



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

JUNE / JULY 2017



At the whole school assembly on Wednesday we presented the Headteacher Mission award certificate to the following pupils who have been actively living out our school mission statement:

Ash – Aria Seagrave & Isaac Wee
Beech – Wioleta Hogan & Oliver Tisi
Cedar – Piotr Dargan & Orran Canny
Elm – Alexander Szustakowski, Ted Harrington & Sophie Standish
Fir – Caitlin O'Regan & Yau Yau Leung
Hazel – Imogen O'Connor & Rory Flood
Maple – Harriet Izzard & Luke Todd
Oak – Matthew Chaplin & Anastasia Karbovska
Pine – Eleanor Robertson & Jake Foster
Sycamore – Aeryn Luck & Holly Gatwood
Willow – Robbie Hamilton & Sofia Garavito Mancino

The winners of the June Draw for the School Association 100 club were :

First prize - £25 – Natalie Davies
Second prize - £15 – Helen Todd
Third prize - £10 - Adele Costa Correa
Congratulations!

The winners of the July Draw for the School Association 100 club were :

First prize - £25 – Fiona Steele
Second prize - £15 – Andrew Soames
Third prize - £10 - Nicola Fish
Congratulations!

The winners of the August Draw for the School Association 100 club were :

First prize - £25 – Kate Foster
Second prize - £15 – Lisa Moran
Third prize - £10 - Nicola Robertson
Congratulations!

Congratulations to Steffi Chapman and Tristain Haupt who received the Jack Fielder Scholar and Achievement Awards this year. This was extremely challenging to decide because of the high achievements and progress of our Year 6 cohort. Outstanding, Steffi and Tristain!



This year's Father Hanton Citizenship Awards went to Lilly Sloan and Harrison Walker. This award is voted by the pupils in Year 6 and given to the boy and girl who the pupils think best represent 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!



The O'Carroll cup for Excellence in Religious Education was awarded to Matilda Fitzpatrick – a very worthy winner whose RE work is exceptional, but this is also matched by her willingness to think of others ahead of herself.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped to make this year such a success for our pupils: the 40 plus employees who do their very best to make our school better; Nicky and her kitchen team who provide wonderful lunches for the pupils to enjoy; the members of our School Association for taking time out of their lives to make a huge difference to the resources in school; parent helpers who ensure that group reading is such a success, those who ensure swimming goes ahead and we have suitable supervision; parents who attend sporting fixtures and ensure their children and others can represent our school, even with little notice(sorry!); parents who walk with us down to the Church and attend our class masses in school; parents who come on school trips and supervise the pupils with us; parents who work with us and support our policies and practices; our Governing Body for the support and challenge they provide and finally our wonderful pupils who make coming to work such a joy.

Good Bye and Good Luck

To all our wonderful Year 6 pupils – make a positive difference on the next steps of your journey.

To Mrs Hunt, Miss Rodia and Mrs Ross who are moving to new positions and new parts of the country.

To Fr Fortunato – the people of Hounslow are going to be very lucky to have you in their lives.

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	82	80	78	84
National	76	68	75	83

% pupils achieving a higher standard:

	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
St Joes	38	31	33	N/A
National	25	16	21	N/A

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

	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Maths	RWM Combined
St Joes	100	98	98	98	98
National	71	76	77	75	61

% Pupils achieving a higher standard:

	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Maths	RWM Combined
St Joes	58	45	64	43	24
National	24	18	31	22	9

DINNER MONEY FOR JUNIORS

Please note: DINNER MONEY MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE. School meals for the new term will be £2.40 per day, £12.00 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 £81.60. If you prefer, you can 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 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.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE CATERING MANAGER : Two weeks' notice in writing to Mrs Thompson is required for any changes to the children's dietary pattern. If your child is coming into school late due to an appointment please remember to book their meal when you ring in. Thank you.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

Please be aware the school office does not carry a float. If you want to purchase a tie, bookbag etc. please make sure you bring the correct change.

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.



PUPIL PREMIUM, FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND £70.00 UNIFORM VOUCHER

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:

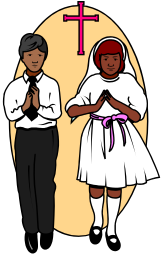
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you 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

To apply please go to www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals (it's quick and easy).

