

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Dear Parents,

The children break up for half term on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and they come back to school on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**. This is the half term newsletter update with diary dates and other useful information.

## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October:** Children break up for half term

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November:** Children come back to school after half term

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November:** There will be NO MASS this Tuesday

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November:** The last session of each CLUB will run this week and clubs will all finish this week.

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November:** Please donate good quality GIFTS AND TOILETRIES for the Christmas Fair if you can.

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November:** Retreat Day for the Year of Mercy for the whole school with One Life Music. No merit assembly on this day but there will be a special closing liturgy at **2.30pm** and you are very warmly invited to join us for beautiful singing and readings.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November:** School – Parish Mass in Church with our Polish teacher visitors at 11am. All welcome.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** Polish Teachers from our partner school SP 118 in Wroclaw with us in school. Come and meet them at our Monday morning Gospel assembly at 9.15am.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November:** Polish Teachers from our partner school SP 118 in Wroclaw in school all day. Special goodbye assembly, choir performance and Year 1 assembly starting at **2pm**.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November:** Please donate CHOCOLATES, SWEETS, CHOCOLATE BOXES AND SMALL SELECTION BOXES for the Christmas Fair, if you can.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November:** Year 1 Assembly, Choir Performance and Farewell to Polish visitors now starting at **2pm**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November:** Please donate CUDDLY TOYS, GAMES AND OTHER TOYS THAT ARE STILL IN GOOD CONDITION for the Christmas Fair, if you can.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November:** Reception Assembly 2.30pm

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November:** Drop in with School Nurse Mel Dowling – please book at the office

Hillcrest Road, Dudley,  
West Midlands DY2 7PW

**Principal:**  
Mr M Hinton, B.Ed. Hons, NPQH  
**Telephone:**  
01384 818925  
**Fax:**  
01384 818930  
**Website:**  
[www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk)  
**Email:**  
[info@st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk)

***Kind hands, kind words...like Jesus***

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Registered in England and Wales No. 08608177

**Registered office:**  
Burton Road, Dudley DY1 3BY

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November:** Drop in with School Nurse Mel Dowling – please book at the office

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Please donate BOTTLES OF POP, WINE, BEER OR SPIRITS for the fair, if you can.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December:** Please donate TEA, COFFEE, LONG LIFE MILK, SUGAR AND BISCUITS for the fair, if you can.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December:** Christmas Fair 3.30pm with Father Christmas' Grotto and stalls

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Drop in with school nurse Mel – please book at the office.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 2 Christmas Play 2.20pm (doors open at 2.10pm)

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 2 Christmas Play 5.30pm (children back and doors open from 5pm – please don't come back any earlier than 5pm as we may not have staff available)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Own Clothes day in school for everyone

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Discos – Morning Nursery children can come back 1.15-1.45pm for their disco. Key Stage 1 and 2 will have discos during the afternoon. Please donate £1 towards the cost of the discos if you can.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Parties: There is no need to send in any donations of food or drinks for the party. School will provide pop and biscuits for everyone (because we were wasting so much of the party food given that the children have only had their lunch immediately before the party! If your child has allergies and you would prefer to send their own pop/biscuit this is of course fine)

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 2.20pm (doors open at 2.10pm)

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 5.30pm (children back and doors open from 5pm – please don't come back any earlier than 5pm as we may not have staff available)

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Reception and Morning Nursery Christmas Play at 10.45am (doors open 10.35am)

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Reception and Afternoon Nursery Christmas Play at 2.20pm (doors open 2.10pm)

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Carols in Church at 5.45pm (children at Church for 5.30pm)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Merit Assembly and attendance awards 11am

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Carols and Readings around the tree at 2.15pm

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January:** Children return to school for Spring Term

### Polish Visitors

Our school has a European Union funded 'Erasmus Plus' partnership project with SP 118 School in Wroclaw, Poland. 6 teachers from SP 118 and their headteacher will be joining us for Mass in the Church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 11am and then in school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November. We will welcome them at our Monday morning Gospel assembly at 9.15am on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and we will be saying goodbye with an assembly at 2pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November which will include a performance from our choir, Year 1 Class Assembly and our Friday merit assembly together with a goodbye presentation for our Polish visitors.

## Break time Snacks

Please can we ask you to make sure your child brings a healthy snack or preferably fruit at playtime? **Small** bags of crisps, **small** biscuits or chocolate bars are acceptable but we do not allow very large or high fat or high sugar snacks or sweets. Big bags of crisps, sweets, candy or chocolate bars are **not allowed**. It's important the children have something to eat at playtime if they want it – but this food needs to be of a **healthy standard** and **not full of fat, calories or sugar**. Children with unsuitable snacks will be asked to take them home.

## Uniform

The uniform policy is on the school website – please take a look and make sure your child is coming to school in correct uniform. We really need your support to make sure everyone is wearing correct uniform and following rules on footwear, hairstyles and jewellery. Please support the uniform policy.

## Parentview

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their review on Parentview in the past week! We desperately need some more reviews! **All we ask is that if you have any problems with the school you let us know first so we can try to put things right.** Just go to [www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk) – we will also text you the link again to make the process quicker to use. Thanks for your support.

## Keep in touch

At St Joseph's we are genuinely committed to making sure your children are safe and happy. We try our best to prevent any problems from arising but inevitably things **can** and **do** go wrong from time to time. If something goes wrong, if there is a problem or if you or your child are unhappy for any reason it is vital you **let us know straight away**. No problem is too small and the quicker we know about things the quicker we can sort them out.

## School Leadership Team

Mr Hinton (Head teacher) and Mrs Chapman (Deputy Head teacher) are the two most senior staff in the school and we can normally help you immediately – so don't hesitate to come and see us or phone us. We are supported by our two senior teachers, Mrs Hancox and Mrs Cheema. Both of the senior teachers are available to help and you can ask to see them at any time. There is **always** a member of the senior team in school during school hours so there is **always** someone here in authority to help you. Just let us know.

## Mrs Cardy – our SENCo

Our new Special Educational Needs coordinator is Mrs Cardy, who is also the SENCo at Bishop Milner. Mrs Cardy will be at St Joseph's on Mondays and Fridays and you can book in to see her or just pop in before or after school. She is often outside on Monday and Friday morning as well.

If you have any concerns about your child whatsoever please talk to their teacher or Mrs Cardy immediately.

As an alternative or indeed following your discussions with your child's teacher you can speak to myself or Mrs Chapman (Deputy Head) at any time. Pop in before or after school or call us by telephone – we will always try to see you immediately. Our two senior teachers, Mrs Hancox (head of Early Years and Reception Teacher) and Mrs Cheema (Teaching and Learning lead and Year 6 Teacher) are also available to help you with any concerns or enquiries.

Between us we can help with learning difficulties, social and emotional difficulties, pastoral welfare matters, health matters and indeed any concern you may have – however small.

### **School Nurse**

We can ask our lovely school nurse, Mel Dowling (who has been with us for many years) to contact you at any time if you have any health concerns about your child. In addition Nurse Mel is here once a month and you can simply book to see her via the school office. Mel can support you with a full range of health matters and can make referrals to other health professionals. For example she can provide help with children's sleep matters, behaviour at home, eating concerns, bed wetting, nightmares, glue ear, skin conditions, on-going health matters and so on. If Mel can't help you herself she will help you to access the appropriate care from another healthcare professional.

### **Have a safe and happy half term holiday**

Have a good half term together and we look forward to seeing you after the holidays. Don't forget the children come back on **Tuesday** 1<sup>st</sup> November.

With every kind wish,

M Hinton,

Principal