



School Building Redevelopment Plans

Many thanks for those parents who came back after sports day to have a look at our redevelopment plans on Monday evening. Feedback about the project was very encouraging, although local residents were understandably concerned about the issue of traffic management and parking during and after the project.

The design of the building will mean that we will have Reception and Nursery classrooms within the new build, as well as the three additional classrooms needed for our expansion to two forms of entry. Within the school building we will gain space that we desperately need and do not currently have: a separate music room/chapel; food tech room; group rooms for pupil intervention; meeting rooms; additional pupil toilets; larger office and teacher work areas. Outside of the building we will have: improved security entering the site, including electric gates; larger outside PE space with both playgrounds next to each other; a new separate pedestrian entrance to the school well away from the vehicle entrance; an additional drop off zone for parents within the car park. The obvious benefit is that the school will be purpose built to a standard far exceeding our current 1960s building which continues to cause us issues! Despite the DfE and HCC funding the majority of the building costs, we are still going to have to find over £300k for our contribution for the building, plus all other costs for furnishing classrooms etc. We are very lucky to have in our community great fundraisers and generous parents to help us over the next few years.

Current timescales are for planning to go in over the summer holiday period to enable a February 2019 start; February 2020 move into the new building and a September 2020 completion of demolition and landscaping. We had better book the Cardinal for an opening mass now!

The plans can be found on the school website here: <https://tinyurl.com/y8rqksdp>

UKS2 Performance – The Peace Child

Year 5 and 6 pupils gave two fantastic performances recently of their summer play 'The Peace Child.' It was wonderful to have a non-traditional and multi-cultural play and the children filled the hall with their amazing singing, dancing and dramatic talents. This was the highlight of my school year.

PGL 2018

Our many thanks to Mr Boulter, Mr Fitzpatrick, Mr Rooney and Mrs Danielak who kindly gave up their time to ensure our PGL trip was successful this year. I was really impressed by the attitude of our children in pushing themselves to try activities that they may not have chosen to participate in out of school.

First Holy Communion Mass- St Peter and Paul

It was a pleasure to celebrate as a school the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul and all of our first holy communicants. We are so proud of you - thank you for sharing this celebration with the school.

Cafod Walk for Refugees

This half term we organised a 'Share the Journey' walk as part of Pope Francis global campaign for standing up for the rights of refugees and migrants. As a school we learnt about the stories of different refugees and prayed for these on our walk. Our contribution to the campaign was an impressive 720 miles, part of the global figure of over 50,000 miles- over twice the distance around the world.

Class Masses

Thank you to all the parents who were able to support our LKS2 class masses and to those in KS1 who walked with us down to the Church this half term. We are very lucky to have Fr Carlos as our school priest and to be so accommodating of our needs.

Good News- EYFS

Our EYFS classes were highlighted as demonstrating very effective practice by Herts for Learning, as they used multiple classroom images in their twitter feed this term. Great job, Mrs Saunders and all the EYFS team.

End of KS1 AND KS2 RESULTS.

We are always very proud of the efforts put in by our pupils in aiming higher and challenging themselves to improve in their learning. As you can see below, standards at our school are very high because we all work together to aim higher for every child, whatever their need, every year. It is not just what happens in Years 2 and 6 that counts but what happens in every year.

End of KS1 Results- Year 2 - % Pupils achieving expected the standard:

	Reading %	Writing %	Maths %	Science %
St Joes	81	76	85	88
National	76	68	75	83

End of KS1 Results- Year 2 - % Pupils achieving a higher standard:

	Reading %	Writing %	Maths %	Science %
St Joes	39	34	37	N/A
National	25	16	21	N/A

End of KS2 Results- Year 6 - % Pupils achieving the expected standard:

	Reading %	Writing %	Grammar %	Maths %	Combined
St Joes	91	93	91	96	87
National	75	78	78	76	64

End of KS2 Results- Year 6 - % Pupils achieving a higher standard:

	Reading %	Writing %	Grammar %	Maths %	Combined
St Joes	60	49	69	56	36
National	28	20	34	23	10

(All national data is provisional at this stage)

PSHE News

Our annual life bus visit went ahead this half term to much success. During this visit, every class gets to focus on a PSHE area of learning which are always very popular with our pupils. Lower KS2 pupils learnt more about road safety and in particular, pedestrian skills to keep them safe. Year 6 pupils received 'distraction training' to highlight how to keep themselves safe when out and about and the dangers to avoid. In addition, the majority of our Year 6 pupils attended the local crucial crew activities which reinforced the good work that had been covered in school this year.

