



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: 12

Friday 26th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

On Tuesday, all the staff attended training led by our link advisor from the Diocese on how to plan and teach outstanding RE lessons. Religious Education remains at the heart of our curriculum and we aim to deliver outstanding RE lessons to engage and stimulate the children as well as how we link RE to other areas of the curriculum such as maths, science and art. We looked closely at how our children show outstanding progress in RE, which at times can be harder to assess than reading, writing and maths. How do our children act as moral citizens? Do they put ourselves before themselves and how do they follow Christ's example in their everyday life?

In the juniors, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their visits to the library and been given the simple pleasure of browsing books to read. They were able to get a library card and take home a book. We hope this might kick start families at home beginning to visit the library more often with their children as well as help the children decide what new books they would like to have in their classrooms. Each teacher will be given £40 to design their own book corner, inspired by the children's interests. Our school councillors will be deciding which classroom will win a special prize! Once our children have created their book wish list, we will be purchasing new books for the classroom book corners. Any funds raised at Christmas will also go towards a 'reading shed' in both schools for the children to use outdoors. Fostering a love for reading opens a world of opportunity to our children. Shortly our children will be writing their book reviews to be published with the newsletter and we would like our parents to get involved! If you have read a good book with your children at home and would like to recommend it to other parents, please email the school with a short paragraph as to why you like the book and who you think will enjoy reading it. You too will be published in our weekly newsletter!

Last but by no means least, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Mckoy, who is retiring after 34 years at St Joseph's junior school. We wish Mrs Mckoy the very best and thank her for all she has done for the school and families over the many years. She will be missed by both families and staff in the school. Please join us in giving a warm welcome to Ms Adepoju, who will be supporting in the junior school office. Ms Adepoju has spent the last few days learning the ropes from both Ms Ammonies in the Infants and Mrs Mckoy in the juniors and is looking forward to starting on Monday.

We wish you a peaceful weekend.

God Bless

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

Upcoming Dates

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 17th December - £2 donation

Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements
8th December 2021

PE Days
Year 3&6 Wednesday & Friday
Year 4&5 Tuesday & Friday

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

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 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.

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.

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.lbwfadullearning.co.uk

Christmas Bazaar

We are hoping to hold a watered down version of a Christmas Bazaar as part of our Christmas celebrations. This will include a toy sale (nearly new toys), bottle stall and an opportunity to hear the children sing some Christmas Carols at the end of term. Please can you continue to donate any toys in good condition and bring in a bottle instead of your usual £2 donation on the last day of the month. If you are able to give more, please do so, as all money raised will go directly back to the children in school. We thank you for your generosity as always.

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
Cem 6T
Krzysztof 6T
Simeon 6H



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!



Healthy School

We are a healthy school, we would like to remind families that children should only be given fresh or dried fruits for their snacks.

Star Pupils

3T: Christine and Jack

4K: Dijon and Amber

4T: Jake and Alina

5S: Amelia and Salvijus

5A: Darcey and Divine

6T: Sarah and Samuel

6M: Ravinder and Letoya

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