

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

6 November 2012

Dear Parents

We hope you are well and that the children are well settled into the autumn term now. Here is an update with dates and news for the second half of the autumn term. Don't forget that you can find diary dates and newsletters on the website too.

Your up to date Mobile Number – Did you receive our test text today? If not, let us know straight away!

We use the text service to deliver important messages to everyone. It's essential we have your up to date mobile number. We sent everyone a 'test text' this morning. If you didn't receive it please contact the office straight away to ensure we have your mobile number correctly in the system.

Diary

Friday 9th November: Year 6 assembly is cancelled (Frank Chapman Centre Trip) **No merit assembly** this week (Year 4 Drama workshop in the hall all day)

Friday 9th November: Please donate cuddly toys, games and other toys for the Christmas Fair, if you can.

Sunday 11th November: School Parish Mass at 11.00am, everyone welcome.

Friday 16th November: Year 6 Assembly and merit assembly 2.30pm
DATE CHANGE

Friday 16th November: Please donate chocolates, sweets, selection boxes, boxed chocolates for the fair, if you can.

Monday 19th November – Friday 23rd November – Anti Bullying and Anti Racism Week in School.

Friday 23rd November: BLUE FRIDAY (Anti Bullying Colour)
Everyone can wear their own BLUE clothes!

Friday 23rd November: Anti Bullying and Anti Racism Week Celebration / Merit Assembly 2.30pm

Friday 23rd November: Please donate bottles for the Christmas fair, if you can.

Friday 30th November: Please donate cakes, biscuits, tea, coffee, sugar and long life milk for the Christmas Fair, if you can.

Friday 30th November: **No merit assembly** (because of hall being used for Christmas Fair).



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

Kind hands, kind words...like Jesus

Friday 30th November: 3.30pm – 5.00pm: Christmas Fair in the hall after school – please come and join us.

Friday 7th December: Year 5 assembly and merit assembly, 2.30pm.

Monday 10th December: Key Stage 1 Christmas Play, 2.00pm (please don't arrive before 1.50pm – we have to clear up after lunch) and 6.00pm (Children back at school for 5.30pm, hall open for parents from 5.30pm).

Wednesday 12th December: Key Stage 2 Christmas Play, 2.00pm (please don't arrive before 1.50pm – we have to clear up after lunch) and 6.00pm (Children back at school for 5.30pm, hall open for parents from 5.30pm).

Tuesday 18th December: Nursery (pm) and Reception Christmas Play, 2.15pm (please don't arrive before 2.00pm as we need to tidy up after lunch and prepare the hall).

Wednesday 19th December: Nursery (am) and Reception Christmas Play, 9.30am (the hall will be open to parents from 9.00am).

Wednesday 19th December: Own Clothes Day for **all** children

Wednesday 19th December: Christmas Parties for everyone and also Discos for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in the afternoon. Maybe a visit from a special visitor, too.....! Please donate £1 towards the cost of the Disco.

Wednesday 19th December: Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to 6) Disco after school, 3.15pm to 4.30pm. Please donate £1 for the Disco.

Thursday 20th December: Christmas Carol Service in the Church at 6.00pm (children at Church for 5.45pm).

Friday 21st December: Merit Assembly 11.00am, Christmas Carols in the hall 2.15pm.

Friday 21st December: Break up for Christmas, 3.30pm.

Monday 7th January: Back to school.

Clubs – Dates and Going Home / Changing Arrangements

The clubs will all finish week ending Friday 23rd November. I was sorry to hear that there was a misunderstanding amongst the club staff about going home and changing arrangements last night. Please accept our apologies for any confusion. The arrangements for children getting changed and being collected are as below and all staff have been informed:

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB ROUTINE

1, Children change into their P.E. kits in the classroom before club starts. Use the toilets before going to club.

2, Children bring ALL of their belongings, P.E. bag, coat and clothes to the hall as they cannot return to class afterwards.

