



## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*"To Live Love and Learn in a Caring Christian Community"*

**NEWSLETTER NO.3**

**NOVEMBER 2022**

### **School events- Masses, Liturgies, Nativities, Productions, Open Day, Sports Day**

As this term has seen a return to pre-covid life again, some parents have asked about the pupil events that will take place.

Last year we tried to follow this schedule, only for COVID bubbles and restrictions making it impossible. Hopefully we will be able to deliver these events this year!

**Holy days of Obligation:** Years 1 - 6 will celebrate mass in the hall or remotely if Fr Antonio is not available. In addition, there will be a mass where our First Holy Communion children will lead- usually the Feast of SS Peter and Paul.

**Class Mass:** Years 3-6 will have a class mass in the year led by Fr Antonio with parents invited. Classes will also take it in turns to celebrate morning mass with the parish during the year. Year 6 have their leavers' mass in July in the evening.

**Liturgies:** Nursery to Year 2 will have a liturgy during the year which parents will be invited to.

**Nativities:** Reception and Year 2 will produce a nativity each year with parents invited. Those pupils in Nursery and Year 1 will have an Advent or Christmas liturgy, which will either be recorded and distributed to parents or shared in person. Those pupils will then take part in a Nativity production in the following year in Reception and Year 2.

**Productions:** Year 4 and Year 6 will perform a production in the academic year for parents. Year 4's will be in either late spring term or early summer term; Year 6 at the end of the summer term. Pupils in Year 3 and Year 5 will not perform a production until the following year.

**Open Day:** This is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> and is a chance for parents to come into school to speak with their child about their learning. In addition, EYFS have their own additional show and share sessions during the Autumn Term

**Sports Day:** This is scheduled for the week of 3<sup>rd</sup> July, with a EYFS and KS1 sports morning and a separate KS2 sports morning, both of which parents are invited to attend.

As our school has grown to 2 form entry, we now have nearly 100 more pupils and three more classes than before throughout the school. As a result, what we did before the pandemic in the old school building with less pupils will not work now. We do not have the hall space or the time for every year group to have their own nativity or production each year without it having a negative impact on teaching and learning, particularly PE and music across every year group. Therefore, we have adopted a major nativity/production every other year for pupils going through the school. Masses and liturgies will happen every year.

### **Snacks and Packed Lunches**

Please can you remember that we are a nut free school as we have several pupils with extreme nut allergies, which could be triggered by airborne particles. As a result, please do not send your child in with Nutella in a sandwich or any form of nut as a snack. Your co-operation is vital for the health of our pupils. In addition, snacks at KS2 should be of a healthier option, not filled with sugar.

### **Poppy Fundraising**

Thank you to all who supported our poppy appeal on behalf of the British Legion again this year.

### **Considerate Parking**

Please can you ensure that when parking your car, you do not block the driveways of local residents, park on double yellow lines or block the entrance to the College drop off zone, or across the driveways to the cottages nearby. Unfortunately, a parent did park across the driveway of the cottage by the College entrance, which led to a doctor's appointment being missed. We run the risk of losing access to the College drop off zone by the actions of a minority.

### **School Association AGM**

Many thanks to all the parents and staff who attended the School Association AGM this week. Last year was again very successful in fundraising over £25k for the school, which was used on a variety of projects that the school could not afford without your contributions. We will once again have a very active and passionate committee for this year, with Mr Tom Dargan as Chair. In particular, I would like to thank all of the committee members who worked so hard to organise our events last year and to those who are stepping down from the committee. The staff and pupils really appreciate everything you have given to the school in terms of your talents, time and hard work.

### **Pupil Report Cards**

The staff are currently completing your child's autumn term report card which will be distributed during the week of the 28<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **Support for Autism and ADHD in Hertfordshire**

The Autism and ADHD transformation programme, which includes Hertfordshire County Council, NHS trusts, HPCI and local voluntary organisations, has been working hard to improve services for families and young people.

A key area of work has been ensuring you know where you can go to access support in your local area. This will hopefully help you get access to support as early as you can.

To find out more about the support available please watch this 3-minute animation or visit the Herts Local Offer.

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/autismADHDsupporthertfordshire](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/autismADHDsupporthertfordshire)

Mrs Ruth Rogers  
SENCO

### **Free School Meals Pupil Premium**

In addition to school funding received from Hertfordshire County Council/ the Education and Skills Funding Agency, **St Joseph's Catholic Primary is able to claim a £1,320 grant** from Government each year called the **Pupil Premium** for children whose parents or carers receive any of the benefits below. Please check if you think you may be eligible.

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit**

### **Feast of Christ the King**

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King which marks the end of the liturgical year. Today peace still eludes us; social, political and economic orders are shaking our world. We can be grateful, then, for the chance to celebrate each year the Solemnity of Christ the King — for the world needs now, more than ever, our witness to His rule over all things. (Simply Catholic .com)

### **Prayer**

O Lord our God, You alone are the Most Holy King and Ruler of all nations.

We pray to You, Lord, in the great expectation of receiving from You, O Divine King, mercy, peace, justice and all good things.

Protect, O Lord our King, our families and the land of our birth.

Amen