



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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Friday October 25th 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure the children are looking forward to a well-earned rest especially Year 6 after their exhausting trip to Mill on The Brue, I was only there for 1 day this year and believe me every day is a full on day, with hardly a minutes rest.

There will be a **Year 5 Kilve assembly at 2.30pm on Wednesday the 6th of November** (Year 4 parents are welcome) and a **Year 6 camp assembly on Wednesday the 13th of November**, at 2.30pm (Year 5 parents also welcome).

A big thank-you to all the staff, who went to both camps this year and made them such a great success, It is a huge 24 hour commitment.

Thank you to every-one providing food for the Harvest festival this year every year we seem to surpass our previous food bank records. The shoe boxes have also been coming in over the past few weeks and I'm sure they will make some children and grownups very happy. Please see the link below for more information.

<https://www.blythswood.org/>

Of course after half term we are into Term 2 and the great Christmas count down, please see the school calendar for the all-important Christmas plays and carol concert dates.

PTFA

The next meeting is on Friday the 8th of November after Praise assembly; please come along, Christmas disco planning will be on the agenda.

PTFA Christmas Cards, your child has designed a Christmas card which has been sent off to the printers. After half term you will receive your child's Christmas card with information on how to order more on line.

PTFA Up and coming events

Friday 15th November: **Family Bingo** 5.30pm

Friday 22nd November: **Wreath making** in the school hall more information to follow

Friday 6th December: **School Christmas discos:** R and KS1; 4.30pm-5.30pm, KS2; 5.45pm-7.00pm

Please be aware that you can set up a yearly or monthly standing order to the PTFA. Not everyone can take part in fund raising and this is another way to show your support. Please contact the office for further details.

Please support the PTFA they do so much for our children.



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



Applying for Reception school places 2020-2021

Parents can apply online on www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions or they can contact the School Admissions Team on 01275884078 for a paper application from 12th September. There is one more open afternoon on Monday the 18th of November at 2.15pm if you have friends with a Reception starter please spread the word. The closing date for reception applications is 23:59 on Wednesday the 15 January 2020. Please contact the school office if you cannot make the open afternoon we are always happy to show you around.

Reading with your child

Research tells us that reading every evening with your child makes a huge difference to their reading progress particularly in Reception and KS1. What we do in school is important but we cannot do it alone. I have noticed that in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 there are quite a few children that have not had signatures in their reading record books for some time. I know we are all really busy but please make time to read with your child at least 3x per week, 10 minutes makes all the difference.

The reading meeting we recently had at school was not very well attended, **the PPT slides are on the web site under parents/parent talk and information** please check them out as there is some important information with regards reading with your child.

Safeguarding

Many parents have been contacting me about the use of Whatsapp amongst the children particularly in Years 5 and 6. The link below has lots of very valuable information sheets about social media use, including WhatsApp. It is a brilliant site to get the lowdown on what your children can come across when they are using social media and how best to protect them and keep them safe. Recently Whatsapp changed their age restriction to 16+; children below this age should not be using this social media platform to communicate with their friends.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Free School Meals

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals for your child please follow the link <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/schoolmeals/freeschoolmeals/> or come into the school office and we can assist you with your application.

Please also be aware that if your application is successful the school receives additional funding up to £1,320 per year to support your child's learning experience. Therefore it is beneficial to your child if you apply even if your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals.

Lunch Time French Club for Years 1 and 2

Bonjour mes amis! French club now runs on Thursdays during lunch times. Would your child like to come and try it after half term? As well as learning to introduce ourselves and say how are are feeling, we have been learning about les animaux dans la jungle and had great fun putting on different animals masks to play some games. We are learning a great song called Au fond de la jungle and reading a story where the animals are rather hungry shall we say! If your child would like to come along, please email Madame Fuller on admin@clubs4kids.com to book a place. A bientôt!

Charity at St. Joseph's

Thank you for your support this year for the school in Kenya being supported by Solelution in the high street we raised £136.

After half term Poppies and Remembrance pocket money souvenirs will be available for the children to buy. On the 11th of November at 8.40 am there will be a Remembrance service in the school hall, (parents are welcome).



On Friday 15th November we will have a spotty non-uniform day in aid of children in need (Bring £1.00). Some of the Year 4 children are organising activities in the playground at lunch time, there will also be a tuck shop and cake sale after school so please bring some pocket money.

Church Christmas Fair

The Parish Christmas Fair will be on **Saturday November 30th** in the school Hall. Father Christmas will be in his Grotto and there will be plenty of stalls to spend your pennies.

Raffle tickets will be coming to each family after half term, please return any unwanted raffle tickets in plenty of time for their resale. Sold raffle tickets can be returned to the school office with monies.

St Joseph's Church needs your help and they are looking for **donations of books, toys, bathroom toiletries and white elephant** in good condition which can be dropped off either at the church or in the school foyer from the 11th of November.

Friday 29th of November – MUFTI Day (wear your own clothes) bring a bottle for the bottle stall

Bonfire Social at St Joseph's Church

Saturday 2nd November from 7 pm. Hot dog, beer/ wine and a monster marshmallow all for a fiver - please order in advance by emailing Tom (tafosman@hotmail.co.uk) .

Sparklers and other food/drink available. All in aid of parish charities. Come and join the fun here at the church after Saturday evening Mass (6 pm).

Housekeeping

- Please check the uniform list on the website under information for parents, if you are not sure about some aspects of the school uniform. Everyone always comments how smart our children look; I have especially noticed a few girls wearing blouses that do not button up to allow a tie to fit properly. Shoes should be black and boots are not part of the school uniform.
- Please name or label your children's jumpers and cardigans we have so many in the school with no names and it is impossible to find out who they belong to.

IMPORTANT DATES -Please see School Calendar for all dates

Christmas performance dates:-

Tuesday 3rd December: Reception Nativity 9.15 a.m.

Thursday 12th December: Years 1 and 2 Christmas play 6.00p.m

Tuesday 17th December: Years 3 and 4 performance 6.00pm

Thursday 19th December: Years 5 and 6 carol concert in the church 7.00pm

Do to others as you would have them *do* to you. ... Luke 6:31

God Bless

Mrs Jackson

Unless otherwise stated, Praise Assembly takes place every Friday at 8.30am. Parents/carers are welcome to attend these assemblies.