If you are in receipt of qualifying benefits your information will be renewed each year meaning that unless your circumstances change entitlement to educational benefits and free school meals from Year 3 will be automatically registered. This includes help with music and cycle training fees. The Pupil Premium money given to the school can also assist with paying for your child's trips and other educational resources within the school. In addition, eligible pupils will be entitled to a £70 uniform voucher to be used with our uniform supplier.

BAGS FOR SCHOOL 20/09/2017

As part of our Eco Plan the school continues to take part in the Bag 2 School textile recycling scheme. The next collection is 20TH September 2017 and collection bags will be sent home nearer the date.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children in Year 3 made their first Holy Communion in June. The children involved celebrated this by sharing their experience and outfits with the school at the St. Peter and Paul Mass. We are so proud of all who made this wonderful sacrament.

LOWER KEY STAGE 2 OUTING

LKS2 enjoyed their recent trip to the Harlow outdoors centre, where they experienced activities such as mountain boarding, climbing, problem solving and orienteering. All of the children challenged themselves in different ways and lots of them had many positive things to say about the activities that they were involved in. They enjoyed working together as well as being able to develop their resilience. Upon their return to school, they continued to engage in PSHE themed activities through their involvement in a variety of activities. We would like to take this as an opportunity to thank all of the parent helpers and staff who supported the children, as without them, events such as this would not be possible.



Kind regards,
Miss Bull and LKS2

KEY STAGE 1 OUTING

Key Stage 1 had a fantastic day out at Paradise Wildlife Park on Thursday 6th July, as part of their geography topic 'Where animals live.' The sun was shining and the children were great representatives of St Joseph's School demonstrating excellent behaviour at all times. The children enjoyed learning about animals; they watched a variety of feeding times and animal shows.

ORCHESTRAL AFTERNOON

On Wednesday 14th June a group of children participated in the Bishop's Stortford primary schools' orchestral workshop afternoon at Birchwood High School.

They attended two workshops in their strings and woodwind groups during which they learnt 3 pieces of music: the theme from Raiders of the Lost Ark, Star Wars and Funky Town.



The sight reading was challenging and provided these talented pupils to show their resilience and perseverance skills.

The afternoon ended with a concert at 4:30pm. This brought all of the instrumentalists together to form an orchestra.

The afternoon was a great success and we look forward to attending again next year.



MUSIC SUMMER CONCERT

On Monday 3rd July, over forty pupils took part in our Summer music concert. The concert gave pupils an opportunity to showcase their talents across a range of instruments. It was a very enjoyable time. Thank you to all involved.

SINGING CLUB CONCERT

On Tuesday 4th July, the Singing Club performed a Summer concert to their parents and supporters. They sang songs from 'Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang' and a range of African cultural songs with vibrant drum accompaniments. They also demonstrated their ability to sing in parts and choreograph actions along with their singing.

Very well done to Miss Roper and the Singing Club.

SECONDARY TRANSITION

Throughout this half term, pupils in Year 6 have met with staff from their respective secondary schools. Many of our pupils will be making the transition to St Mary's with a few attending the other local secondary schools. The secondary transfer day took place on Thursday 14th July. All the schools were very impressed by our pupils and are really looking forward to having them in Year 7.

LIFE BUS VISIT

As part of our ongoing work to develop the resilience of our pupils, we hosted the 'Life Bus' in school from 8-10th June. Each class attended a 45-minute workshop, which encouraged each pupil to reflect on how they could take better care of their social, emotional and physical well-being. Pupil feedback was very positive, as we would expect.

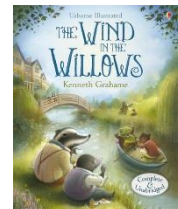
EYFS NEWS

Following on from our successful farm trip, EYFS had an enrichment day based on the popular children's book 'Dear Zoo'. On day one the EYFS, together with preschool, had the opportunity to meet lots of critters. The children were fascinated to hear about the different animals and had the opportunity to hold or pet several of them. On day two we all enjoyed lots of animal based craft activities, including face painting. We would like to thank all of the adults that helped us make our enrichment days so successful.

UPPER KEY STAGE 2 CONCERT

Last week Year 5 and 6 performed their highly anticipated production: 'Wind in the Willows'. The performance was a huge success and showcased their singing, acting and dancing talents. Congratulations to all children in UKS2!

Thank you to all staff who made the show a great success and parents and carers for organising costumes and rehearsing songs and scenes at home.



Many thanks!!

SPORTING NEWS

Thanks to all the pupils for their keen participation and all the parents for their attendance, encouragement and lifting to and from events over the past academic year.

