



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 22nd September 2023

Welcome Back

A special welcome to the families who are new to our school family and welcome back to our returning families. The staff have been working hard over the summer to get ready for the new school year and the children have settled in well to their new classes. Our new reception children are learning all about school and how much fun learning is. The summer holidays are well and truly over and learning is underway.

Smart and Ready to Learn

The children have returned to school looking very smart in their new uniform, thank you for your support with this;

- ✓ Please label all of your child's belongings so that if they get lost, we can return them.
- ✓ The only jewellery allowed in school is one set of small stud earrings
- ✓ School shoes must be worn – no trainers
- ✓ Hair shoulder length or longer should be kept off the face by tying back. This is for your child's safety and to keep head lice to a minimum.
- ✓ The uniform policy also states that hair styles should be plain, a completely shaved head would be deemed unsuitable as would partially shaved heads, tramlines/designs. Hair should be no shorter than a no.2, no oversized bows or unnatural colours.

Thank you for your co-operation with this; helping us to hold high expectations and take pride in our appearance.

PE and Health and Safety

The children are enjoying their additional PE lessons, thank you for making sure that they come to school in their PE kit for the extra day. Class teachers will update you in their termly letter if for any reason that day has to be changed.

If your child wears a small pair of studs, they must be removed for PE lessons. Please try to remind your child to remove them at home on a PE day to avoid any losses and upset. If your child has recently had piercings that they are unable to remove for PE, they will need to be taped. Please email the admin team to advise them that this is the case and when they are able to be removed.

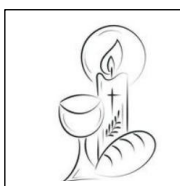
Reception and Key Stage 1 Parents Invitation



Reading is the most important skill that we teach our children and by working together with a consistent approach to this, we can ensure that they are able to acquire this skill and become confident and competent learners. Just a reminder that on Tuesday 26th September there is a meeting for Year 1 and 2 parents at 6pm to share our new and exciting resources with you, explain changes that we have made and why, and ways that you can support your child at home. At 7pm, we will be holding an early reading and phonics evening with our new reception parents to share how their children will learn to

read and how best they can be supported at home. Please email the admin team to let us know if you will be joining us.

Welcome to St Joseph's Fr Philip



Whilst we said good bye to Fr Philip Beisley in July, we are delighted to welcome Fr Philip Thomas as our new parish priest. He has already been into school to visit us and will be continuing to say Mass on a Thursday at 10am. You are most welcome to join your class when they attend.

THANK YOU!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Adrian Holden and Adam Ind, who came into school in July and assembled some book shelves and last week reading corners for KS1. We really appreciate your time, skills and support.



Also to the parents who are helping to transport the children to and from swimming especially Mrs Wooldridge, who does not have a child in Year 6 but is generously supporting this opportunity to ensure that all of the children get the opportunity to practise and learn this life saving skill.

Building Work

The builders worked over the summer, despite the weather and the cladding of the roof over Year 1 and reception was completed on time and as planned. Plans are underway to replace the tiles on the exterior wall of the hall, insulate it and replace with render to match the other existing walls. The work is due to start just before the end of term. Watch this space!

Music Opportunities at St Joseph's



I feel that we are in a privileged position to be able to offer such a variety of individual music lessons at St Joseph's. We offer piano, singing, violin and guitar. Lots of our children are enjoying their lessons, if you would like your child to start to learn an instrument, please contact the admin team, let them know the instrument and they will put you in touch with the right teacher.

Little Way Week

Our school already works very closely with the schools who will be joining the same Multi-Academy Trust as us in January 2024. It is called the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust (LWCET). The Trust gets its name from our patron saint, St Therese of Lisieux. She found spirituality in the ordinary acts of life, showing love in the way she went about them and had total confidence in her ability to make a difference to others. The way she did things is known as 'The Little Way'. Next week is Little Way Week. As we move through the week, your child will be joining activities to mark this special week and we ask that as a family, you keep our Trust schools in your thoughts and prayers as we grow to work closer together.

Please pray for our LWCET schools:
St Catharine's, Chipping Campden
St Peter's Primary, Gloucester
St Joseph's, Nympsfield
St Gregory The Great, Cheltenham
St Thomas Moore's, Cheltenham
The Rosary, Stroud
St Therese of Lisieux, Pray for Us.



The Trust Directors of the newly formed Little Way Catholic Educational Trust are looking to appoint a Part time (0.4) Chief Financial Officer from 1st January 2024. Interested? The job advert and job description can be found on our vacancies page on our website <http://www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com/web/vacancies/356879>

House Captains 2023-24

The House Captains elections took place last week. Congratulations to all of the Year 6 children who wrote and delivered their speech to the rest of the school then campaigned throughout the week. They all spoke with such confidence. The children voted and this year's House Captains will be;

Hawkes – Bella and Orla
Eagles – Alex and Pippa

Kestrels – Lillie-Star and Harmony
Falcons – Rosalie and Raffy

Well done to all and good luck in leading your house this year



<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/programmes/collective-worship/>

Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

This week's prayer was written by;
Finlay, Sol, Marmaduke

Prayer for Love

Dear God,
Let there be love in the darkness.
Your light spreads joy across the land in every house and every corner.
May there be grace in the darkest of people.
God, share the joy of kindness to everyone in the world.
Help us to live in peace and help me expand my love for everyone

Amen

St Joseph's Church Yard

The footpath that runs through the church yard is not a public right of way. We are lucky that we have permission for parents to be able to use this when dropping off and collecting their children. Please ensure that when walking through, your children are quiet, stay on the footpath and are respectful - this is the resting place of the loved ones of our neighbours. Thank you for your support of our village community.

