



St Joseph's

Catholic Primary School

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

Little Sutton Lane, Sutton Coldfield B75 6PB

Tel: 0121 354 6270
www.stjosutton.net
enquiry@stjosutton.net

11th January 2019

Newsletter No.10

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term!

We had a beautiful Mass for Vocations this morning with Father Peter, Deacon Daniel and Deacon Owen. Well done to the Y5 children for leading us through the readings and to all of the children for their excellent behaviour and wonderful singing. Thank you to all of the staff who helped prepare the children, the music and the Altar and thank you to the parents who came to support. There are many little jobs and preparatory activities taking place by many members of staff and volunteers every day in school to help create the wonderful school that your children enjoy and achieve at.

School Closure due to bad weather information

Snow and bad weather closure: As we are now in winter we have to plan for what would happen if (for the health and safety of the schools' community) the school had to close due to bad weather. We have, in previous years, made decisions as early as possible using the website and Parent Mail and such decisions will apply to all schools within the Multi-Academy. We will continue to use these mediums of fast communication if it becomes necessary. It can be quite difficult to get through to the local radio stations in the absence of a city wide decision but please check these sources of information if you have difficulty accessing the internet or a message. If you haven't received a text/email message on other occasions this year but have a mobile phone, please contact the school with your mobile number and your e-mail address so that it can be added to our database - therefore ensuring fast communication when it becomes necessary in the future.

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 parent mail 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 will only act on this request if it is in writing from your GP. 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.

Year 3 Parents meeting for Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday 23rd January 6 - 7pm

During the meeting, Fr. Michael and Deacon Daniel will share with you the importance of this Sacrament, Miss Birch, Mrs Terry and Miss Harris will share the curriculum coverage and how you can support this at home. This meeting will take place in the Hall. This will be followed by a Mass of Commitment at 9.00am on Sunday 3rd February at Holy Trinity Church

Lunch Box content

At St Joseph's School, we try to promote healthy eating, especially at lunchtimes. Unfortunately, the contents of the packed lunch boxes being provided from home has been slipping with: sweets, chocolate bars and crisps becoming the main meal and sandwiches (sometimes missing) being left uneaten or thrown away.

I have contacted the school nurse for advice and tips for healthy lunch boxes. Please click on the link below to the 'change 4 life' website <https://change4life.service.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

This is a fun site with lots of simple tips and ideas, you can even get the children involved.

Please can all packed lunches in future follow the suggestions from this website. Thank you.

World Book Day

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. As part of the fun and learning, everyone is invited to dress up as a character from any book on the Thursday. Last year, we had characters ranging from Harry Potter to Gangster Granny, The Cat in the Hat and Where's Wally, plus many more! We are looking forward to an activity packed week of fun book related activities.

'Fortnite' on line game

In the UK the Video Standards council rate Fortnite as PEGI 12 for frequent scenes of mild violence. It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age. Unfortunately, some of our parents are allowing children at St Joseph's to access this game. Part of the game



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Bishop Walsh Catholic School | Holy Cross Catholic Primary School | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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allows you to link up with others and talk/ chat over the internet.

If a child sends hurtful messages to another, this is classed as 'Cyber Bullying' and is taken seriously.

If you, or your child, receive hurtful cyber bullying messages please 'screen shot' them and keep the evidence so the perpetrator can be correctly addressed. - Thank you

Medical information updates

In order for us to ensure that we are keeping children safe in school, we need to hold completely up to date school records so we ask parents to keep us fully informed about any changes in circumstances. If there are any changes in the following, please let the office know as soon as possible:

- Address
- Contact numbers
- Persons with parental responsibility
- *Medical information/ Allergies

*For medical information and allergies, we ask for supporting information from doctors or health professionals so that care plans are created to meet the needs of the children.

Please note that we keep your information securely and do not share it outside the school. We do, however, share information about children with allergies and medical conditions with our caterers and extra-curricular club providers so that they can ensure the safety and well-being of the children.

Staffing

We are pleased to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Mahoney as a teaching assistant at St Joseph's. She has a wealth of experience working with primary school children and we look forward to welcoming her on 21st January to work with Foundation Year.

An Important Plea to all parents

We have found it extremely difficult to recruit Lunchtime Supervisors (12pm-1.10pm) each day, so much so that we have got to point where I have had to direct Teaching Assistants into this role for half an hour a day. However, it has now reached the point, where from January, Teaching Assistants will be carrying out a whole hour's duty at lunchtime followed by their own statutory 30 mins lunchbreak. This will mean 1 hour lost from support to the children. The impact of this means that classroom support to the children, assisting with lesson preparation, art work, changing reading books, working with intervention groups etc... will be severely affected.

If you, or you know of anyone who would be interested in filling this role, please ask them to contact the office.

Please don't let the children suffer.

This Sunday we recall the Baptism of the Lord, where Jesus was baptised by John in the River Jordan.

Why did the people come to the river Jordan to be baptised? - Being baptised was a sign that they wanted to 'wash away their sins', to start afresh and make a new beginning.

In the build up to Christmas, tempers often get fraught as pressures mount, we can all be guilty of becoming self-centred and insular and not seeing the bigger picture, and the crosses others have to bear. Let us through Christ's Baptism start a fresh and make a new beginning.

Jesus, accept our sign of the cross as our prayer to you. It reminds us that through our baptism we belong to you, and are children of God. Let all who are baptised walk together in the light of Christ.

Amen

Yours sincerely,

G. M O'Hara

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Principal

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

Please note the following important dates next term:

Fri 18 th Jan	Y4L Class led Assembly
Fri 1 st Feb	Y2M Class led Assembly
Sun 3 rd Feb	Y3 Mass of Commitment and family Mass 9.00am
Fri 15 th Feb	Y2E Class led Assembly
Mon 25 th Feb	School Closed for Staff inset
Sun 3 rd March	Family Mass 9.00am
Fri 8 th March	Y3B Class led Assembly
Fri 22 nd March	Sacrament of Reconciliation for Y3 1.15pm -2.45pm

Dates for your diary –January

Tues 14 th - Fri 18 th	1pm-2.30pm	Year 3T Swimming lessons at Wyndley Baths
Wed 16 th	6pm	PTA meeting
Fri 18 th	9.00am	Y4L Class led Assembly
Mon 21 st	All day	NSPCC assemblies KS1 & KS2, Y5 and Y6 workshops
Tues 22 nd - Fri 25 th	1pm-2.30pm	Year 3B Swimming lessons at Wyndley Baths
Wed 23 rd	10.00am	Y4L and Y6H walk to Mass at Holy Trinity
Wed 23 rd	6-7pm	Y3 Parents meeting for Sacrament of Reconciliation by Fr Michael/ Deacon Daniel
Fri 25 th	9.00am	Congratulations Assembly- all welcome
Mon 28 th	Pm	Swimming Gala Trial
Wed 30 th	10.00am	Y4I and Y3T walk to Mass at Holy Trinity
Fri 1 st Feb	9.00am	Y2M Class led Assembly
Sun 3 rd	9.00am	Y3 Mass of Commitment and family Mass



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