

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – June 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support this year

I want to start this end of term newsletter by thanking every parent, carer and family member from the bottom of my heart for your co-operation and support for the school this year.

St Joseph's really is a special place to be. The Catholic ethos, our mission and the care that everyone has for each other is recognised by so many people who visit our school. We are always looking at ways to improve and develop, in order to make our school the very best it can be for the children and families we serve. The children regularly tell us how much they enjoy school and they are the very reason why all staff take their responsibilities of providing an engaging and exciting curriculum, keeping the children safe and developing the children's relationship with Jesus so very seriously.



As a staff we're really proud to serve at St Joseph's and we thank you so much.

Our values from the Catholic Schools Pupil Profile this term are **ATTENTIVE** and **DISCERNING**.



Attentive – to the type of person God calls us to be. Attentive to following the values and teachings of Christ.

Discerning – Thinking carefully about the choices we make.



Always trying to make the right choices – even when we know this can be difficult.

Staff who are leaving

Mrs Iqbal

Mrs Iqbal was only with us a short time this year before unfortunately becoming poorly. Mrs Iqbal has now made the decision to leave St Joseph's and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Goodbye to our Year 6 pupils

We are very proud of our Year 6 children who have taken their responsibility of being role models to the rest of the school community very seriously this year. Their behaviour has been exemplary and they have always conducted themselves wonderfully around school, from helping with the computer and music in assemblies, being altar servers in Mass, helping to set up the hall for events and looking after the younger children. We wish them all the very best in the next step of their life journey. We

Goodbye to parents and carers who will no longer be coming to the school in September



A colorful illustration of a woman with brown hair and a purple cardigan sitting on the floor, reading a large open book. Five diverse children are gathered around her, looking at the book with interest. The children include a boy with orange hair, a girl with blonde hair, a girl with dark skin and curly hair, a girl with grey hair, and a girl with brown hair and a pink flower in it. They are all smiling and appear to be in a classroom or library setting.



School Kitchen

The plans for our school kitchen are progressing nicely and we have been assured that the kitchen will be fully operational for September 2022. This is a fantastic addition to our school – having fresh meals cooked daily on site will only enhance our provision for the children – we are VERY excited!

Attendance Information from our Attendance Officer

Firstly, we would like to thank all parents who have supported their child(ren) in making sure they attended regularly throughout difficult times and changes over the last two years.



The Department for Education published new guidance for attendance in May 2022 stressing the importance of school attendance and that, “improving attendance is everyone’s business,” (DFE 2022). School will continue to assess procedures, work with external support and statutory services, to continue to monitor children’s attendance which falls below school’s target of 96%, and work with those who are at risk of becoming persistently absent or are persistently absent (90% and below).

Good attendance is learnt behaviour. It is proven that children with the highest attendance achieve the highest attainment and have wider life chances. School will be reviewing all policies and procedures. However, to improve overall and individual attendance, we need parents’ support as well. For this to happen to we request the following:

- Schools target is 96% attendance which equates to your child having no more than 10 days absence in an academic year.
- It is a legal responsibility where a parent, “has registered a child in school that they attend school every day the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances. Failing to attend school on a regular basis will be considered a safeguarding matter. If your child is absent, you are expected to contact school each morning. If school cannot get hold of a parent or emergency contact, a home visit may be undertaken.”
- Please book medical appointments outside of school. If your child has ongoing medical needs, please speak to school so that we can support your child.
- Only request Leave of Absence in exceptional circumstances, and do so in advance. There have been several occasions where parents have taken holiday without notifying school or said their child is off due to illness. We politely request that parents are honest with school as this causes a large amount of time wasted, undertaking calls, home visits and even referrals to children missing in education.
- Any child who has 10% absence (90% attendance and below) is classified as persistently absent. School, and other support services or statutory services, will become involved. This



could be a home visit, invitation into a meeting, engaging with a parenting contract or Early Help, if classified as severely absent.