3, At the end of the club, children put their uniform clothes on over the top of their P.E. kits to go home. Put their coats on. Go home when fully dressed and warm. Take bags / P.E bags home.

4, Children bring their P.E. kit and bag back to school the next day and hang it on their peg.

UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award – we’ve been successful!

We are delighted to be only the second school in Dudley to achieve this award. This recognises the school’s commitment to teaching about children’s rights and responsibilities. We are now an ‘ambassador school’ asked to provide support to other schools in helping children to understand about rights and responsibilities.

Article 5 (parental guidance) Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide and advise their child so that, as they grow, they learn to apply their rights properly.

Fair Trade School Status

We are also thrilled to let you know that we have been successfully assessed by the Fair Trade Foundation as a ‘Fair Trade School’ for the second year running.

School SATs Results 2012

More good news. At St Joseph’s, 100% of children made expected progress or better in English AND Maths in Year 6 2012 SATs. This compares very favourably with the national average of 89% for English and 87% for Maths. Well done to the previous year 6, their parents, teachers and support staff.

Anti Bullying and Anti Racism Week

A special week of activities and learning for all children about being a racism and bully free school. This will end with a special assembly at 2.30pm on Friday 23rd November. The Friday is ‘BLUE FRIDAY’ (blue is the anti bullying colour) and so everyone can wear their own BLUE clothes all day!

Children’s Behaviour in School

A new behaviour policy has been written to make our behaviour management systems simple and fast. You can view it on our website. **In short, children who disrupt the learning of other children will be taken out of the classroom so they cannot disrupt others. Parents of children who are persistently disruptive (which is rare) will be contacted so that home and school can work together to improve behaviour.** This simple policy means that disruption to your child’s learning from others is minimised. Please support us.

Parent View – Share Your Views

Please take the time to rate our school on OFSTED’s Parent View website. There is a link from the school website or you can go direct to <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/2890/current>

Parents are asked to answer a series of statements saying if you agree or disagree. We hope you will find that you strongly agree with the statements about our school. **If you find you disagree, strongly disagree or even don’t know – would you please contact us straight away so that**

we can make things better for you and your child. If you tell us your concerns we will always try our best to help – don't hesitate to get in touch. The sooner we know, the sooner we can improve things.

Attendance and Timekeeping

Good attendance and timekeeping are extremely important. The school employs an attendance consultant, Mrs J Spittle, to carry out a monthly register inspection and lateness check. **Part of her work includes home visits where there are attendance or time keeping concerns.** If there are concerns we will always contact you to make you aware. **Please do everything possible to ensure your child attends school and is on time every single day that they are well enough to. If your child is ill please contact the School Office on the first day of absence.** Thank you.

Please do not book any holidays before completing a Holiday Form and having the absence approved – unauthorised absence can ultimately lead to your child being taken off roll – so **please, please seek and check you have authorisation BEFORE making any arrangements.** Thanks a lot.

Snow / Bad Weather – if school has to close – we'll text and put a message on the website

We would never close the school without good reason. However, we have to consider many extra factors in snow or bad weather – such as 'can we get enough staff in to school to care for the children', 'can the children get to school safely' and 'are the roads safe enough'. If we do have to close the school we will firstly **text you**, put a **message on the website** and then we will try to get a message on **BRMB Radio 96.4FM** – but this can be difficult to do when hundreds of schools are calling in. **Your best way of knowing if we are closed is to check your mobile and to check the school website.** The decision will be made as early as possible.

Keep in Touch

We want you and your child to be very happy at St Joseph's but sometimes things can go wrong. **If this happens it's really important that you let us know straight away so that we can do our best to help.** You can make an appointment to see your child's **teacher** at any point – they will see you after school as soon as they can. You can also see **Mr Hinton** or **Mrs Chapman** – we will do our best to see you straight away and if we are with someone else we will phone you back. The senior teachers are **Mr Seex** and **Miss Pugh** – they are also available to help you.

Yours faithfully

M Hinton

Headteacher