St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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April/May 2024

www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

Please click on the links below to access calendar events and after school clubs:

School Calendar: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Diary/
Term Dates 2023/24: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2023-2024_Calendar.pdf
After School Clubs: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Spring_2024.pdf

Curriculum Overviews Summer - attached



Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the topics your child will be studying this term. Perhaps pop it on your fridge and talk to your children about what they have been learning as this will really help consolidate their learning. Remember there is a wealth of curriculum information on our school web site. A paper copy is in your child's book bag

Nativity Photograph Competition



Congratulations to all the children who took part in this competition and received certificates. Six of our children were placed in the top 3 in Bexley and in the top 2 in the Diocese. Well done.

World Book Day



A big thank you to Mrs Yems for organising World Book Day this year. The children (and staff) loved dressing up as their favourite book characters and thoroughly enjoyed the story/dance workshops.

Catholic Choral Competition



The choir also sang at the Catholic Schools Choral Competition, the singing and children's conduct were a great credit to the school. Many thanks to Mrs Tylee for organising and preparing the choir to take part in this event.

Lent Charity Fundraising



The school would like to thank parents for their generosity in supporting Missio and CAFOD, our school charities. Whilst children have had a lot of fun with the Junior Easter Enterprises and the Easter Bunny, the children are also learning about the importance of charity. The Easter Enterprises raised £260.06 and so far the Missio boxes have raised £113.30.

Easter



The production of 'Hosanna!' was a wonderful performance and most importantly added to our understanding of the events of Holy Week. Well done to Years 3 and 4.

Love, Learn, Live

School Uniform Changes



Everyone comments on how smart our children look! After the Easter break, the children will be able to wear their summer uniform. Please note that the school uniform guidelines have recently been reviewed and updated and these are available for you to view on our website: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/School_Uniform_-_with_Photos.pdf

The main changes to consider when purchasing new uniform are:

Boys - Wear plain sky blue polo shirts (boys may still wear polo shirts with school logo if you still have these at home). Grey tailored shorts if they wish.

Girls - Years R – 4 wear pale blue/white gingham summer dress or playsuit. Year 5 and Year 6 girls are allowed to wear a school open necked pale blue summer blouse – not a shirt, these are available from Marks and Spencers, John Lewis or from Matthews our school uniform shop in Welling.

School Lunch Menu



The new Summer Menus are now available on the school website (starting with Week 1). Please be advised that the office and kitchen staff need one week's notice of any changes to dinner arrangements.

SATs Tests – Year 6



Year 6 SATs tests take place Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May 2024 – it is essential that all children attend school. No absences granted this week.

Walk to School Week: 20th – 24th May 2024



Walking to school has many benefits: less cars around the school means a safer environment for our children and less pollution in the atmosphere, walking is healthy and fun – the children will see many things around them that they would otherwise miss. In addition, if you can get together with other families and children, it becomes an opportunity for your child to socialise and make friends.

Sponsored Spelling



This half term, Mrs Yems will be organising a sponsored spelling test. Your child will soon bring home a letter with their spellings and sponsor form. All money raised will go towards buying new reading books for the classrooms. Thank you for your support.

Pupils Suffering with Hay Fever



As the weather brightens, hay fever begins! If your child suffers from hay fever, please let the office know. Please administer hay fever medication before your child comes to school in the morning. Sunglasses may only be worn by pupils who suffer with hay fever, parents please contact the school via a note in the contact book.

Caring Classrooms



In response to a letter from Pope Francis, our Eco-Warriors are still collecting food donations in each classroom box. These donations are collected regularly by Churches Together and taken to Bexley Foodbank. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Love, Learn, Live

Parish Update and First Holy Communion



Father David and the parish of St Mary of the Crays are very pleased to see more families returning to weekly masses in person. Children in Years 3 and 4 have already started preparing for their First Holy Communion. We are keeping them in our prayers.

Church Car Park



Please remember that the car park belongs to the church and is not for parents to use to drop off children at school (or to the breakfast club). It is only for use by parishioners attending morning mass and prayer groups, and some staff from the school and playgroup.

St Joseph's University - Reminder

We believe that it is important to extend our children beyond just the academic and to support them to develop in many diverse aspects of life. Part of our role is to prepare our children for their adult lives, teaching them to understand how to engage with culture and society, providing them with plentiful opportunities to do so.

St Joseph's University enables us to recognise the substantial amount of extra-curricular activities completed by our children, to develop a love of learning in our children and to encourage children to experience a range of learning activities and opportunities.

Parents can upload evidence of awards gained outside of school for a wide range of activities, such as swimming, scouts, beavers or St John's Ambulance. In addition if the children visit places of educational value, such as the Natural History Museum, the Science Museum, the National Portrait Gallery or the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace, parents can upload evidence of these visits via this link https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/St-Joseph-s-University/

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

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Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss

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Head of School

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