

Dear Parents,

This is the last letter of 2016, on behalf of all the staff, thank you for your kind Christmas wishes, cards and gifts-We are lucky to have such wonderful children and supportive families.

We wish you a Happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas break.

New Buildings

Today the KS2 children have been involved in 'moving house' into their new classrooms at the rear of the school!! Ready for next week.

I Would personally like to thank staff, parents and not least the children for accommodating all the changes to routine, entrances and exits etc since March when the first digger started. Your patience has been very much appreciated.

Obviously, the outside car park work and reinstating the field etc.. will continue until April.

Important Administration Information – please take time to read the following:

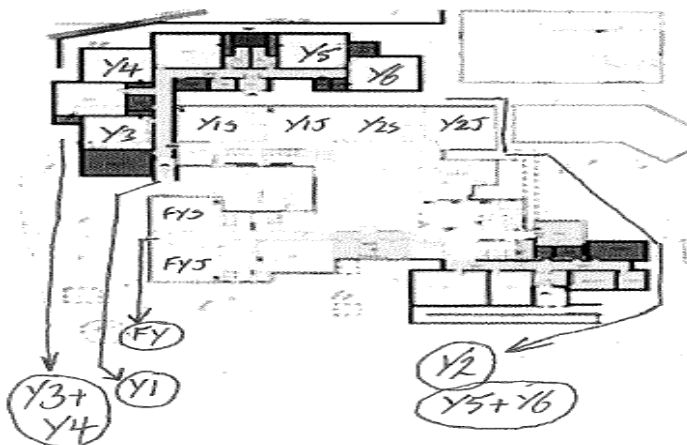
Collection at the end of the School day, from Monday, the collection points for the various classes will be as follows:

FYS & FYJ- from the usual place, brought to the main playground at the left of the building.

Y1S, Y1J, Y3 & Y4- brought to the playground at the far left of the playground (by the fence & new Tarmac KS1 play area).

Y2S, Y2J, Y5 & Y6- brought to the playground via the right hand side of the building along the front of the main entrance ramp.

See rough sketch-



Start of the School Day- IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE

The school day officially starts at 8.35am when the doors will be opened and staff come on duty (both in and outdoors). No children are allowed into the building until this time.

Now that we have our new electronic door security systems on all external doors- nobody can gain access without a 'fob'. Therefore, if a child is dropped off, as has been the case on a number of occasions, from 8.20am (when asked, 'because Gran/Dad.. was in a rush!') the children will be left outside unsupervised. This is not acceptable or safe. Please ensure your child /grandchild is safe by remaining with them until 8.35am. Thank you.

Arriving after 8.45am

Children arriving after 8.45am must be brought to the new main entrance where they will be signed in and then brought to their classrooms internally through the school. Children cannot be brought to the classroom doors for two reasons; a) The doors can not be opened from the outsides without a 'fob' b)The classroom register will have closed and for H&S reasons they will not be on the system for the day.

Electric Gates

The electric gate system this term has been an ongoing saga but is now resolved. When the button is pressed it links directly to the school office!! At the end of the day the gates will both open at 3pm, the vehicle gate closes at 3.30pm but the Pedestrian gate will remain open until after the Sunshine Club closes.



KS1 Nativities

I'm sure you will agree that the Nativity productions for both FY and Y1/Y2 were a fabulous reminder of the True Christmas story, as well as a chance to celebrate in the wonderful work being undertaken by the KS1 children and Staff- thank you to them for all their hard work and to all who came to make the audience, we hope you enjoyed it!

1st Sunday of the month' Mass- thank you

Well done to all who attended the children's '1st Sunday of the month' Mass at Holy Trinity Church on the 4th, everyone involved thought it was a lovely occasion. Thanks to parents for supporting both the school and parish with this.

Jo Boyce and CJM Music

Well done and thank you to *Tom, Freddy, Charlie, Grace, Joseph* and *Jaydon* who took part in the CJM concert last Friday night at Holy Cross Catholic Church. They sang so well and responded to the guidance of Jo Boyce with enthusiasm. It was an enjoyable concert and certainly got the Christmas festivities underway!- thank you Mrs Stephens.

KS2 Carol concert

We hope you will be able to join KS2 for their Carol Concert in the Hall on Tuesday 20th December at 2pm- a real Christmas lift is in store!! The school council and a few Year 6 pupils will be selling copies of the CD of the carol concert and cakes as the parents arrive on Tuesday and there will be a collection at the end to raise money for UNICEF.

