St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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April/May 2025

www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Dear Parents

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 2024/25 https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2024-2025_Calendar.pdf
After School Clubs: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Summer_2025.pdf

Condolences



We would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sarah Griffin, Head Teacher of St John Fisher Catholic Primary School, Erith who recently passed away. She was an outstanding leader and an inspiration to everyone that she met. May she rest in peace.

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. The children are also learning about the importance of charity. The Easter Enterprises raised £191.00 and so far the Missio boxes have raised £67.82.

Easter



The Stations of the Cross Easter Service was a wonderful, moving performance allowing us to reflect on the passion of Jesus, leading towards his resurrection. Well done to Years 3 and 4! The bucket donations raised £74.60 for the CAFOD Mayanmar Earthquake appeal – our prayers are with them.

Easter Bonnet Competition



Well done to all the children who took part in the St Joseph's traditional Easter Bonnet Competition, it was very difficult for the judges to pick out the winners. Please keep an eye on our website for the photos!

School Council Fundraiser – Children's Easter Hamper

The School Council raised £214.00 from the sale of raffle tickets to win a Children's Easter Hamper. Congratulations to Toyin in Year 1.

All money raised will be divided and donated to both CAFOD and Missio/Mission Together who are our chosen charities this Lent.

Parental Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you to all the parents who completed the questionnaire. A summary report is to follow in the next newsletter.



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.



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.



School Uniform - Summer

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.



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.

SATs Tests – Year 6



Year 6 SATs tests take place Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May 2025 – it is essential that all children attend school. No absences granted this week.

Walk to School Week: 19th – 23rd May 2025



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.

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 Year 3 have already started preparing for their First Holy Communion. We are keeping them in our prayers.

Keeping Safe



Women's Aid have launched a children's book and animated film, 'The Monster Who Came to Tea' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8ucPvhujd0 to raise awareness around the impact of domestic abuse on women and children. Click on this link to sign their open letter calling on the government to improve funding for specialist domestic abuse services:
https://takeaction.womensaid.org.uk/openletter?_gl=1*ey2jb*_ga*MTU0ODEyNDA1NC4xNzQyMzE0NTI2*_ga_C8H9JGBD77*MTc0MjMxNDUyNS4xLjEuMTc0MjMxNTM5NS4wLjAuMA

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

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/

The last date to submit evident is 31st May 2025.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

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Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School