



**THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM**  
**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW**  
**Head Teacher: Mr. M. Hinton, B. Ed Hons, NPQH**  
**Telephone: 01384 818925 Fax: 01384 818930**  
**[www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk)**

18 May 2012

Dear Parents,

We are fast approaching the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Holidays and there are lots of things happening in school over the next few weeks. Here are some dates for your diary together with some important messages.

**Diary**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Mass in honour of Our Lady and May Procession led by Year 6. 9.30am in the hall followed by tea and coffee for parents and parishioners

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May:** Year 6 assembly 2.30pm

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May:** **DATE CHANGE** – **First Holy Communion** drop in meeting in Year 3 at 3.30pm (changed from 11<sup>th</sup> June)

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May:** Jubilee tea parties – please send donations of food and drink. Children can wear their posh, royal clothes for the day – Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses!

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June :** Jubilee Concert in the hall at 2.00pm.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June:** Break up for half term.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June:** Back to School.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 4 assembly, 2.30pm (World Day against Child Labour).

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June:** Sacrament of First Holy Communion in Church, 11.00am. Photographer available afterwards with refreshments available in the entrance for the children. The official First Holy Communion breakfast is on Tuesday after Mass, but there will be pop and snacks for the children after the Sunday Mass.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June:** First Holy Communion celebration Mass in school at 9.30am followed by first Holy Communion Breakfast after Mass. Children are asked to wear their Holy Communion outfits again for the celebration and parents, family and friends are all invited to stay for the breakfast, where the table will be laid and a lovely celebration will be organised. Please send in donations of cakes and biscuits etc on the morning and feel free to come along and help set up the table on the morning.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Shorts and Shades Day (see below)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June:** Year 2 assembly **DATE CHANGE**, 2.30pm, World Refugee Day (changed from 29<sup>th</sup>)

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 3 assembly **DATE CHANGE**, 2.30pm, Saint Peter and Saint Paul's Day (changed from 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July:** Year 5 assembly, 2.30pm, Environment.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July:** Olympic cultural celebration (performances from each class) 2.00pm in the hall – please note the Year 1 assembly has been cancelled but the class will of course be performing as part of this whole school event

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July:** After School: Olympic Summer Fair – bouncy castle, face painting, games, food and stalls

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July:** School Parish Mass, 11.00am in Church



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July:** Year 6 Leaver's Mass, 9.30am in the hall.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Discos in school – own clothes day. Please donate £1 towards the cost of the Disco – Thank you.

1.15 – 2.15pm Nursery and Reception Disco 2.15pm – 3.15pm Year 1 and Year 2 Disco – 3.15pm – 4.15pm – Years 3,4 and 5 Disco

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Year 6 Leaver's Party after school until 6.15pm (details sent separately)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July:** Year 6 Graduation, 2.00pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July:** Merit assembly: 11.00am

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July:** End of Term Assembly 2.15pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July:** Break up for Summer Holidays: 3.15pm.

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September:** Back to school (Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September is a staff training day)

### **News updates**

**Uniform:** Please ensure your child wears proper uniform: no trainers, jewellery, nail varnish, shavings and engravings. We get so many people complimenting our children on their smart uniform – please help us to uphold these high standards. It's really important and we appreciate your help.

**Lateness: we really need your help!** As a school we have a **legal duty** to promote good time keeping and parents also have a **legal duty** to bring the children to school **on time**. Repeated lateness cannot continue to be authorised. If your child has a very high number of lates you will be contacted and informed that we are no longer able to authorise the lateness. Repeated unauthorised lateness automatically triggers a referral to the Education Investigation Service who have the power to issue a penalty notice or prosecute in extreme cases. **We don't want this to happen** so please do all you can to reduce lateness.

**Money sent in to school** Please can we ask you to send any money in an envelope or money bag labelled with your child's name and the details of the payment e.g. dinner money, trip money etc. Thank you very much.

**Feedback** We have received lots of positive feedback about the school and the children in recent weeks. The Educational Psychologist wrote especially to congratulate the children on their excellent manners and respect. A senior school inspector from Dudley was in school on Thursday and again was very impressed indeed with the children and the school overall. This is really good news and we have congratulated the children.

