



Dear Parents

HEADTEACHER AWARDS – JULY 2021

At the whole school virtual assembly led by the Chaplaincy Team on Monday we presented the Headteacher Mission award certificate to the following pupils who have been actively living out our school mission statement:

Cedar	FINN – for seeing God in everything he does and sharing his faith so lovingly. JENNA – for exhibiting our school values every day in what she says and does.
Cherry	EMILY – for always being a wonderful role model to her peers, consistently following our School Mission Statement and demonstrating her kind and caring personality in Cherry class. EDMUND – for sharing his enthusiasm and knowledge in our topic lessons this year.
Elm	EMILY – for living the school mission statement. Being kind and considerate and always trying her best. TARON – for being a great role model to his friends. Taron always tries his best in everything he does.
Fir	CONOR – for being enthusiastic, thoughtful, and a great friend to all. MADDIE – for being cheerful, positive and always trying her best.
Hazel	NEVE – for her kind and considerate nature. She leads by example by making good choices and is always willing to help others. This makes her a wonderful learning partner. BENJAMIN for his caring nature and impeccable manners. He always comes to school with a smile on his face and gives 100% in all his learning. He is a great role model.
Maple	LUCA – for fully applying himself to all learning activities and for always striving to achieve his personal best. MAX – for his unwavering efforts across the curriculum and for being a caring and kind member of our school community.
Oak	JAKE – for his excellent motivation and positive attitude towards his learning and for his kindness and supportiveness towards his peers, helping them to achieve their best too. JULIA – for her determination and positivity towards her work and for living out the mission statement in the way that she treats and values others in the class.
Pine	EMILY – Emily is an inspiration to all in our school community: she always lives out our mission statement in her words and actions. RAFAEL – for the kindness and care he displays and shows to all members of our school. He makes it his duty to live out our mission statement every day: a true role model.
Sycamore	NIAMH – for being such a supportive learning partner and loyal friend. She gives 100% effort to all that she does and always with a sunny smile on her face. MIA – for her determination to complete all the tasks to the best of her ability and the resilience she has demonstrated throughout the year. An inspiration to us all. IAN - for being a kind and helpful member of Sycamore Class. He enjoys a challenge as a means of stretching himself and his learning further. A great role model.

Willow LUCA – for his outstanding effort in all aspects of his learning and for approaching every task with a smile on his face. He always brings out the best in those around him.
ABBIE – for being a kind and caring member of our community. She always puts others before herself and has been an excellent role model in her position on the Chaplaincy Team.

Year 6 Awards

Congratulations to the following Year 6 award winners for 2021:

Jack Fielder Achievement Awards: Sofia Santos-Teixeira; Niamh Comerford and Amy Howard

Jack Fielder Scholar Awards: Yau Yau Leung; Elizabeth Boylan and Luca Livermore

O'Carroll Cup for Excellence in Religious Education: Anna Sullivan

Fr Hanton Citizenship Awards: Ella Downie and Neil Strange

The Fr Hanton Citizenship award is voted by the pupils in Year 6 and given to the boy and girl who they think best represents the mission statement of our school. As always, the pupils picked two young people who are a credit to the school and their families. Wonderful!

Curriculum Survey

Thank you to all of those who responded to our survey about the curriculum; it was great to have so many responses and these are being used to inform our school evaluation.

The key findings include:

- 98% of parents agree that their children grow in faith and spirituality through high quality RE provision.
- 97% of parents agree that their children receive a broad and balanced curriculum.
- 97% of parents agree that our curriculum helps their children to develop positive physical and mental health and well-being.
- 95% of parents report that overall, they are happy with the curriculum provision at St Joseph's.

The area for further development that has been identified relates to providing homework tasks from a range of subjects. This is something that we will be working to improve next academic year.

School Uniform

Please note that as shops are fully open, we will be enforcing our school uniform code from September. Trainers are not allowed as footwear for pupils; they may only be worn for PE and games. Details of our school uniform can be found on our website:

<https://tinyurl.com/2n78c2us>

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CENTENARY TRAIL 7-31ST AUGUST 2021

The Bishop's Stortford Improvement District (BID) have joined forces with the Royal British Legion Bishop's Stortford Branch to bring you a fun filled trail event for the summer holidays and the chance to win a Bishop's Stortford gift card worth £100.

All you need to do is walk around the town with the map supplied to find the artwork in the windows. As you find each one, write down the letter next to it and once you have found all the letters, fill in the entry form and **pop it in the post box in Jackson Square by 31st August**. The winning entry will be drawn at random, with the winner receiving a £100 Bishop's Stortford gift card. For full details and the terms and conditions please see www.bishopsstortfordbid.co.uk.

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.

For those families who are re-locating and moving away from St Joseph's, thank you for entrusting your children into our care and for supporting our school values. We wish you well at your new schools.

We wish all the staff who will be retiring or moving on to other jobs an enjoyable and exciting next chapter. Thank you for putting the children of our school first.

