

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Date: 26 September 2012

Dear Parents,

I hope you are well and coping with our autumn weather this week. Our shelters outside the main entrance and alongside the hall for Key Stage 1 should be installed during half term so you'll soon be able to keep dry when dropping the children off and picking them up. Here is our latest newsletter with important dates for your diary and other information.

Diary

Tuesday 2nd October: Harvest Mass in School at 9.30am. Please donate tins of food for the homeless at The Good Shepherd shelter.

Friday 5th October: Year 3 Assembly at 2.30pm (our last newsletter contained an error – the assembly is definitely taking place on **FRIDAY 5th October!**)

Sunday 7th October: 11.00am in Church, School Parish Mass, please come and join us.

Wednesday 10th October: Individual and family group photographs. Family groups at 8.30am.

Friday 12th October: If you can, please donate good quality BOOKS (adults and kids) for our Christmas Fair. Normal uniform on this day, please.

Tuesday 16th October: 3.30pm – 6.30pm – Parent's Evening – appointment forms will be sent out.

Thursday 18th October: Break up for half term. There will be a merit assembly at 2.30pm.

Friday 19th and Monday 29th October are staff training days and the school is closed to pupils.

Tuesday 30th October: School opens for the second half of Autumn Term.

Harvest Mass – Harvest Donations

Our Harvest Mass is this Tuesday 2nd October at 9.30am in school. If you can, please donate tinned food – either a tin on its own or baskets / parcels of tins. These will all be donated to The Good Shepherd Homeless Shelter in Wolverhampton to provide food for those who have little or nothing to live on. Thank you.

Behaviour Policy

We have updated our behaviour policy in order to make the school's policy on disruptive behaviour completely clear to everyone. Very simply, if children disrupt the learning of other children they will be taken away from the classroom to do their work somewhere else so that the rest of the children can concentrate properly. Persistent disruptive behaviour will be dealt with by stronger sanctions and parents will be contacted to provide support to the school.



Hillcrest Road, Dudley,
West Midlands DY2 7PW

Headteacher:
Mr M Hinton, B.Ed. Hons, NPQH
Telephone:
01384 818925
Fax:
01384 818930
Website:
www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk
Email:
info@st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Year 1

Very sadly Mrs Meehan is unwell and has had to make the decision not to return to school. We have sent her all of our best wishes and prayers. Miss Pearman has been appointed as the teacher in charge of Year 1 and we are happy to report that year 1 have settled wonderfully and are very much enjoying their new start in Key Stage 1 – the start of ‘main school’. The Year 1 parent workshop that was scheduled for next week has been cancelled and will now run from 9.10am on Monday 5th and Wednesday 7th November – apologies for the inconvenience.

Good News

A visitor to school who came in to deliver an assembly and visit our year 3 class told us that our children were the best behaved, most well mannered and most enthusiastic children she has worked with anywhere in Dudley, Worcestershire or Wolverhampton! Fantastic feedback that shows people really do value manners, kindness and respect. Well done to all of the children for making such a good impression!

Food Dudes

For the next 16 days the school is taking part in the Food Dudes project. Children have the opportunity to taste a different healthy fruit or vegetable each day and receive prizes just for tasting the food – even if it’s just one bite. The idea is that by rewarding kids just for trying fruits and vegetables we can widen their tastes and promote healthy eating. For full details please refer to the letter sent earlier in the term.

Masses and Assemblies

You are warmly welcomed to our weekly Mass in school every Tuesday at 9.30am. Our Masses are inclusive occasions and you don’t need to be a Catholic to enjoy the music and reflective times. The staff and children work really hard to make Mass one of the highlights of the week – you are welcome to join us and there is always tea and coffee for everyone after Mass.

You are also invited to our weekly merit assembly every Friday at 2.30pm. From September we have also been joined by our Reception Class each week. Everyone is welcome and you don’t have to be the parent of a weekly award winner in order to come along.

It is very unusual that Mass or assembly is cancelled but if you are making a special journey it is a good idea to call the school in advance. We will always try our best to inform you if there is going to be a cancellation – normally we will text you.

Uniform / Nail Varnish / Earrings / Hairstyles

Help us to maintain the highest standards in our school. Proper uniform must be worn at all times, sensible school shoes and not trainers, no nail varnish or rings, no earrings or necklaces and no hair shavings, sculptings, patterns or designs. Simple headbands in school colours are allowed but not bandanas or strings in hair. The uniform policy is really simple and we are dependent on everyone for your support. Please also ensure your child has the correct uniform P.E. kit including school pumps. Thanks again.

Attendance and Lateness

A reminder of how important it is that your child is **in school** and **on time** every day that they possibly can be. When children are late for lessons they miss the introduction and consequently **get behind** because they have missed all of the teaching at the start. **This puts the late child at a serious disadvantage.** Whilst we know it’s unavoidable that we are all late once in a while – persistent, regular lateness is damaging to a child’s education. Please do all you can to ensure your child is at school on time. We really do appreciate all of your effort and support.

Keeping in touch

It is important that we maintain a good relationship between home and school so that the children’s education and care is first class. If you have any concerns whatsoever about your child’s time at school do not hesitate to make contact. Ask to see the teacher – they will normally see you the same afternoon (they can’t see you in the morning because they are with the children). Alternatively you can see Miss Pugh (Senior Teacher), Mr Seex (Senior Teacher), Mrs Chapman (Assistant Head) or myself. Don’t hesitate to get in touch – it is much better to sort out problems straight away instead of letting them get worse. Thanks a lot.

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 4 (protection of rights) Governments must do all they can to fulfil the rights of every child.

Website

We keep our website very up to date with dates and news. It is usually updated every week with photos and news as well as back copies of newsletters. www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

M Hinton
Headteacher