E-Safety

As you will know, E-safety is a significant part of your child's ongoing learning. Below you will find some links to support your ongoing discussions at home. You may have heard more recently about the new and popular app 'Roblox.' With the ongoing development of such apps, your awareness of their settings and potential dangers is important.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/roblox-a-guide-for-parents>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online/>

Whilst it is worth keeping the above in mind, we mustn't forget all of the benefits technology can also bring.

Year 5 Experience Day

Our Year 5 pupils attended their annual experience day at St Mary's, participating in food tech and technology activities. Mr Jarrett was very impressed with the way you responded to the challenges faced and the behaviour demonstrated throughout.

Violin and Music Concerts

Due to the number of children wanting to showcase their talents, we had separate violin and music concerts this year. Pupils learning an instrument gave great performances to a parental audience from a range of instruments and musical pieces. I was really impressed with your confidence in playing to such an audience and the quality of your playing.

Sporting News

Congratulations to our Year 6 Kwik Cricket squad for some fantastic play this year. We had a very talented squad this year and were unlucky not to bring home a trophy having come third in the district cup, second in the district festival and third in our league. On a different day we could have easily won both knockout tournaments having lost by under 6 runs in both! I hope that those new to the game this year will grasp the opportunity to play in secondary school.

Our Year 5 football team played in the summer league this year against teams of Year 6s mainly and did very well winning more than they lost. It looks like we will have yet another strong football team next year if we keep up the effort. Well done everyone. Our thanks to Mr Doherty in leading and organising sport in the school this year. We have achieved the Silver Sportsmark again this year and more pupils have participated in intra school competition than ever.

Goodbye and Good luck

We wish all of our Year 6 leavers the very best as they move onto their respective secondary schools. It has been a pleasure seeing every Year 6 flourish at the school and the whole staff and governors are very proud of your achievements and who you are as people.

At assembly we also prayed for the following children who are leaving our school, but will always be part of the family of St Joseph's: Ellen Hughes, Max O'Regan, Caitlin O'Regan, Michael Moran, Camille Lynch, Jeremiasz Kuczma and Lily-Rose Dunphy.

Key Stage 1 trip to Colchester Zoo

On Friday 13th July, Key Stage 1 visited Colchester Zoo. We saw lots of different animals, from Penguins to lions, from meerkats to monkeys! We also had an educational talk from a knowledgeable young lady who works in the zoo, where we learnt about lots of different animals, their habitats and how they survive and adapt in different environments. Thank you to all the parents who came with us on our trip.

KS1 were all superstars and had a wonderful day to remember!



Foundation Stage Enrichment days

This term the EYFS children have been treated to 2 different enrichment days to support their learning in school.

In May the children had a transport themed day. We were visited by the police and fire brigade and as a special treat we had a ride around the field on a horse and cart.

The second enrichment day we enjoyed was our seaside day. The children took part in a variety of creative activities and were even lucky enough to be visited by the ice cream van.

Many thanks to the parents that helped make these days successful.

Mission Statement Awards

The Following children were awarded with the Head Teacher Mission Statement Award this term for living out our Mission Statement:

Cedar	<p><u>Jacob Marshall</u> – for taking his responsibility seriously in looking after God’s earth, by picking up litter and helping to keep our playground tidy.</p> <p><u>Erica McNamara</u> – for always being a kind and caring Christian and a super friend to everyone in Cedar class.</p>
Elm	<p><u>Michael Moran</u> – for his lovely attitude and positive approach towards all aspects of school life. Michael has made fantastic progress this year and has consistently tried his best.</p> <p><u>Grace Jackson</u> – who is a helpful, caring member of our class who lives out our school’s mission statement. Grace is an excellent role model to her peers.</p>
Fir	<p><u>Lewis Nyariri</u> – for his kind and gentle nature. He is a very thoughtful Member of Fir class.</p> <p><u>Hannah Wasilik</u> – for being a good friend and for always trying her best.</p>
Hazel	<p><u>Louis Gouleme</u> – for showing love and care to everyone in our school community.</p> <p><u>Goda Benetyte</u> - for making a huge effort with your work in class, and for supporting those around you.</p>
Maple	<p><u>Amy Howard</u> – for being a compassionate member of Maple class as well as her willingness to help around the classroom.</p> <p><u>Olivier Lesniak</u> – for the refreshing enthusiasm he shows towards new learning and class challenges as well as his use of exemplary manners.</p>
Oak	<p><u>Sophia Smith</u> – for being an excellent role model to all around her and for her enthusiastic approach to all aspects of school life.</p> <p><u>Victor Wojcik</u> – for knowing what it means to be a ‘true’ friend and for supporting younger learning partners in a positive way.</p>
Pine	<p><u>Leo Foster</u> – for being a kind and caring member of Pine class who always looks out for others. A good role model to the younger children.</p> <p><u>Arran Wilkinson</u> – for always being a good friend, leader and team player. A great role model.</p>
Sycamore	<p><u>Martha Rooney</u> – for her kind and caring nature, her ready smile, and her excellent approach to all learning.</p> <p><u>Arthur Seakhoa King</u> – for his mature approach towards learning, always willing to challenge himself and take risks.</p>

Willow Alice Haynes – for her fantastic attitude to all aspects of school life and her cheerful manner, which will be greatly missed.
Sienna Volpe – for her excellent work on the school council and always making herself available to help teachers and the younger pupils.

Year 6 Awards

This year our Year 6 awards were presented to:

Genevieve Silvester- O'Carroll Cup for RE

Lucinda Calierno- Jack Fielder Scholar

Sam Weatherhogg- Jack Fielder Scholar

Sofia Garavito Mancino –Jack Fielder Achievement

George Boulter- Jack Fielder Achievement

Bella Tisi & Sofia Duggan- Fr Hanton Citizenship

Oliver Pinches- Fr Hanton Citizenship

We have been blessed with an amazing Year 6 cohort – you are all amazing individuals who have contributed so much during your time at this school.

Dinner Money for Juniors

Please note: DINNER MONEY MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE. School meals for the new term will be £2.50 per day, £12.50 per week. If you wish to pay for next half-term in advance, the cost of school meals up until the Autumn half term holiday will be £97.50. If you prefer, you can pay an amount of your choice to keep your balance in credit. Please pay online using the School Gateway system. All you need to do to activate an account is download the School Gateway from your app store or visit the website www.schoolgateway.com and click on new user. You will receive a message with a PIN number and you can use this to log in. Please be sure the school office has your up to date email and mobile phone number.

Milk Order

Milk is 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 to register and place your order.

Finally

Huge thanks to all of our amazing School Association Committee who have given up so much time and put their talents to such good use for the sake of all pupils in our school. You have arranged a wonderful number of fundraising activities this year enjoyed by so many people.

End of term prayer

Loving Father,

as we come to the end of another term we turn to you in confidence and place any difficult relationships into the healing hands of Jesus, your Son.

Enable us to leave behind any pain of the past and any regrets or bitterness, entrusting the past to your mercy, the present to your love, and the future to your providence.

Help us appreciate more the need to keep a good balance in our lives.

May the holiday be for us a time of rest and recreation to help restore us and re-create us in your image and likeness, as we enjoy more of the love and presence of our families, on whom we ask your blessing.

Amen.

St. JOSEPH'S GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Thank you to every member of staff at St. Joseph's who have helped to make this another very successful year for the children. The Governing Body has worked hard in the process of getting a new school building and to make it a 2 form entry school. This will provide an additional 15 spaces per year. We are told that the new School will be operational from February 2020 which is a delay from the original September 2019. We set up a New School Building Group with those Governors with skills in this field. Our detailed work is carried out in our Sub-Committees and by Governors with specific responsibilities. We meet as a Full Governing Body twice per term to make decisions as a corporate group.