Goodbye from the Chaplaincy Team

It has been a real privilege to be on the Chaplaincy Team this year. COVID has meant that we could not see you as much as we would have liked to in person, but we have enjoyed leading prayers and assemblies with you remotely. Remember to live out our Mission Statement every day, follow Jesus' footsteps and be yourself - that is who God created you to be. We will keep praying for you and we know that God will guide you.

Goodbye and God Bless from the Chaplaincy Team 2020 - 2021.



DINNER MONEY FOR JUNIORS

Please note: Dinner money must be paid in advance. School meal prices are £2.70 per day, £13.50 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 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.

Two weeks' notice in writing to our Catering Manager is required for any changes in dietary pattern.

Finally

As we come to the end of this term, it is an understatement to say that it has been quite a year for us all! Our pupils have shown great character and resilience during this year with home learning and returning to a new school building in March. You have had to cope with changing routines and school times due to building works and the restrictions schools faced. We have all successfully ensured the safety of pupils, staff and parents as far as possible. Where all schools around us have sent large number of pupils home to self-isolate, we only had to send one bubble home in the whole academic year, outside of lockdown. This week we celebrated our Year 6 Mass outside and it felt like Mass again. The School Association disco and BBQ felt like a celebration of our school family again. Post COVID may not be fully here but let us hope and pray that we can all start to safely feel 'normality' again in the coming weeks and months. I wish you and your family good health and a safe summer holiday, with Jesus by your side.

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 worry 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.

Mr Coldwell
Headteacher

St. JOSEPH'S GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2021

We would like to thank all the staff who have worked so hard during this very difficult year. The staff have kept working to provide the children at home with work to do whilst also teaching those in school. The information that we have is that our school has provided more support and online teacher learning than other schools. With this hard work from staff and parents, the children have progressed.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust

The Governors are now committed to being part of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust as we look to secure the future of Catholic education in the Lea Valley for future generations. There is lots of administration work to be done with a view to convert, hopefully, on 1st September 2021.

New School Building Group

We were delighted that the new school building was ready to be occupied in January. The mammoth task of moving had to take place over the Christmas holidays and again we have to thank the staff for their extra work in doing this and preparing the beautiful new classrooms for some of the children's return. When all of the children were allowed back, the groundworks were ongoing and so there was very little outdoor space. The children coped remarkably well and now they have a large new playground and there is a carpark with 5 electric charger points and space to turn in.

Premises, Finance, Health & Safety and Critical Incident Committee

Each year the finance committee scrutinises and ultimately approves the school budget which is closely monitored throughout the year. The finance committee has the responsibility to support and challenge the headteacher ensuring that resources are deployed appropriately in line with the school's priorities, planned levels of financial performance are achieved and the school avoids financial loss and unnecessary waste. This year we have continued to focus on how we might increase the school income through renegotiating revenue generating activities, utilising government grants and identifying opportunities to reduce expenditure without affecting operational delivery. There can be no denying that it has been much harder to deliver in line with the proposed budget faced with Covid 19; however, I am pleased to say external funding streams have resumed. The financial position of the school remains positive and on track to deliver against the 3-year plan.

Curriculum Committee

Curriculum Committee Meetings are held every term, these have taken place remotely this academic year. In these meetings, the Governors consider teaching, learning and progress at St Joseph's. Each teaching area is reviewed biannually. This entails the subject leaders submitting data, plans and policies prior to the meeting and then presenting a report and answering questions at the meeting. This year, we have reviewed Science, Design and Technology and Computing, History, Geography, PE, Music, Art and Design, PSHE, French and Maths. New subject teams were formed in the last academic year, and this has positively impacted the focus of our reviews. It is a real privilege to see how well school leaders are preparing, teaching and assessing the subjects and we are very much looking forward to being able to hear from our enthusiastic and well-motivated pupils again next year!

Admissions Committee

The Committee reviews the School's Admission Policies considering Diocese and Local Authority requirements. Whenever we use our oversubscription criteria the process is witnessed by an independent person with no connection to the school. A paid Local Authority clerk takes minutes. We do not have any discretion to stray from the oversubscription criteria set out in our published Policies.

Personnel Committee

As a Voluntary Aided Church School, the Governors are the employers of every member of staff (apart from the kitchen staff). We are responsible for the appointment, performance management and pay of all, including our Headteacher. We are also responsible for the annual review of many Policies.

Promotion and Publicity Committee

The committee worked hard during these unusual and challenging times. We are looking forward to the next year and are planning ways to celebrate the completion of the New School Building.

Equality Duty Committee

The Committee reviews equality and accessibility annually and draws up a 4 year plan after consultation. This has just been completed and we are preparing the Equality Duty and Accessibility Plan 2021-2025. The new school building provides good accessibility with a lift and accessible toilets and disabled parking spaces. Quiet areas are being established outside and a sensory area inside for children who need this. We also plan to re-establish the Forest School to use our great outdoor spaces. After consultation we will be implementing the new Relationship and Sex Education Policy next term.