Unicef

As you are aware, we are aiming to achieve the status of being a Rights Respecting School. The children have been learning about the rights that they are entitled to as is every child worldwide. It has made us become more appreciative of how we can help make a difference to children locally and globally who don't access these rights, although they should. Our plea, as we approach Christmas time, is to consider those families who are affected by the wars of Syria. Many children are vulnerable as they are exposed to war, dangers and extreme weather conditions as they have no shelter. For every £34 raised, one child will be provided with a complete winter kit - a warm winter coat, hat, gloves and sturdy boots. Our School Council will have donation baskets at the end of the KS2 Carol Service if you would like to support this charity. We thank you in advance.

Global Goals

As part of our Unicef project, the children have been learning about the Government's 17 goals that they aim to achieve by 2030. Each class was given a different goal to explore and then present their findings to the rest of the school. On Monday last week, representatives from each year group told us what their global goal was and what difference it could make to our world: Year 6 have recognised the impact of inequality in our world and linked it to the rights that children have.

Year 5 were considering the influences we have on our climate.

Year 4 informed us how we could help life on land.

Year 3 were energy savers!

Year 2 highlighted the difference having clean water makes and how we should be hygienic.

Year 1 shared many benefits for going to school!

FY were teaching us the importance of food and that not everyone has a choice of meals each day.

Thank you children and staff for sharing so many of your ideas last week. We shall have to see if the government's goals are achieved by 2030!

Parent Pay and Parent Mail

Thank you Parents for your continued support for bearing with us with Parent pay and Parent Mail this term- these were both big initiatives to get up and running with 302 children and families.

Please everyone ensure that their accounts are up to date as ideally we would like the balances on £0.00 to start the new year.

Illness

There are many sickness bugs around at this time of year; if your child is unwell please do not send them into school as this gets passed onto others. If your child has diarrhoea or vomiting the medical advice from the 'Health Prevention Agency' states that children should be kept away from school for **48 hours after the last episode** of vomiting or Diarrhoea.

When children are ill please telephone the office on the first day of their absence only or via the parentmail app and then send them back with an explanatory letter on their return.

Please also note - an increasing number of children are being sent in to school with the request for them to stay in at break times because of coughs, colds etc. the school takes the view that the fresh air will be good for them, that they should have the appropriate clothing to wrap up warm and that if they are not well they shouldn't be in school in the first place.



ST JOHN PAUL II

Multi-Academy Company

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Catholic Primary School

To follow in Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray.

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PTA non uniform days – Thank you to all who took part in the ‘Non Uniform days, as well as a ‘bit of fun’, we are hoping to raise some money for the PTA funds as unfortunately, due to the building work we have been unable to host our annual Christmas Fayre.

The PTA are looking to pay for playground markings and maybe some outdoor equipment (once the constructors leave). However, I know that a large number of parents have forgotten to make the £3 donation (via parent pay) for the 3 days- it’s still not too late. –thank you on behalf of the children in anticipation

Friday 16th December - Christmas Hat day -*THANK YOU FOR TODAY'S EFFORTS*

Bad Weather

If bad weather threatens school closures, all parents will be contacted via mobile text & a message will be placed on our website front page - only if closed. If there is no message, then school will be open as usual.

This Sunday is the 4th Sunday of Advent



I will do what God asks

Mary loved God so much that she was ready to do whatever he asked of her.

Trusting him completely and always ready to please him she agreed to become the mother of his son, Jesus.

Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara
Principal

Please note the following diary events

Dates for your diary

Mon 19 th	6-7pm 7.15-8.15pm	PTA KS1 and KS2 Christmas DISCO Parents may stay for a drink in the Sunshine area whilst the children party!!
Tues 20 th	Lunchtime	Children Christmas Dinner in School
Tues 20 th	2pm	KS2 Carol Concert in School – All welcome
Thurs 22 nd	9.00am	End of Term Mass in School- led by Year 5
Thurs 22 nd	10.00 – end	Toy day and Special Visit from Santa to each classroom
Thurs 22 nd	3.20pm	End of Term – break for Christmas
Monday 9 th Jan	8.45am	Start of the New Spring Term

Please note the following INSET days when the school will be closed to the children:

Friday 6th January- staff CPD

Friday 26th May - staff CPD

Monday 24th July- staff CPD

School Term dates available on the website [Diary and Term Dates | St Joseph's](#)

Previous newsletters and other information can be found on our School website: www.stjosutton.net



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