Premises, Finance, Health & Safety and Critical Incident Committee

This year saw foundation governor, Kieran McAuliffe take over as chair and he is happy to report on a very positive and successful year. The Committee continued to review the policies and procedures for the financial management of the School, ensuring auditing of all accounts. 2017/2018 came in on budget and the new 3 year plan was formally presented to the Governing Body and ratified during May's meeting. Throughout the year the committee monitored and ensured proper fiscal management of the school and good evidence of obtaining value for money and cost savings could be seen without impacting on the quality of education provided or the resources available. Opportunities to develop and implement the school's letting policies and reviews of existing contracts ensured budgets moving forward remain healthy, particularly good news with a new school building on the horizon.

Curriculum Committee

Meetings are held once a term. In them, we discuss teaching, learning and progress at St Joseph's. Each subject is reviewed biannually. This entails the Subject Leaders submitting data, plans and policies to us before the meeting and then presenting a report and answering questions at the meeting itself. We also have the opportunity to hear from pupils about their learning and to see work they are proud of. This year, we have reviewed Maths, RE, English, Languages, Special Educational Needs, Science and Computing. This is my final year of Curriculum after 8 years as a member (including 7 as Chair). Over that time, it has been a real privilege to see how well the subjects are prepared, taught and assessed, and, particularly, to hear from our enthusiastic and well-motivated pupils. Colette Kerins

Admissions Committee

The Committee reviews the School's Admission Policies considering Diocese and Local Authority requirements. We administer the School's admissions criteria for applications for Nursery and for Reception separately. Nursery and Reception places are considered separately because Nursery is not compulsory and some parents opt for a full time Nursery due to work commitments. Attendance at our nursery therefore never guarantees a place in our Reception. Whenever we use our oversubscription criteria the process is witnessed by an independent person who is not an employee or a Governor at the school. A paid Local Authority clerk takes minutes. Legal requirements are followed strictly. We do not have any discretion to stray from the oversubscription criteria set out in our published Admissions Policy.

Personnel Committee

As a Voluntary Aided Church School, the Governors are the employers of every member of staff. We are responsible for appointment and performance management and pay of all staff, including our Headteacher. During this year our new leadership team have performed very well for the benefit of the children. All the staff are driven by Mr Coldwell's guidance and high expectations.

Promotion and Publicity Committee

This year we have overseen the publication of some good news stories in the local press, including most recently the year 6 children attending Crucial Crew. The chaplaincy team successfully organised a large collection of food for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. The website is always a challenge to keep up to date with the many changes taking place but is full of useful information and has some lovely photos of the work the children have done on the class pages.

Equality Duty Committee

Following the parent questionnaire about uniform, the Committee took the expressed views on board and girls now have the option of wearing school trousers. A programme called SCARF has now been implemented across the school and both Crucial Crew and the Life Bus have given pupils the opportunity to examine difference and our beliefs in tolerance and acceptance. Every effort is being made to ensure that equality and accessibility are highlighted in the plans for the new school building.

Academic Year Dates 2018/2019

Autumn Term 2018:

Monday 3 rd September	INSET- No Pupils
Tuesday 4 th September	<u>Pupils Return</u>
Friday 26 th October	INSET- No pupils
Monday 29 th October – Friday 2 nd November	Half Term holiday
Friday 21 st December	Last day of term (13.30 finish)

Spring Term 2019:

Monday 7 th January	INSET- No pupils
Tuesday 8 th January	INSET- No pupils
Wednesday 9 th January	<u>Pupils Return</u>
Monday 18 th February – Friday 22 nd February	Half Term holiday
Friday 5 th April	Last day of term (13.30 finish)

Summer Term 2019:

Tuesday 23 rd April	INSET- No pupils
Wednesday 24 th April	<u>Pupils Return</u>
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 27 th May - Friday 31 st May	Half Term holiday
Tuesday 23 rd July	Last day of term (13.30 finish)
Wednesday 24 th July	Occasional Day – No school