Sports Day was a fabulous day which was enjoyed by all our children, including nursery! Thank you to those parents who could make it down to support their children and cheer them on. We do like the new format as it is not all focussed on an individual and it is competitive but also fun!

In PE we have had input from Gary Hart who has loved coaching a "very keen and able" cohort of year 1s and 2s. We also had the Birchwood children supporting some PE lessons until their exams and long holidays stopped play.

After school we were busy this half term with the football and netball leagues, cricket league and some tournaments. Some year 5 and 6 pupils participated in the tag rugby competition and did exceptionally well in our opinion as this year was not competitive due to RFU rulings. We also went to the St Mary's netball and football competition with 3 football teams and 3 netball teams. All performed well in the scorching heat but, unfortunately, did not manage to hold on to the shield. The tennis will continue next year with the year 3/4 children starting off, so do keep an eye out for the letter.

We also had the Sponsored Mile again this year. Thanks to the School Association for organising it. The top number of laps run was a staggering 21 by Conrad (in a time of only 20 minutes). Well done to all the boys and girls who kept running and moving on what was a scorcher of a day!

I would also like to thank all the teachers who have supported the Daily Mile initiative and had their classes out moving for 15 minutes a day. I hope that the fitness level of the teachers and pupils has been raised!

YOUR SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

School Disco

Families came out in force to support the annual fundraising summer disco. The sun shone and the barbecue and bar both sold out of supplies.

The children made the most of the DJ-run disco, sweet stall and coloured-hairspray stall.

Many thanks to Ciaran, the manager, and staff of the town's Bridge House pub who gave their time to run the bar for the night.

A total will be known once the treasurer, Mark Prince, has counted the money.

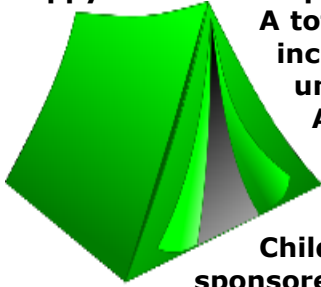


Camping Night

Happy

campers pitched up on the St Joseph's field and raised more than £400. A total of 20 tents and more than 60 people enjoyed the event, which included day visitors for the first time for those less keen on sleeping under canvass.

A camp fire, toasted marshmallows and games meant fun was had by all.



Sponsored Run

Children put their best foot forward for a sponsored run around the field.

A total of 11 classes came to school dressed in sportswear and put themselves to the test to fundraise as much as they could for both the school and the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance.

They each took it in turns to do circuits of the school field, which was measured at seven laps to a mile. The total is still pending.



May Fayre

Once all money was counted, a fantastic grand total of £6,273.53 was made at this year's May Fayre. Thanks to parents who sold the fidget spinners, which made an outstanding profit for the school and everyone for their amazing support.

What your fundraising will pay for.

A vital interactive white board to replace a broken one in one of the classrooms will cost £3,500. Other items the money will pay for include, percussion instruments for Miss Roper, goal posts to replace the broken goals on the school field and laptops to be used in classrooms.

We thank you for your continued support. As you can see from the list above, your support is essential in greatly enhancing your children's experience of school life at St Joseph's.

Events

Please make a note of upcoming events scheduled:

School Association AGM – Tuesday, 21st November

Quiz Night – Saturday, October 7th

Cake sale – Thursday, October 19th

Thank you for your amazing support this year. Have a wonderful summer from the School Association Committee!

Get in touch

As always, if you want to help out at an event, or have any ideas you would like to share please email us at stjosephsschoolassociation@hotmail.co.uk

St. JOSEPH'S GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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, starting with the Reception Class only in September 2018. We are hoping that the new School will be operational from September 2019. We set up a New School Building Group with those Governors with various skills in this field. Please see their report below. Our detailed work is carried out in our Sub-Committees and by our Governors with specific responsibilities. We meet as a Full Governing Body twice per term to make decisions as a corporate group.

New School Building Group

This new Committee has met frequently this year either alone; with the Priority School Building Project Team(PSBP); the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA); Herts County Council (HCC); the Diocese of Westminster; or mostly, all together. We are grateful for the financial support that we have been given by HCC to pay for the new school building to be 2 form entry and to include 2 reception classes. The funding that we have from PSBP would provide a school at our current size of 45 pupils per year and it would not include reception or nursery classrooms. We have negotiated a loan from the Diocese to pay for a nursery class to be included in the new building. This must be repaid over 5 years. We know that the plan for the new building will be two storeys high to cater for the bigger size but apart from that we have not reached the interesting stage of design yet. There will be an application for planning permission that we must get through next.

