



Headteacher Mission Awards:

Cedar	<p><u>BEAU</u> - For always sitting sensibly on the bug-rug and showing that you are ready to learn. You are a super role model to your friends in Cedar Class.</p> <p><u>AOIFE</u> - For your sensible and mature approach to your learning and always doing your very best work.</p>
Cherry	<p><u>GIORGIA</u>- for being a caring and thoughtful friend to everyone.</p> <p><u>OLEK</u> - for being helpful and caring towards others.</p>
Elm	<p><u>ANNABELLE</u>- For always being a very helpful, caring member of our class and an excellent role model to her peers.</p> <p><u>BRUCE</u> - For a fantastic start at St Joseph's and always following our school mission statement.</p>
Fir	<p><u>STEVIE</u> - For showing a fantastic improvement in all areas, especially in his attitude towards learning.</p> <p><u>EDEN</u> - A brilliant role model who strives to live out our Mission Statement.</p>
Hazel	<p><u>VALENTINA</u>- for settling into school seamlessly, whilst consistently following our School Mission Statement. She demonstrates a positive attitude to learning and always challenges herself.</p> <p><u>TOMMY</u>- for always being a hard-working member of the class and for living out the Mission Statement in the way he treats and values others in the class.</p>
Maple	<p><u>JOSEPH</u>- For being a polite, kind and respectful member of Maple class who works hard to consistently guide others towards making the right choices.</p> <p><u>LILY</u> - For the unwavering efforts she puts into all learning activities and homework tasks. She completes everything she does with a smile and admirable levels of perseverance. She thrives on challenge and loves to learn!</p>
Oak	<p><u>SABRIN</u> – for living out the mission statement every day. She always has a positive approach to all areas of the curriculum. She is kind and supportive to all members of the class.</p> <p><u>EDWARD</u> – for showing great resilience and positivity. He always tries his best and offers valuable contributions to class discussions.</p>
Pine	<p><u>CLARICE</u> - for always trying her best and being a supportive and thoughtful member of the class</p> <p><u>JOSHUA</u> - for his kind and gentle nature and enthusiasm in all lessons.</p>
Poplar	<p><u>ROISIN</u>- For being so welcoming and kind to our new pupils in Poplar and for being an excellent learning partner.</p> <p><u>BENJAMIN</u> - For his enthusiastic and positive approach to his work and for his thoughtful and caring nature towards others.</p>
Rowan	<p><u>GRACE</u>- For doing your best in everything you do. You are an excellent role model for all in our school community.</p>

CIAN - For being such a supportive and encouraging member of the class. You show such love and care for those around you.

Sycamore

HANNAH - For the impressive effort she puts into all her work and the fantastic progress she is making across the curriculum, particularly in mathematics.

ALEX - For his selfless attitude and kind/caring nature. Well done for following in Jesus' footsteps and putting into practice the school's mission statement at all times.

Willow

PAIGE - For working incredibly hard this half-term and growing in confidence. He relishes every opportunity to improve his work and ensure it is of the highest possible standard. We are very proud of his super attitude to learning

LILLIAN - For working amazingly hard and contributing more to class discussions, which shows how much her confidence is growing. We look forward to seeing more of this!

KS1 and KS2 Meet the Teacher Sessions

Many thanks to all the parents who were able to attend the meet the teacher sessions in KS1 and KS2 earlier this half term. For those who could not attend, the information shared is available on the school website under the parents tab.

Safeguarding – NSPCC Talk Pants and staying safe

Knowing what to say and starting a simple conversation with your child is never easy, but it is worth sharing with you the links to the NSPCC's guidance on staying safe from sexual abuse. In school, we have in the past as part of our PSHE, taught children about the PANTS rule but you might want to take a moment in half term to undertake a conversation with your child. The information is suitable for pupils in primary school aged between 4-11.

The parental guidance pdf is attached with this newsletter.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/>

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All adults who work in school need a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. All staff are trained in child protection procedures and have the safety of the children in mind at all times. We have a number of policies and procedures in place that contribute to our safeguarding commitment, including our Child Protection Policy, which can be viewed in the policies section of our website.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with his/her parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child's welfare.

Our Designated Senior Lead for Child protection (DSL) is Mr Peter Coldwell (Headteacher). Our Deputy DSLs are Miss Ann Cassidy-Jones (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs McKenna (KS1 Leader) and Mr Dove (KS2 Leader).

