



**LKS2 Performance of "Esther."**

Congratulations to our LKS2 pupils for their wonderful performances of the musical, Esther. The pupils rose to the challenge of the songs and large amount of dialogue to share the story of Esther from the Old Testament. It was lovely to see the pupils going outside of their comfort zones to perform with such enthusiasm. Thank you to all of the staff who contributed to the success of the show and to our wonderfully enthusiastic audience!

**Catholic life of the school.**

Our great thanks to Fr Carlos who celebrated mass on St Joseph's day for the school. The chaplaincy team took a leading role in the Mass by sharing readings about and reflections upon the life of St Joseph.

In addition, KS2 pupils had the opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation in school during Lent. This week KS1 and KS2 pupils took part in our Stations of the Cross liturgies, reflecting on the events of Good Friday. LKS2 RE homework also linked in with the Stations and the pupils once again put in a lot of effort to create their own favourite Station from home.

**School Building Update**

Unfortunately we have been delayed with our school building project as it is still awaiting planning approval. Having submitted planning in September, we have had to face new issues with the East Herts District Planning Officers regarding cutting of trees at the front of the school; the transport department deciding to undertake further studies due to late objections from the College and the environment agency wanting a different drainage solution for the new school. With some amendments made, we have overcome the issues of the trees and transport have lifted their objections to the project. However the drainage system is still an issue which the builders and designers are looking to change to ensure the project gets planning approval. Realistically there will be no building works this side of the summer holiday now. Life for the school will continue as normal and we will let you know further updates next term.

**School Uniform**

Please do take two minutes to check your child's uniform to ensure their name label is still clearly visible... unfortunately there is a large number of unlabelled uniform not claimed every week. Summer Uniform can be worn in the summer term through to the autumn half term. Please ensure that any sandals are not 'open toe' as these give little protection from chair legs or the playground etc. Please check the school website for further details under the parents tab.

**Parent consultations**

A great strength of the school is the commitment of our families in supporting their child's education, as witnessed by nearly all of you attending our parent consultations. Feedback from the report card system continues to be very positive and I hope you could see the great progress made in the books since September. My great thanks to Mrs Sanders, Mrs Michael, Mrs Duggan and Mrs Perelli for running the charity crèche during last week's parent consultations. A total of £136 will be sent off to the Catholic Children's Society.

**Year 2 SATs Talk**

If any Year 2 parent was unable to attend the talk about Year 2 Sats by Miss Kenny this week, the information can be found on the school website under the pupils tab – curriculum – information sessions... or

<http://tinyurl.com/yxjedoud>

### Football Finals

Congratulations to the silver team who reached their district football final this week against Albury school. In a close match, the team displayed great determination and skill and scored two great goals against a tough Albury team. Despite drawing 2-2 into the second half, the team ended up losing 4-2 overall but they should be very proud of their performance in such a close game.



Well done to our Silver League runners up! We have been incredibly lucky to work with such a persevering team this year. A special mention to our Most Improved Player, Febechi and our Top Goal Scorer/Captain, Patrick. They fought hard in the final but were narrowly defeated. As always, our sportsmanship and determination stood out and made all the staff at St Joseph's proud. We are already looking forward to next season!

### Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all who attended the book fair and a special thank you to those who helped with the running of it throughout the day. We raised a tremendous £1,327.45 in rewards for the school. This money will enable us to update our reading corners in class with quality texts..

### Guide Dog visit to Nursery

During the nursery's work on animals and pets, the children were lucky to receive a visit from three guide dogs called Cresta, Maddie and Freya. The children learnt about the important work they do and the work of the organisation 'Guide Dogs for the Blind'. The nursery raised £40 from donations to go to this worthwhile charity. Thank you.



