



The Federated Schools of St Joseph's Catholic Infants
and St Joseph's Catholic Juniors

Junior Weekly Newsletter



Email: school@stjosephsjun.waltham.sch.uk

Issue: 9

Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new half term!

This week we celebrated two important feast days, All Saints Day on 1st November and All Souls Day 2nd November. It was an important time for us to reflect on the lives of saints and how they shaped the world for us today, the sacrifices they made and the courage they showed in the face of adversity. We also remembered all those who are dearly departed amongst our family and friends. There are many traditions all over the world we celebrate and remember the lives of all those who have passed away, and in school we have a special book to commemorate those especially during the month of November. If you would like the name of a relative or friend to be added to our 'Remembrance Books' in school, please contact the school offices and we will include them in our prayers.

In the Infants this week, we introduced a 'special table' at lunchtime, where I got to sit and have lunch with children this week who have shown excellent behaviour at lunch time. It was lovely talking to Arthur who said, 'I'm here because I love learning and I'm good at learning'. It is fantastic to see such confidence in our youngest children!

On Tuesday, Year 6 started our rolling programme of attending mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Each Year Group in Key Stage 1 and 2 will get to attend at least one mass in Church this Academic Year and it is lovely to have the opportunity to be a part of our Parish Community once again.

At the end of this month, we will sadly be saying goodbye to Mrs McKoy who has been the office manager at the St. Joseph's Junior school for over 34 years. She knows many of the children and families at the school and we wish her the very best in her retirement. We know many of you will want to pass on your thoughts and wishes before she leaves.

I am delighted to say that last week I met with both the Diocese and the borough to begin a rolling programme of works to be carried out in the Junior school (The Infant school was recently refurbished in 2018). Not all improvements are immediately visible to the eye but we are hoping to make some changes to the school gates and other facilities around the school.

Attached to this week's newsletter is the first of our 'Curriculum Updates' on Physical Education which has been a key focus this term. Next week will be updating you on all the steps we are taking to raise levels of attainment and accelerate progress in writing.

It is an exciting time for both schools as we continue to forge ahead building on good practice and also thinking more creatively about what a 21st education means for our children in the future.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine while it lasts!

God bless,

Mrs D'Souza and all the staff at St. Joseph's

Upcoming Dates

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

Schools Closes for Christmas Holiday

Friday December 17th 2021

(Staggered finish times)

Reception – 1pm

Nursery pm 1:30pm

Year 1&2 – 1:15pm

Year 3&4 – 1:30pm

Year 5&6 – 1:45pm

Non Uniform Days

Friday November 26th - £2 donation

Friday 17th December - £2 donation

**Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements
22nd November 2021**

PE Days

Year 3&6 Wednesday & Friday

Year 4&5 Tuesday & Friday

First Holy Communion Masses

November 14th 2021 at 3.00pm

November 21st 2021 at 3.00pm

Going Forth Mass

December 12th 2021 at 10am

For Children and Parents.

Inset Day

Tuesday 4th January 2022(No school)

School Re-Opens

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Recent Updates

Parent Surveys

Please check your child book bag/ email account for a parent survey which has been sent home today. As a school, we are always keen to get your views on what you feel we are doing well as a school as well as an areas you feel we could improve. As a school we are open to constructive feedback as a means of moving our schools forward. Please return completed surveys to the school offices by Friday 19th November.

Waltham Forest Climate Change Summit

Waltham Forest Climate Change Summit is from Monday 8th November - Friday 12th November 2021. St. Joseph's is committed to taking action to ensure a better and brighter future for our young children of today. Please refer to the letter sent our yesterday from Mrs Poku in the Junior School listing some of the 'Daily Actions' you can take part in at home as every small action can have a big impact. On Monday 8th, we encourage all our families to walk, bike or scoot to school. Year 2 and Year 4 will be collecting data as part of their 'real life' maths learning for the day to create bar charts and graphs to show which year group has the most amount of children walking, biking or scooting to school. The class with the most children will win a slightly extended playtime!

Attendance

Please be aware that any absence requests taken directly before or after a school holiday will go unauthorised unless there are extenuating circumstances. Now that we are back in school, it is important that children maintain high attendance to allow them to reach their full potential and avoid falling any further behind in their learning. This year is crucial to your child making up for the time they have lost in school. Children will get a cold from time to time but on the whole, are generally well enough to attend school. If you have concerns that your child may have Covid-19, please get a PCR test as soon as possible and follow the 10 days isolation rule for a positive result or return to school for a negative result.

Mask Wearing

We kindly ask that all parents return to wearing mask on the school playground when collecting children, congregating outside the school gates or when coming into school. Covid-19 cases are very much on the rise in the borough and we may need to revert to our 'Outbreak Management Plan' if cases continue to rise and put increased pressure on the NHS. Please can we all do our part to keep our community safe.

Winter Clothing

As we approach the winter month we are looking for families to donate any coats, scarves and hats that are in good condition. I am a strong believer in recycling when we can especially as children grow out of clothes so quickly. Donating the things you have outgrown will help others in our school community.

Social Distancing Outside of School

As you may be aware, Covid cases are very much on the rise and we have had some confirmed cases within the school. We are still following borough guidance to reduce the risk of transmission and keep the safety of our school paramount. With this in mind, I kindly ask you to consider how you congregate outside of the school at drop off and collection. Please do not arrive earlier than your drop off time as we have staggered starts in place to support having less adults outside the school gates.

Once your child has entered the gate in the morning, please leave immediately to allow other parents space to bring their children in and avoid unnecessary congestion on the road. We can assure you your little ones are safe and very used to the routine. Year 6 monitor the younger children putting their bikes away in the juniors, and in the infants there is always someone on hand at the other end of the playground.