Premises, Finance, Health & Safety and Critical Incident Committee

Another successful year in terms of Financial Stewardship with the new 3 year Budget being accepted by Herts County Council. The school constantly reviews current and future expenditure in terms of efficiency, value and safety controls. The Committee is in the process of supporting the Governing Body in its negotiations regarding New Buildings; the funding required and all safety aspects.

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. There are currently 45 places in each. 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 appointing and performance management and pay of all staff, including our Headteacher. During this year members of our leadership team have found promotion elsewhere. The Committee has ensured that we have recruited internally and externally for the continuing improvement of the school under Mr Coldwell's excellent leadership. We will all welcome the new Leaders in September.

Curriculum Committee

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 History, Geography, PE, PSHE, Art, Music and Design and Technology. It is 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.

"In a higher world it is otherwise, but here below to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often." Blessed John Henry Newman.

As a school community we are always looking to improve on our previous best and being open to change. That is not to say that we don't recognise our outstanding pupils and all that they have achieved this year, our outstanding parents who support us and trust us and finally our outstanding staff and governors. It is all too easy to forget the many strengths of the school and the success of our school community when we are looking to strive towards that higher world that John Henry Newman spoke of. A world where each person is loved for who they are, for the talents that they have been given by God and the contribution they make to our community. A world where faithfulness and integrity; dignity and compassion; humility and gentleness; truth and holiness; tolerance and peace; service and sacrifice are lived out. As I spoke in assembly this week, a world where we think of others before ourselves. As we prepare for our new academic year with new staff, new learning and new developments, let us give thanks to our Lord for this year and all of our achievements and the opportunity to continue to live and change from September as the family of St Joseph's.

I wish you a restful summer break.

Peter Coldwell.

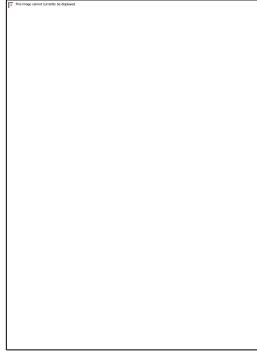
PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

From September 2017 we will have one Parent Governor space on our Board that needs filling with the departure of Miles Edwards after his 8 years of commitment and his expert help on the finance side. Every Governor appointment is for a period of 4 years. You will need to have a child in St. Joseph's School (not only nursery) and although a Governor can complete their term after their youngest has left, it makes sense that you do not apply if you only have one child left in Year 6 for instance. Our Governing Body is hard working and everyone has to attend the Full Meetings held on Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30pm every half term. If you join the Finance and Premise Committee then they also meet every half term on a Monday evening. We have other Committees that meet during the school day. Please look at the Governor section of the website for more details. Every Governor has to have a clear Enhanced DBS check (formerly known as CRB) that we will undertake and every Governor has to sign up to our Code of Conduct. The Code deals with how we must all behave and, importantly, confidentiality is crucial on many occasions. Governors have a strategic role in the school: we are here to ensure clarity of vision and ethos; hold the Headteacher to account for educational and staff performance; oversee financial performance; and safeguarding. We are not here to get involved with the day to day running of the school. As you will be aware we have the enormous task of having a new school built within the next 4 year period. I have been approached by one parent with skills relevant to this project which is positive. If you have skills relating to the financial or legal aspects of such matters then we would encourage you to put yourself forward. If we have more than one applicant then we will run an election in September. If you are interested and would like to discuss the matter further then you can e-mail governors@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk. I will be sending out a letter when we are back at school asking for applicants. Have a great summer. Suzanne Fitzgerald, Chair of Governors

CLEANING VACANCY

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School are looking for a cleaner to join their team from September, 3.30pm to 5.30pm weekdays, term time only with possible overtime during school holidays. Please contact Nicola McManus 01279 652576 sbmanager@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk for an application form.

The school is committed to safeguarding children and young people. All post holders are subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and two satisfactory references.



SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL WANTED!

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE
WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING
THE SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL FOR**

**ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
(mornings only)**

**THE PAY IS £7.80 PER HOUR
(plus holiday pay and retainer)**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE
FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
HEATHER HILL ON 01992 556815**

**Hertfordshire County Council, Transport, Access and Road Safety,
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DN.
Tel: 01992 556815 July 2017**

**Can we please remind you that it is parental
responsibility to get your child to and
from school safely**

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