



# 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](mailto:enquiry@stjosutton.net)

21st December 2018

## Newsletter No.9

Dear Parents,

*This is the last letter of 2018, 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*

### 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 FY and 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!

**KS2 Carol concert:** Well done to KS2 for a wonderful Christmas Carol Concert, the first time in the Church, and our last event before Christmas. Thank you to the many who came to support them- a real Christmas lift. A special thanks to Miss Harris the KS2 staff and the parent volunteers who assisted in the rehearsal walks to church.

**PTA Christmas Disco:** Many thanks to ALL involved with the organisation and running of the disco on Thursday evening last week - it was a huge success and lovely evening for the children. Thank you especially to the PTA team.

This week's award winner. The awards are as follows:

<b>The Tidiness Award</b>	<b>Y2E</b>	<b>Lining Up award</b>	<b>Y4L</b>
<b>Lunchtime Behaviour Award</b>	<b>Y5L</b>	<b>The Attendance Award</b>	<b>Y2E with 97.6%</b>

**Overall class winners for Autumn term, winning £50 to spend on whatever they chose for the class is Year 2E**

### 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 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.

### 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 been 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.

### Attendance

Thank you to all parents who have met with staff to discuss reasons for absences and ways in which we may be able to assist in improving their attendance.



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Multi-Academy Company

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

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## Year 3 Swimming lessons

Next term Year 3B and Year 3T will experience a week each of swimming Lessons at Wyndley baths – good luck to all involved, please do not forget your kit on any of the days. Separate letters have been sent out.

**Polite Notice-**Non Staff cars are only allowed on the school site in the morning provided they have left by 8am. Likewise they can only be brought onsite to collect from the sunshine club after 4.45pm

**Dogs** are not allowed on the sites of any School – I have had a number of reports of dogs being carried around on the site. Please can this practice cease. Failure to do so will result in a ban from the premises. Many thanks

## 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.

## 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.

## Staffing changes

- Today we are saying a farewell and thank you to Mrs Tinsley (Teaching Assistant)
- We will also be saying thank you and goodbye to Mrs Zoe Matthews (Lunchtime Assistant).
- Miss Molloy has successfully been appointed as Play worker in the Sunshine Club- congratulations. We wish them all well for their future endeavours.

*This Sunday is the 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Please continue to keep Darcey Y1G and Fr Neil in your prayers, both are recovering well from surgery.

Yours sincerely,

*G. M. O'Hara*

G M O'Hara  
Principal



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Dates for your diary –January		
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8.45am	School open for the Spring Term
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Y5L and Y3B walk to Mass at Holy Trinity
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.00am	Mass for the Start of the Term
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-2.30pm	Year 3T Swimming lessons at Wyndley Baths
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	PTA meeting
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Y4L Class led Assembly
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	All day	NSPCC assemblies KS1 & KS2, Y5 and Y6 workshops
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-2.30pm	Year 3B Swimming lessons at Wyndley Baths
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Y4L and Y6H walk to Mass at Holy Trinity

Please note the following important dates next term:

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



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