pupils grow by developing an eloquent language which they can use to understand and articulate their emotions, beliefs, and questions, encouraged by the example of their teachers to be truthful in the way they represent themselves and speak about the world.

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19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone at the start of our summer term, I hope you all had a great Easter holiday!

We have enjoyed welcoming the children back this week and the children look very smart in their summer uniforms. Let's hope that the weather improves over the next few weeks so that we can enjoy outdoor as well as indoor learning.

It was wonderful to see so many parents in school last week for DT week. The children really enjoyed having their parents and family members in school to help them with their DT projects.

A huge congratulations to the children in Years 4 and 6 who performed at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock on Tuesday night. They were fantastic and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience of dancing to an audience in a theatre- well done. Many thanks to Sandra and Rylan our wonderful dance teachers for working so hard in preparing the children.

Yesterday the children enjoyed an enrichment day which was focussed on orienteering and map skills. The children really enjoyed their outdoor learning.

Next week we are looking forward to welcoming the Reception class parents and families into school for come dine with me. Year 6 are leading an assembly on Friday morning relating to fairtrade which will be followed by a fairtrade coffee morning which Year 6 are organising. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April is our family Mass at 9.15am at our Lady of Lourdes Church which will be led by Years 1 and 5. There will be a children's liturgy at this Mass- please come along if you can.

This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. Jesus is the 'Good Shepherd' who can be trusted to guide our lives in the right direction. Part of a shepherd's job is to look after the sheep, to guide them and help them to stay safe. In this week's Gospel Jesus encourages his disciples to put their trust in him; it is through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope.

"Put your trust in Jesus. He will fill your plans with meaning and joy. Open your hearts trustfully to Jesus!" St. Pope John Paul II

Please remember if you have any concerns or worries related to school life then please speak to me or a member of school staff.

Thank you for your continued support for our lovely school and for the many positive comments we receive from parents which are greatly appreciated.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend.  
Mrs B Corbett

### **Hygiene in School**

It was disappointing this week to receive correspondence following an anonymous complaint made directly to the DFE regarding hygiene in our school.

As you are aware the safety and welfare of all of our children is paramount and as a school we put rigorous procedures in place to ensure our children are safe. The school follows Government guidance regarding hygiene and infection control. This is reflected in our attendance statistics which are above National figures.

There has been one confirmed case of flu this academic year with other children in some classes having the usual coughs and colds that the winter season brings. Nationally there has been an increase in viruses due to the COVID period when children were not mixing with other children resulting in some children not building the usual resilience to childhood illnesses. This has been especially notable in Early years especially when children have not previously attended a Nursery setting. Having said this, we are reassured that illness infection rates within our school are low compared Nationally and to other schools locally.

We continue to follow the Government advice on Health protection in schools which states that individuals with symptoms of the flu need to be off school until they have recovered, but the advice is not to exclude individuals with only mild symptoms of a respiratory illness, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, but who are otherwise well. Following the Government advice we often send children home if poorly- if a child says they have been sick at home then we call parents to collect them. We encourage those in eligible groups to have the flu vaccine.

The school is proactive in following Government advice and also advice from the Health protection team when needed, and information regarding illnesses in school is frequently shared through the school newsletter, letters and texts, following this guidance.

The school has a comprehensive cleaning programme and rigorous cleaning of the school is carried out daily, weekly and periodically which includes thorough cleaning of toilets and touch points. If a child is sick in school, then a deep clean of the classroom is carried out that day.

Hand hygiene is one of the most important ways of controlling the spread of infections, especially those that cause diarrhoea or vomiting and respiratory infections. As parents you can support us in developing personal hygiene habits in your children and educating them on why hand hygiene is so important. As we do in school, please encourage your children to flush the toilet and wash their hands after using the toilet. Hand sanitiser is always available in school and we encourage children to use it before lunch. Free resources to support this have been developed by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) for ages 3 to 16 and are available at [e-bug.eu](http://e-bug.eu).

Please also support us in developing good respiratory hygiene by encouraging your children to cover their nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing as this can also reduce the spread of infections.

In school we will continue our good practices of encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene and we will also continue with our rigorous and thorough cleaning schedule. The safeguarding team at the Local Authority have informed us that they are happy with the measures and procedures we have in place. No additional actions need to be put in place, but we will continue to emphasise the importance of handwashing with children in school. We thank you for your support with this.

Please note that if any parent wishes to make a formal complaint regarding any aspect of school life, then please follow the complaint procedures as set out in our complaints policy which can be found on our website.

Useful websites-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/managing-specific-infectious-diseases-a-to-z>



### **Parish Links**

**Family Bingo Night - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7pm**

In Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall. Admission free.

Tea, coffee and squash on sale.

**Family Mass - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

Our next family Mass will be led by year 1 & year 5. Everyone welcome to attend.



## "What Outstanding Work" Assembly

We congratulate the following children who were recognised at our WOW assembly today:

Reception	Zoe	Matilda
Class 1	Mia	Ryan
Class 2	Wilfred	Zoe
Class 3	Lilly	Niall
Class 4	Hollie	Jayden
Class 5	Layla	Esme
Class 6	Ryan	Gracie



## Dates (please note these are subject to change)

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Y3 First Holy Communion Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception Class Come Dine with Me - 11.45am
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Y5 Trip to Cannock Fire Station Stay & Pray Year 4 9am
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Y6 Assembly 9am followed by fair trade coffee morning.
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	9:15am school Mass at church led by Year 1 & 5
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Y6 trip to Harvington Hall
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Cross Country at Cardinal Griffin (Y4/5/6)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Confirmation Mass 6.30pm at St Mary's Cannock Local Elections (School is open to all pupils) Stay & Pray Year 5 9am
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	WOW Assembly 9am
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	2.30pm Whole School Mass - Year 5 Ascension
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 Assembly 9am
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATS
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	2.30pm Whole School Mass - Year 4 Mary
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	WOW Assembly 9am
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Y4 Come Dine with Me
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.30am May Procession (Reception & KS2) at Church Break up for half term
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	INSET Day - School closed to pupils
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Children return to school Gotta Sing at Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Stay & Pray Year 6 9am
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	No Assembly
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	First Holy Communion 10am in church