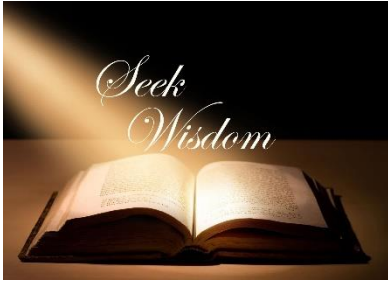


Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Catholic Schools Pupil Profile values for this half term are LEARNED and WISE.



Learned – Learning everything we can from Jesus’ teachings – not just learning the stories, but learning the meanings and morals of what Jesus teaches, and applying them to our daily lives.

Wise – Using everything we learn from Jesus to make right choices. Understanding that the right choice is often the hardest choice and knowing that Jesus’ way is always the right way.

Meal Mission Monday – Monday 10th June

On Monday 10th June, we are holding our first Meal Mission Monday to raise money in support of Mary’s Meals.

Mary’s Meals serves nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world’s poorest countries. The promise of a good meal attracts these hungry children into the classroom, giving them the energy to learn and hope for a better future.

They are already feeding more than 2.4 million children every school day – and together, we can reach the next hungry child waiting for Mary’s Meals.

It costs £19.15 to feed a child for a whole school year in some of the world’s poorest countries and we want to raise money to feed as many children as possible. **On Monday 10th June**, children are invited to donate money to Mary’s Meals and wear their **own clothes** to school. Please send donations into school.



Thank you for your support – we can’t wait to see how many children will benefit from your donations and kindness.

Ofsted Parent View



Give Ofsted your view on your child's school

Parent View is used by both Ofsted and the school to monitor and respond to the thoughts and opinions of parents. Ofsted use Parent View to inform their evaluation of the school, and school leaders use it to plan for improvements and to check that parents are happy with what is provided at the school.

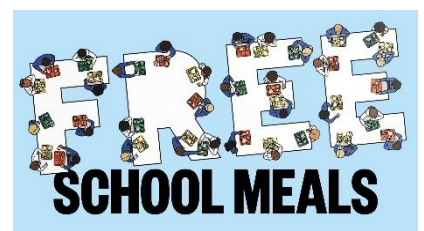
It is important we have as many reviews on Parent View as possible.

All we ever ask is that if you are not happy with something you let us know first so we have the chance to put it right. Equally, if you are happy with what the school provides – it would be much appreciated if you could tell us and Ofsted by submitting a review!

Please go to www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and leave your review – we are very grateful for your support.

Free School Meals – Pupils in current Year 2

Pupils in our current year 2 class will not receive Universal Infant Free School Meals once they move up into Year 3 this September. However, you may qualify for free school meals, and if you do it’s **really important to apply in advance**. See below for details of how to apply and the eligibility criteria.



Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding – Please help us to access precious government funding

For every child that is eligible for free school meals – we receive very valuable funding from the government called ‘Pupil Premium Funding.’

This funding is very precious and valuable and is always spent on improving the provision in school for the children.

If you successfully apply for free school meals you not only have the option to choose free school lunches for your child but you also bring in very precious funding for the school for the next 6 years.



Who should apply? Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6!

We only get pupil premium funding if you **apply for free school meals**. Even though all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free school meals – you still need to **make an application** in order for us to access **pupil premium funding**. If you are eligible – whether your child is in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 – it’s really important that you **apply for free school meals**.

Am I eligible for free school meals?

If you receive the following benefits you can apply for free school meals

- Universal Credit (provided monthly net earned income of less than £616.66, after tax and not including any benefits)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit Run-On – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



How do I apply?

Online: Using a PC, tablet or phone

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>

Uniform



St Joseph’s is well known for its high standards of uniform and appearance, and we have only achieved this because parents are completely supportive of us. We’ve sent out lots of reminders lately and we have called and met with lots of parents – **thank you to everyone because you have all been 100% supportive**. This means a lot.

As a quick reminder, please remember:

- Children must wear **smart, sensible, black school shoes**. No trainers or jelly shoes.
- **Hair dyeing and extreme fashion haircuts** such as **shavings and engravings are not allowed**. Boys’ and girls’ hair must be neat, tidy and sensible. **Long hair must be tied back**. Ribbons and hairbands should be **small** and in **school colours**. Giant bows and bands are not allowed.
- Girls can wear trousers, a skirt, or a summer uniform dress. **Leggings are not allowed** even under dresses. Thick tights may be worn – these must be **plain blue, white, grey or black with no patterns, designs or writing**.
- **Earrings and jewellery are not allowed**. Temporary tattoos are not allowed. Nail varnish is not allowed.
- Full uniform details are on our website.

Ear Piercing – please do this in the summer holidays as we don't allow earrings at school

We do not allow children to wear any jewellery. This is for safety reasons. If you are considering getting your child's ears pierced, please remember they will not be allowed to wear earrings at school. It is a good idea – if you are thinking about having your child's ears pierced – to get this done at the very beginning of the summer holidays. This gives 6 weeks for the piercing to take hold meaning the earrings can be removed ready for the start of school. We do not allow children to wear earrings under any circumstances so please plan ahead now and avoid any potential upset. Thank you very much indeed for your support – we really appreciate it.