If you are in Reception, please do not arrive at the school gate before 8:45. You can wait in the park before your allocated drop off time at to avoid clashing outside with Year 1 and 2. Please no do not queue outside the gate before 8:45 as this blocks the entrance for Year 1 and Year 2. Likewise please can the infant's parents leave as soon as their children are in the gate and kindly not wait to waive the children in. This causes further congestion on the road and the children are very confident and supervised coming into school.

Staff Changes

We are sad to say goodbye to Coach Raymond who is leaving us this week after fourteen years as Play Leader and Sports Coach. We wish him the very best as he focuses on his continuing studies.

Registration

All new parents will have received log-in details to register for the [shop \(Pay+\)](#). If you have not already registered please do so as soon as possible. Once registered, you will be able to book for the planned trips and clubs that are coming up. Places will be limited so do not delay in registering.

Meal Changes

Those who have registered will also be able to pay for the excellent school meals their children are enjoying. You can read about them and see the current menu here <https://walthamforestcatering.co.uk/our-menus> please be aware if you want to change between Packed Lunch and School Meals, you will need to give 2 weeks written notice.

Parents Consultations

This week we began the telephone Consultation Meetings with the first three classes and we are already getting good feedback. The days for the remaining consultations are below. All times are between 9:00am and 12:00pm and 1:00pm and 4:00pm. The teachers are looking forward to catching up with all of you and hopefully sharing lots of positive things. If you haven't booked a time as yet please do so.

Year 3 Class 3T: Wednesday 10th November 2021

Year 4 Class 4T: Thursday 11th November 2021

Year 4 Class 4K: Friday 12th November 2021

Year 5 Class 5A: Tuesday 9th November 2021

Junior School Class Masses will be held at St Joseph's Parish Church as follows:-

Year 5 Class Mass 9th November at 9.30am

Year 4 Class Mass 16th November at 9.30am

Year 3 Class Mass 23rd November at 9.30am

Waltham Forest Adult Learning Service – Free Parenting Courses as follows:-

How to develop you Child's Language through Play – Course FA0122C3 – The importance of play, how to engage your child in fun play activities and use questioning through play to encourage language development.

- Time: 10 00am -11.30am
- Day: Monday 8th – 29th November 2021 – 4 week course
- Where: Queens Road Learning Centre Queens Road E17 8QR.

To enrol please call us or visit our website to enrol online or phone 0208 496 2974.

Email: adult.learning@walthamforest.gov.uk Website: www.lbwfadultlearning.co.uk

Recent Updates

Start and Finish to School Day

It is important your child arrives promptly at their allocated start time in order to maximise their learning time, receive additional intervention and support as well as settle themselves in readiness to start the school day. A reminder start times are:

Year 3 and 4 – 8:45 – 3.10

Year 5 and 6 – 8:40 – 3.15

Gate closes: 8:55

Please kindly do not enter the playground before your time slot and leave promptly once you have collected your child. Please also remember to wear a mask to help keep our community safe. We thank you for your support with these new procedure.

Sickness and Absence

Please make sure that you call the school office **every day** that your child is sick or absent from school. Messages can be left on the answer machine which should make the procedure much easier. If you do not contact the school when your child is absent, you will receive a phone call from the school office in line with our safeguarding procedures.

Late Pick-Ups

Please be aware that both the Infants and Juniors schools will enforce charges to parents and carers if their children are repeatedly late collecting their child from school. We understand there may be emergency situations and we ask you to call ahead and inform us in such instances. However, where parents and carers are repeatedly late to collect their children, charges are as follows:

15minutes - £5

30 minutes and thereafter - £10

The school does offer afterschool club provision if you are unable to collect your child on time. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the junior school for an application pack or alternatively, forms can be downloaded from our schools website.

Testing

We kindly ask parents that if their child has been sent home or is absent for any of the following: high temperatures, new persistent cough, change in taste or smell, diarrhoea or vomiting, we advise taking a Covid test before they return to school. We thank all parents who continue to get their children tested regularly and do so when asked to. Thank you for continuing to keep our community safe.

Birthdays

Happy birthday to
Chloel 6T
Alexander 5S



Office Hours

Please be aware that school office opening hours are now from

8:00 to 8:30 am

9:00 to 3:30 pm

If you need to report an absence, please contact the school office.

Attendance

Well done to Class 5S for having the highest attendance this week- 100%. Keep it up!



Safeguarding

Please remember that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and schools have a responsibility to promote and protect the welfare of our children. If you have a concern regarding the safety of any child, please speak immediately to a member of our school safeguarding team. Any discussions are treated in confidence. The designated Safeguarding Team at St. Joseph's Infant and Juniors School are:

Mrs D'Souza Headteacher
Mrs Subebe Asst. Headteacher.
Mrs Carmody Year 6 teacher
Mrs Le Year 6 Teacher
Ms Poku Year 5 class Teacher

In the event of a safeguarding emergency, please contact the MASH team in Waltham Forest.

Telephone: 020 8496 2310

Email: MASHrequests@walthamforest.gov.uk

Golden Book Festival

3T: Gioia Kevin, Klaudia, Marivic, Natalia, Savelija.

4K : Whole Class Certificate

4T: Alex, Catherine, Jake, Natan, Nehemiah.

5A: Adam, Byron, Darcy, Divine, Gracee, Ivy, Nadia, Nathaniel.

5s: Ameila, Jack, Jayden, Mia, Nathalie, Tyler.

6M: Alex, Julia, Kwame, Ronan, Simon.

6T: Whole Class Certificate

Kurling Festival Pictures!