- School will not continue to authorise absence if attendance is unsatisfactory and may ask for further medical evidence to support having time off. If this is not provided, school are not obliged to authorise the absence and may consult with the Local Authority regarding further statutory action.
- We understand that there may be other barriers to attendance. If you have any concerns or issues that are having an impact on your child(ren)'s attendance, please contact school immediately so we can support you. School would rather work through issues together than go down a statutory route.
- May we take this opportunity to remind parents to update emergency contact details and also update medical information or requirements (which might affect attendance).

Keeping Safe

We take part in lots of activities to help children keep safe both in and out of school, including Internet Safety, NSPCC workshops, dog safety etc. In addition, we hold termly fire drills to ensure that everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire, which exits to use, and how to leave the building safely. We are now required to complete a lockdown drill so that children and staff are prepared should there be any danger outside of the school building, and the children need to stay safe within the school. The drill involves the children staying quiet and out of sight within their classrooms. We will be completing the drill in the coming weeks and explaining to the children, in an age-appropriate way, what's happening and what to do safely. We will let parents know, by text, when the drill has been completed.



Summer Get Together

Please help by sending your donations!

Thank you so much to those who have already made donations – this is much appreciated.

The Summer Get Together on **Friday 8th July at 3.30pm** comes at the end of our Brilliant in Britain week and follows on from the performances on Thursday 7th July.

The Get Together is a great opportunity for everyone to come together in school before we break up for the summer holidays. There will be a raffle, tombolas and a toy sale. Tea and Coffee / Pop will be on sale and everything is at pocket money prices. Hopefully our lovely open-air terrace can be enjoyed (if it's dry!) There will be a raffle with lots of prizes!

Thank you for donating your items each week if you can!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donations</u>
Friday 24 th June	Chocolate donations
Friday 1 st July	Bottle donations – anything in a bottle!
Friday 8 th July	Tea, coffee, long-life milk, biscuits and cakes

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Your child's End of Year Report

End of year reports will be sent out Week beginning Monday 11th July.

Optional parents evening - should you wish to discuss your child's report

Your child's report will include a slip where you can request a parents evening meeting with your child's teacher. The optional parents evening will be on Monday 18th July and is only intended for those parents who wish to discuss the written report.



Have a safe and happy summer!

We hope that you and your family enjoy a safe and happy summer. All the best to everyone who is leaving us in July – and to everyone returning, we really look forward to welcoming you back to school in September!

School closes for Summer on Wednesday 20th July and re-opens to pupils in Years 1-6 on Wednesday 7th September from 8.45am.

Reception and Nursery children have been informed separately of their start dates in September.

With every kind wish, as always,

Mrs S Chapman

Principal



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Summer Term 2022 Dates

Wednesday 29th June – Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day. Parents are welcome from 2.30pm to join us for closing prayers.

WB 4th July – Brilliant in Britain Week, Learning about other faiths, and Ten:Ten (RHSE Curriculum) Module 3.

Thursday 7th July – Jubilee Celebration. Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 performances from 9.15am. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 performances from 2.15pm – please join us if you can!

Friday 8th July – Summer Get Together from 3.30pm – teddy tombola, chocolate tombola, bottle tombola, raffles and more!

WB Monday 11th July – End of Year School Reports to be sent out to parents.

Wednesday 13th July – Early Years Sports Day – Nursery AM 10.30am, Reception 9.15am and Nursery PM 2.00pm – if it rains we'll still go ahead with activities in the hall – please join us if you can!

Thursday 14th July – Year 6 Confirmation in Church at 6.30pm.

Monday 18th July – Parents Evening – in school.

Monday 18th July – Disco and party day in school.

Tuesday 19th July – Year 6 Leavers Mass at 9.15am and Year 6 Graduation at 2.00pm – not to be missed! Please join us if you can!

Wednesday 20th July – End of Year celebration assembly, 9.15am – all welcome!