Summer Term Trips

It's lovely to be able to offer trips once again to support the delivery of the school curriculum. If you haven't already done so, please double check that you have paid your contribution for your child's summer term trip via School Gateway. We have subsidised the cost of all of the trips with donations from the school fund and your parental contribution is very much appreciated. Thank you for your support.



Summer Get Together – Please help by sending your donations!

The Summer Get Together (Friday 5th July at 3.30pm). 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, some 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 7 th June	Chocolate and sweet donations
Friday 14 th June	Bottle donations – anything in a bottle!
Friday 21 st June	Cuddly toys, children's books and games
Friday 28 th June	Toiletries – gift sets, bubble bath, hand cream etc – for both men and women!
Friday 5 th July	Tea, coffee, long-life milk, biscuits and cakes

Change of Dates / Time

Please check the dates / times carefully on the accompanying sheet. The Year 6 Graduation on Thursday 18th July is now at the earlier time of 9.30am.

The Poetry Recital is now Thursday 18th July at 2.30pm.



Behaviour – The St Joseph's Way

Our Behaviour Curriculum – The St Joseph's Way – can be viewed on our website and outlines all of our behaviour principals and how we teach these to children. This has been shared with all of the children collectively and in each class by the class teacher.

With the older children (Years 5 and 6) the behaviour principals will help them in their transition to secondary school, especially if they are moving to a secondary school within our MAC, because as a group of schools we have worked on common themes. We have been talking to the children about the link between behaviour and our values, e.g. telling the truth and not changing the version of events when talking to different staff in school and then at home, along with Catholic Social Teachings where we have to respect the rights of everyone by following the rules and taking responsibility for our own actions and behaviour. We are also working with children to help them understand that following rules is something we all have to do, as children and as adults as rules are made to keep everyone safe and happy.

Attendance and Punctuality



Any one of us can be running late from time to time for good reasons – but children must ordinarily arrive at school at the correct start time – and as per school registration rules – they will be marked late if they arrive after the start time. We reserve the right to unauthorise persistent lateness and this will be recorded as unauthorised absence which can ultimately lead to intervention from the Education Investigation Service and possible penalties. Please support regular attendance and regular good timekeeping. The Children’s Commissioner has produced some excellent resources related to attendance which we will be sharing in school. One important point to note from the Children’s Commissioner is that – ***‘if you miss 30 minutes of school a day this amounts to 19 days lost each year.’***

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/back-into-school/resources-for-children-and-young-people/>

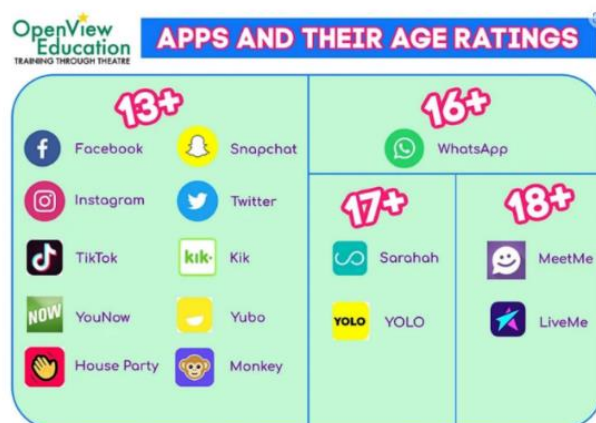
Thank you for your support.

Social Media and e-safety

Parent controls on devices at home are so very important in safeguarding children and keeping them safe. As a school, we recommend that as part of parental responsibility parents are regularly checking their child’s phone, and other devices such as gaming consoles etc to ensure that they are keeping safe.

At school we have:

- robust filtering and monitoring procedures in place but obviously these do not extend to children at home on their own devices.
- E-safety is taught at the beginning of every computing unit – 6 times each year
- 2 x Internet Safety focus weeks
- Internet Safety sessions in KS2 delivered by local Police Officers.



The NSPCC website has lots of useful material for parents including videos and reading material to help support parents in keeping their children safe online and what to do to report a concern.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

We recommend that if any inappropriate material / content is discovered that parents keep evidence and contact 101 or NSPCC for immediate advice as these agencies have the power and resources to investigate and prosecute.

Brilliant in Britain Week and Module Three of Life to the Full– WB Monday 1st July 2024



This is a special focus week in school where the children learn even more about Fundamental British Values and the various different faiths that people in Britain have. During this week we will also be teaching Module Three of our Relationships, Health and Sex Education Programme – Life to the Full. ‘Life to the Full’ is a Catholic Relationships, Health and Sex Education programme approved by the Archdiocese of Birmingham and published by Ten Ten Resources. We would also like to let you know that all of the programme content can be viewed by parents in the parent portal where there are also suggested home activities should you wish to support the programme at home.

