



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

www.stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk

SEPTEMBER/  
OCTOBER 2015

"TO LIVE LOVE AND LEARN IN A CARING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY"



## HEAD TEACHER MISSION AWARDS

At the whole school assembly this morning we presented the Headteacher Mission award certificate to the following pupils who have been actively living out our school mission statement:

Ash - Lily and Callum

Beech - Vittoria & Ian

Cedar - Zachary & Abbie

Elm - Harry & Kathryn

Fir - Arianna & Danny

Hazel - Kieran & Isabella G

Maple - William & Romeo

Oak - Rory & Sofia

Pine - Daniel & Aimee

Sycamore - Daniel & Rosie

Willow - Ruby & Georgia

## DINNER MONEY FOR JUNIORS

Please note: Dinner money must be paid for either weekly or half-termly IN ADVANCE.

School meals are currently priced at £2.30 per day, £11.50 per week. If you wish to pay for next half-term in advance, the cost of school meals up to the Christmas holidays will be £80.50. If you prefer, you can pay any amount of your choice to keep your balance in credit. Please pay online using the new School Gateway system or by cash or cheque, making any cheques payable to Hertfordshire Catering Ltd.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE CATERING MANAGER

Two weeks notice in writing to Mrs Thompson is required for any changes to the children's dietary pattern.

## MILK ORDER

Don't forget that milk is now available to all age groups through the school. If you would like your child to receive mid-morning milk please just visit [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) to register and place your order. If your child is under five and you have filled in the milk form, arrangements will already have been made for milk to be provided to your child free of charge.

## TRIP TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, Years 5 & 6 visited the British Museum as part of their history topic 'The World in 900 AD'. The children were able to explore art from the Maya, Benin and Islamic civilisations.



They had to complete a variety of tasks around the museum and thoroughly enjoyed the learning experience. Back in the classroom the children will be using their findings to enable continued study of this period.

## WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October, we were very pleased to welcome Father Fortunato to our school to celebrate Mass with us. We were very proud of the newly elected Chaplaincy team, who read beautifully and, as always, the singing reflected the spirituality of our school community. Father Fortunato reminded us that, in order to let Jesus into our lives, we must listen to His word.

## COLLEGE CAR PARK DROP OFF

Next half term we hope to continue to run the drop off in the college car park for pupils in Year 3 to Year 6. Children can be dropped within the coned area any time between 8.40am and 8.55am where they will be seen through the gate to make their own way to class. This has proved to be a successful way of easing some of the congestion outside the school but there is plenty of capacity for more parents to use the drop off.

We have seen a drop in volunteers this term. If we are to make this a success please consider using the drop off and volunteering. It will only take 20 minutes of your time once a week/fortnight if we can get enough volunteers.

The rota for next half term is now available at:  
[www.signupgenius.com/go/20FOE4BAAA62EA1F49-drop](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20FOE4BAAA62EA1F49-drop)

Please note that the drop off will not be open on days when we do not have two volunteers and unfortunately we may have to review whether it continues if we are unable to get enough volunteers each week.

## PARKING

As you will be aware from previous communication, HCC are continuing with the proposed waiting restrictions and 20mph advisory speed limit on Great Hadham road/Windhill. Subject to consultation, these could be in place before 31st March 2016. Whilst the areas of double yellow lines will clarify existing parking restrictions/hazards (such as parking too close to roundabouts and junctions) and help with the flow of traffic and a 20mph limit will help make the road safer for our pupils, we have been in discussions with HCC about proposed solutions for the lack of parking. We will let you know of any proposals as soon as we can.

## SPORTING NEWS



Our sporting calendar didn't rest over the summer holidays as four of our pupils were part of a World Record Breaking team for the largest tag rugby game. As build up to the World Cup, the Bishop's Stortford rugby club held a fun day where some of the England players attended and the World Cup was on show. Lucia and JJ Sathan, Callum and Evan Castle were there to join in the fun and smash the record. Well done!