Changes to the Newsletter

As you will see, we have changed the presentation of the newsletter. Hopefully the information is more accessible and allows you to pick out relevant items more easily. Please do email the admin team and let us know what you think or if you have any suggestions of things that should be included that have not been.

Class Mass

Class Mass will take place on a Thursday at 10am in St Joseph's Church, Nympsfield, we would be delighted if you are able to join your child and their class when it is their turn.

Thursday 28th September – Whole School New Year's Mass

Thursday 5th October - Year 6

Thursday 12th October – Year 5

Thursday 19th October – Year 4

Thursday 26th October – Year 3

Thursday 9th November – Year 2

Thursday 16th November – Year 1

Thursday 23rd November – Reception



Dates for your



Monday 25th - Y2 and Y6 trip to Burnham-on-Sea

Tuesday 26th - Early reading meeting Y1 and Y2 at 6pm

Tuesday 26th - Phonics Evening (EYFS) at 7pm

Wednesday 27th PTA non-uniform day in exchange for tombola jar

Saturday 30th - PTA Autumn fair

October

Tuesday 3rd - School photos

Tuesday 3rd - Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm

Wednesday 4th - Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm

Monday 9th - Teacher led clubs begin

Wednesday 11th - Whole school immunisation

Thursday 12th - Commissioning of the Chaplaincy team (11-12.30pm)

Friday 13th - Y6 PC Schoolsbeat visit - drugs and peer pressure 1.30pm

Tuesday 17th - Y5 Stem Day at Wycliffe

Wednesday 18th Harvest Liturgy
(KS1 9.15am) (KS2 9.45am)

Saturday 21st October cross country race

WB 23rd - Week of Awe and Wonder

WB 23rd - Y6 residential week

Friday 27th October - Half Term

Autumn Term 2

November

Saturday 4th - PTA firework night

Monday 6th - INSET day

Tuesday 7th - Y6 K'nex Challenge

Tuesday 7th - Y5 swimming starts

Thursday 9th - KS2 Stroud Book Festival

Friday 10th - KS1 Stroud Book Festival

Monday 13th - Remembrance Day
10.30am

WB 13th - Anti bullying week (Make a noise about bullying)

Friday 17th - Councillors visiting Year 6

Saturday 18th November cross country race

WB 20th - Structured conversations face to face

Thursday 30th - Advent Retreat

December

Saturday 9th December cross country race

Tuesday 12th - KS1 dress rehearsal (11am)

Wednesday 13th - 9.30am KS1 Nativity

Thursday 14th - 2.00pm KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 19th - School Christmas dinner
6.30pm - KS2 Carol Concert

Wednesday 20th Pantomime AM

Thursday 21st - Christingle AM

Friday 22nd - Christmas Breakfast
Assembly 9.30am Hamper raffle

Friday 22nd - Key Stage parties in the morning

Friday 22nd - 1.30pm end of term

Friday 22nd - Christmas jumper day

Friday 22nd End of term 1.30pm

Spring Term 1

January 2024

Monday 8th - INSET day

Wednesday 10th - Y6 PC Schoolsbeat visit - Internet safety 9.30am

Saturday 13th January cross country race

Tuesday 16th - Y4 swimming starts

February

Thursday 8th - Lent Retreat

Friday 9th Feb - Half Term

Spring Term 2

WB 19th - Week of Awe and Wonder

Tuesday 20th - Y3 swimming starts

March

Tuesday 5th - Parents Evening with Scholastic Book Fayre

Wednesday 6th - Parents Evening with Scholastic Book Fayre

Thursday 7th - World Book Day

WB 11th - SEN structured conversations face to face

Friday 15th - Year 6 Skill Zone visit

Thursday 21st House Singing Competition 1.30pm

Friday 22nd - Stations of the Cross AM (Chaplaincy Team)

Friday 22nd - End of Term 1.30pm

April

Tuesday 9th - Y2 swimming starts

Friday 19th - Y6 PC Schoolsbeat visit - online relationships 1pm

May

WB 13th May - KS2 SATs

Friday 24th May - Half Term

Summer Term 2

June

Monday 3rd - INSET day

Tuesday 4th - swimming catch up lessons until 2nd July (Y3-6)

Wednesday 5th - School photos - class and leavers

WB 10th - Phonics Screening (KS1)

WB 10th - Multiplication check (Y4)

Tuesday 11th - New Parent's Evening EYFS

Friday 14th - Y6 Leavers Mass at Clifton Cathedral

Tuesday 25th - Year 6 dress rehearsal

Tuesday 25th - Whole school photo

Wednesday 26th - Year 6 production 2pm and 6.30pm

Thursday 27th - Year 6 production 6.30pm

Thursday 27th - Transition afternoon (Whole school)

Thursday 27th - SEND transition meeting, current/next teacher and parents, face to face.

Thursday 27th June - Education Mass 7pm

July

Wednesday 3rd - Music concert 1.30pm

Thursday 4th - Transition afternoon
(EYFS)

WB 8th - Health Week

Friday 12th - Reports out to parents

WB 15th - Week of Awe and Wonder

Thursday 18th - Leavers mass

Friday 19th - Leavers assembly

End of the Year 1.30pm