The Life to the Full Parent Portal Login details for St Joseph’s are:

Go to: www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/ **Username:** st-josephs-dy2

Password: wood-2

Christmas 2024 – it's never too early!



The Nativity plays of 2023 were lovely and we were very proud of all the children. However there will be some changes for Christmas this year.

It has been a 25 year plus tradition that Year 6 take on the main acting parts for the KS2 Christmas play due to the demands of the Key Stage Two curriculum and the time it takes to rehearse a play. With the demands of the National Curriculum being higher than ever we have had to re-think our approach for next Christmas. Each class in KS2 will take an aspect of the Nativity e.g. The Annunciation and prepare a small presentation of the event – similar to the way we share the events of Holy Week before we break up for Easter. This will then be shared with parents during December 2024. EYFS and KS1 will still prepare and share the whole Nativity story and the whole Nativity will be acted alongside readings either in Church or at school during one evening performance.

Each of the performances, EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will be performed once and the dates will be shared early in September so parents have plenty of time to arrange time to come and enjoy the performances.

We want you and your child/ren to be happy – so please keep in touch

The safety, educational progress and personal happiness of every child and family we serve is our TOP priority.

We try hard to make St Joseph's the best school we can – but things can, do and always will go wrong! No school can be perfect and being 'outstanding' is no exception! **The most important thing we can do is to promise to always try our very best to sort out problems as quickly as possible.**

It's really important that you let us know if you or your child is upset or worried about something. The sooner we know – the sooner we can sort things out. Never, ever spend the evening or the weekend worried or upset – be totally assured that as soon as you tell us we will do everything in our power to sort things out and make things better.

The most senior leaders in school are **Mrs Chapman (Principal) Mrs Cheema (Assistant Principal) and Mrs Buckley (Assistant Principal)** We can normally see you straight away, but if for any reason we can't, we will always call you back as soon as possible.

Mrs Hickman is our SENCO – she is also available to help you and will be your primary contact to discuss any additional needs your child may have.

For many matters – you might want to speak to your child's **teacher or teaching assistant**. You can always see classroom staff at the end of the day and they will also try to see you before school as long as it's before the children have started coming in. The teachers will also call you back if you request this.

Always see Mrs Chapman Mrs Cheema or Mrs Buckley if your problem has not been resolved

If for any reason your problems have not been resolved, or if you would prefer to come straight to us – never hesitate to get in touch. We want you and your child/ren to be happy and we will genuinely do everything we can to help.

Thanks for your support

Everyone at St Joseph's loves working with each and every one of the children and their families. We are grateful for your support of the school and the personal kindness and courtesy you show to us.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs S Chapman, Principal



Thank You
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Summer Term Dates

Friday 7th June – Please donate chocolate and sweets for our Summer Get Together

Monday 10th June – Meal Mission Monday – children to wear own clothes and make a donation

Tuesday 11th June – Year 5's Mass – 9.15am, please join us if you can!

Tuesday 11th June – Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day – please join us at 2.30pm for closing prayers if you can!

Friday 14th June – Please donate any bottles for our Summer Get Together

Tuesday 18th June – Year 4's Mass – 9.15am – please join us if you can!

Friday 21st June – Please donate cuddly toys and games for our Summer Get Together

Tuesday 25th June – Year 3's Mass – 9.15am – please join us if you can!

Friday 28th June – Please donate gifts and toiletries for our Summer Get Together

Friday 28th June – Year 4's assembly – 9.15am – please join us if you can!

WB Monday 1st July – Brilliant in Britain Week

Monday 1st July – 10.30am Sports day for Year 4, 1.30pm Sports Day for Year 2

Tuesday 2nd July – Year 2's Mass – 9.15am – please join us if you can!

Thursday 4th July – 9.15am – Year 3's Sports Day, 10.15am Year 1's Sports Day, 11.15am Year 5's Sports Day and 1.30pm Year 6's Sports Day.

Friday 5th July - Friday 7th June – Please donate tea, coffee, biscuits, long life milk etc for our Summer Get Together

Friday 5th July – Summer Get Together 3.15pm after school – please join us if you can!

Tuesday 9th July – Year 1's Mass – 9.15am – please join us if you can!

Tuesday 9th July – Year 6 Reconciliation after Mass (approx 10.30am)

Wednesday 10th July – Reception Sports Day 9.15am, Morning Nursery's Sports Day 10.30am and Afternoon Nursery's Sports Day 1.30pm

Thursday 11th July – Confirmation for Year 6 in Church at 6.00pm

Wednesday 12th July – Brilliant in Britain Performances - Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 – 9.15am, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 2.15pm – please join us if you can!

Tuesday 16th July – Year 6's Leavers and Confirmation Celebration Mass

Thursday 18th July – Year 6 Graduation 9.30am – please join us if you can!

Thursday 18th July – Whole School Poetry Recital 2.30pm – please join us if you can.

Friday 19th July – Final Assembly of the Year – 9.15am – please join us if you can!