At school the football league has started and we have won our first match. We have had some netball training but no matches as yet. This will now wait until the summer term. On Tuesday mornings before school we have had some of our Year 3/4 pupils in a tennis club led by one of the professionals at the Bishop's Stortford Tennis Club. They are progressing well and will continue their early club until Christmas. There will then be opportunity for other year groups to have a go.

Speed stacking will start after half term, so start dusting the cups and come test your time at lunch.

## WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD



As part of a three day Autumn Fair held at St Joseph's and the English Martyrs Catholic Church in Bishop's Stortford the children from St Joseph's School created beautiful pictures depicting their own thoughts and feelings about the world God created. The children from age three to eleven all thoroughly enjoyed exploring a range of media to help them represent their ideas. Collages, drawings, and paintings all portrayed what a beautiful and interesting world God made for us all to enjoy.

Their amazing works of art were entered into the school competition and three winners from each class were chosen to be displayed as part of the charity fund raising event. These were then judged by Barbara Thomson from the Art Society and prizes awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.

The School choir along with other local music groups took part in the fair providing thoughtful and soulful music while people admired the beautiful flower arrangements that filled the Church.

It was a great way for the children to be involved with a local community event, while at the same time helping to raise money for the YMCA, St Elizabeth's Centre at Perry Green and Age Concern.

A big thank you to Brenda O'Carroll one of our Governors for all her help to make this happen.



## SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

It has been a quiet term for the School Association but we have plenty of things coming up after half-term...

### 100 CLUB

We are pleased that the "St Joseph's SA 100 Club" is now up and running. The winners last month were:

First Prize - £25 - Michelle Bickham

Second Prize - £15 - Anna Watkins

Third Prize - £10 - Ali Crockett

If you would like to join please see the school website for details.

SCHOOL DISCO - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November (first Friday after half-term)

3:45 - 4:45pm Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1

5pm - 6:30pm Key Stage 2

£5 per child to include drink, treat and glow-stick. Further details to follow.

AGM - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 3.30pm

The Annual General Meeting is a legal requirement of the School Association. Amongst other items on the agenda we will be electing a new committee and officers. The current officers are stepping down at this AGM and there are the positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary available. If anyone would like to know more about these roles please email [stjosephsschoolassociation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stjosephsschoolassociation@hotmail.co.uk) or speak to one of the committee members.

The AGM will be held straight after school pick up & we hope that as many parents as possible will be able to attend. The school will kindly make provision for children to be looked after while the meeting is being held.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

November. The School Association are currently busy planning the Christmas Fayre. Please look out for further details next term. This event takes a lot of planning & we really need more volunteers to help make it a success. Please do think if you can help in anyway - we would appreciate any offers of support.

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB - The cheques to those who have been saving this year are due to be distributed in the second week in November. The savings club is a great way to save for Christmas throughout the year. Please contact us if you would like more information on this.

## NOTE FROM GOVERNORS

Our School Governing Body has slightly changed due to an Act of Parliament that forced us to re-constitute last year. We are now made up of: 9 Governors appointed by the Church; 2 parents; 2 staff including the Head Teacher; 1 appointed by the Local Authority; and 2 Co-Opted people. There are not many changes in who we are, except that Father Peter has left and Father Fortunato has taken his place. We still have Rob Sherfield and Miles Edwards as parent Governors. All Governors are appointed for 4 years and a parent Governor can complete their 4 years after their children have left. Miles is appointed until August 2017 and Rob is appointed until August 2018. Rob is often on the playground and has a child in Maple class. If you wish to raise any issues with him then he will find out if it is something that the Governors can help with. We also have an e-mail address where you can contact us which is:

[governors@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk](mailto:governors@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk).

Please remember that the role of the Governors is mostly a strategic function to:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and direction;
- Hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent;
- Ensure that the children are safe.

We are not here to get involved in the day to day running of the school, which is our Headteacher's responsibility, unless it is relevant to the above.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate every member of Staff for the "Outstanding" results that the children achieved again in the last academic year. Your hard work has paid off again.

**DON'T FORGET WE HAVE AN INSET DAY TOMORROW! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE CHILDREN AGAIN ON MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER.**