If you have a safeguarding concern, please speak with your class teacher or to Mr Coldwell or Miss Cassidy-Jones directly.

Local Governing Body News

I am very pleased to announce that our new Chair of Governors is Mrs Veronica Taylor (Foundation Governor) and that Mrs Suzie Carpenter has been re-elected as one of our parent governors. My great thanks to those who I spoke with and communicated about the role of parent governor and the time taken to find our more. The Local Board consists of Foundation Governors appointed by the Diocese, staff governors and parent governors. All Foundation Governors are practising Catholics and are appointed by the Bishop to uphold the tenants of the Catholic Church.

The St Francis of Assisi Trust Board have a more strategic overview of all the schools and ultimately have the final steer in matters of governance. The Chair of the Trust board is Fr Peter, so we know we are all in good hands!

School Attendance

Parents or carers have responsibility for ensuring their child receives appropriate full time education, whether that is in school or otherwise. When a child is registered at school, you as the parent or carer are responsible for ensuring your child attends regularly. Failure to do so may lead to a referral being made to Hertfordshire Council. This could result in a fixed penalty notice or further legal action including a maximum fine of £2,500 and/or up to three months imprisonment.

Our expectation is that pupils need to be in school for at least 183 school days out of 190 in an academic year. This would give an attendance of over 96%.

If a pupil is absent for more than 16 days in an academic year, this is classed as truancy levels by the DfE. This means an attendance of less than 92%. You run the risk of being fined if your child's attendance is below this figure.

School holidays should not be taken during school term time unless for exceptional circumstances.

Unfortunately going away because it is cheaper during term time is not an exceptional circumstance. I cannot authorise holidays unless there are specific, exceptional circumstances that you have to be away from school at that time and not during a school holiday period.

Sports

Congratulations to our football teams who remain undefeated through this half term, and dominating most matches. Competitive football matches take place in Yrs 5-6 in the local area, with an annual Year 4 one off festival held in most years. We have a large squad of 36 players, which is great in terms of promoting physical activity and the positive influence this has, but this also does mean that not everyone can be picked every week.

As a school we provide free clubs for the Yr5/6 netball on a Friday morning, the Yr5/6 football club on a Friday after school using our sports premium. Also running this term is a dodgeball club for Yrs 3 and 4, a multi skills club on a Monday for Yrs 3 and 4 and a football club for Yrs 1-4 on a Wednesday after school.

School Uniform

Sadly, we still have a number of school uniform ranging from coats, to jumpers, cardigans, water bottles and lunchboxes on the wooden fence outside the Year 2 classrooms all of which are unnamed. Please do check that uniform is named, as well as lunch boxes and water bottles. Please do not assume that the name will still be there on the tag!

Now that we are entering the second half of the Autumn Term, please remember that we no longer wear our summer dresses or shorts to school. Outdoor footwear needs to be navy blue or black – not trainers with white or other coloured logos or with white soles. There may be a few pupils in school who have been given permission to wear alternative footwear under medical advice. If this is the case for your child now, please send in the medical evidence so we can keep it on file.

School lunches/Absences

If your child is absent from school and you have previously booked a lunch, please could you make sure you cancel their meal on the gateway. This is particularly important. If your child is in year 3 and upwards as failure to cancel a meal will mean that parents will still be charged.

Please also make sure you inform the office of your child's absence as well as the class teacher. If you need to contact the office via email, please use the admin@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk address.

Milk in School

Once your child reaches 5 years old they are no longer eligible for free school milk. If your child is 5 years or older and you would like them to continue receiving milk in school, please register and pay using the following link:

www.coolmilk.com/register

Prayer to Our Lady in Time of Trouble

Holy Virgin Mary, you are reigning in glory, with Jesus, your Son.

Remember us in our sadness. Look kindly on all who are suffering or fighting against any difficulty.

Have pity on those who are separated from someone they love.

Have pity on the loneliness of our hearts.

Have pity on the weakness of our faith and love.

Have pity on those who are weeping, on those who are praying, on those who are fearful.

Holy Mother, please obtain for all of us hope and peace with justice.

Amen.

Wishing you a peaceful and enjoyable half-term break.