**Summer Fair Volunteers** If you would be able to volunteer to help with the summer fair we would be really grateful. Please let us know at the office or let Mrs Bant know. If you could spare an hour or so after school on the 13<sup>th</sup> July to help run a stall we would be really grateful. Also, we are hoping to have the world food stall as normal – please let us know if you would be able to donate some food and help run the stall. Thanks very much. We will be collecting donations of bottles, cuddly toys and cakes for the fair after half term. Thanks again for your support.

**Drinks in school** Please note that the children **are** allowed to bring squash (but not fizzy pop) into school in a plastic bottle to drink at playtime. In addition, the children are encouraged to bring water in a plastic bottle to drink in the classroom. All we ask is that they take the bottle home at the end of the day to wash. The bottles can be refilled during the day from the drinking water taps in the classrooms. The school meals service provide drinking water at lunchtime for the hot dinners children.

**Lenten Fundraising** All of the money has been counted – thank you for your exceptional generosity. In total, with the fair and the Zumbathon, we raised £1100.

Half of this (£550) has been put in the school fund – this is a separate account to the normal school budget and is only used to pay for extras for the children that the school budget does not provide for.

The other half has been distributed as follows: ACLT Charity £100, the **ACLT** is a voluntary charity, whose main aim is to increase the number of Black, Mixed Race and Ethnic Minority people on the UK Bone Marrow Register. The Georgina Ward at Russell's Hall Hospital £100, Our Lady and St Thomas



of Canterbury Church Maintenance Fund £200, UNICEF £50 and The Good Shepherd Homeless Shelter £100.

**Mrs Julie Turner** We have spoken to Mr Turner and have his support for the school taking part in the Mary Stevens Hospice 'Shorts and Shades Day' in honour of Mrs Turner on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Very simply, the children can wear their shorts, t-shirts, sun visors, caps and shades (the brighter the better!) in return for a small donation to Mary Stevens Hospice where Mrs Turner was resident. More details after half term.

**New school logo / uniform** The children have helped our school governors to create a new school logo, with the help of a professional artist. Our current school logo has served us well for many years (it was actually designed by Mr Spiteri's son when he was a pupil at St Joseph's) but it is now time for a new logo that has been designed by the current generation of pupils. Oakes and Tesco will be supplying blue sweatshirts with the new logo very soon. **Please note that uniform with the old logo can still be worn as we will be using both logos for the next year or so – there is no need to buy new uniform until you normally would!** The only change is the logo – our uniform is still the same colour.

**Attendance** Our attendance continues to be good. Thank you for helping us to improve. Every day your child is in school they are learning – missing even the odd day here and there really does affect their progress. Please continue to support us by avoiding any absence from school unless it is absolutely necessary. Please complete a holiday form **before** booking any holidays – and remember that holiday absence can **only** be agreed to if your child's attendance record is good. **We really appreciate your support.**

**School Dinners** Just a reminder that school dinners are now £1.85 per day.

**Rights Respecting School Award** As you have already seen through our school assemblies, we are striving to gain the 'Rights Respecting School Award', which focuses on the rights of children throughout the world. The United Nations have developed a list of the rights every child should have. Through our newsletters we will be sharing this list with you.

**Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)** *Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.*

**Website** A copy of this newsletter and all other letters we send out are always placed on the website, as well as weekly updates of the things that have been happening in school. You'll also find all of our diary dates on there too. Visit [www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk)

**Welcome in school** You are warmly invited to join us for Mass every Tuesday at 9.30am followed by tea and coffee and assembly every Friday at 2.30pm. If we ever have to cancel we will send a text to let you know. Please make sure we have your up to date mobile numbers.

**Keep in touch** As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you need our help – we can only help if we know about any difficulties you have. We will always try to see you as quickly as possible. The class teacher will normally be able to see you at the end of the day, myself or Mrs Chapman will do our best to see you as quickly as we can and will always phone you back if necessary. Mr Seex and Miss Oakley are our senior teachers who are also available if you need them.

Thanks for your support of our school – hope to see you at some of the special events happening this term.

Every kind wish,

M Hinton  
Headteacher