### The Foundation Stage have been enjoying 'Mystery Readers'

Parents, grandparents, relatives or special people were invited to become a 'Mystery Reader'. They gave some clues for us to guess who it was. The mystery reader brought with them a special book either from their childhood, one they read to their children or grandchildren, or just a favourite. We have loved guessing who it was going to be and listening to all the wonderful stories. Thank you.

### **Mission Statement Awards**

Cedar	<u>Harry</u> – for always offering to give up his time to do something for others. <u>Maya</u> – for being kind and caring and putting others first so often.
Elm	<u>Patrick</u> – for never giving up! Patrick always tries his best and always asks questions to try and improve his work. <u>Holly</u> – for her gentle, caring nature towards others and always making the right choices.
Fir	<u>Lena</u> - for being a thoughtful and considerate member of the class who always cares for her friends. <u>Harvey</u> – for always being happy and cheerful and for trying his best in all that he does.
Hazel	<u>Christiaan</u> – for the care and kindness you show to all in our school community. <u>Kathryn</u> – for your hard work and positive attitude in all you do.
Maple	<u>Joseph</u> – for his enthusiastic approach towards all learning activities and willingness to help those around him. <u>Mia</u> – for being a caring and polite member of our school community. She is always willing to help adults around the school and always with a smile.
Oak	<u>Isabel</u> – for her enormous capacity for friendship and for her positive approach to all aspects of learning. <u>Luca</u> – for his kindness towards others and for his enthusiastic approach to his learning.
Pine	<u>Katie</u> - for being a super role model. She is so well motivated and determined to succeed. An inspiration to all. <u>Skye</u> – for living out our mission statement in all she does through her work, words and actions.
Sycamore	<u>Ella</u> – for always giving her very best in all she says and does. She is a huge asset to Sycamore class. <u>Jacobbe</u> – for the positive attitude he shows towards his work and his determination to succeed.
Willow	<u>Olivia</u> – for her excellent attitude towards all aspects of school life. She is always available to help anyone and is a great role-model to all. <u>Teddy</u> – for his wonderful determination and attitude towards his learning. He is always striving to improve and works incredibly hard to do so.

### **Dinner Money for Juniors**

**Please note: dinner money must be paid in advance.** School meal prices are £2.60 per day, £13.00 per week. You may pay any 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](http://www.schoolgateway.com) and click 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. If you wish to pay up to May half term, the total amount is £57.20

### **Parking**

Unfortunately, we continue to receive complaints from local residents concerning inconsiderate parking. Please do consider opportunities to park and walk which do not involve the immediate streets around the school. Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who do park considerately.

### **Communication you may have missed sent via schoolcomms**

20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Medical Information for parents  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2019 – Year 6 Leavers' Yearbook  
29<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – School Uniform Shop

### **Diary Dates for the Summer Term**

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> May – Key Stage 2 SAT's week

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May – Open morning 09.15 to 10.00/Open afternoon 14.00 to 15.15  
Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May – Awards assembly 10.00 to 10.30  
Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June – Sponsored run  
Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> June – Key Stage 1 Phonics testing week  
Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> June – Year 6 PGL weekend  
Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June – New parent induction evening 18.00 to 19.30  
Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Fayre  
Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July – Camping weekend  
Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> July – Upper Key Stage 2 performance 14.00 to 15.00  
Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July – Upper Key Stage 2 performance 18.00 to 19.00  
Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> July – Sports day 09.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 15.00  
Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July – Reserve sports day  
Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July – Summer disco  
Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Awards assembly 09.15  
Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Leavers' Mass 19.00  
Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Year 6 leavers assembly  
Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July – End of term 13.30

### **Finally**

Our best wishes go to Miss Bull who will be getting married in the Easter holiday and returning to school as Mrs Ogilvie. May God bless their marriage.

**I wish you and your family a peaceful holiday and the opportunity to celebrate the season of Easter and the triumph of the resurrection of our Lord.**

Details of all Mass times over the Easter Triduum can be found on the parish website here:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford/lent-and-holy-week-2018-2/>