St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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February 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

Phonics Congratulations

We received a lovely letter from Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP (Minister for Schools) congratulating our school's achievement in the Phonics Screening Check (in June 2023) – 97% of our Year 1 class met the expected standard (putting us in the top 3% of all primary schools in England!) Well done to all the staff, children and parents involved – keep up the good work ☺



Parent Helpers

The school would greatly appreciate parent help, especially with hearing children read. If you have a few hours a week spare, please consider volunteering your time. Please write, care of the school office, expressing your interest. (Parents do not usually support their own child's class). Parent support is also needed for occasional class trips, please write and let us know if you are able to volunteer. All regular parent helpers need a DBS check which requires proof of identity and a police check. The school will pay for this check to be carried out.



Lates

There are an increasing number of children arriving late for the school day. This is unsettling and disruptive for your children. The gate opens at 8.45 am and closes at 8.55 am. Please allow plenty of time for travel and parking and ensure you arrive between these times.



Thank you for your co-operation.

Children's Mental Health Week – 5th – 11th February 2024 - Theme 'My Voice Matters'

If you follow current affairs, you will no doubt be aware of the growing concerns around the mental health of children. The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'My Voice Matters'. My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves which has a positive impact on their wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference, have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.



Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 6th February 2024 – Theme 'Together for a better internet'

The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a conversation about using technology responsibly and safely. Please take the time to talk to your child about online safety; a small conversation might spare you and your family much heartache in the future. The school website has a great many links to support parents with these issues. Please go to the 'Parents tab' to 'Supporting Online Safety'.



Love, Learn, Live

World Book Day
This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 8th March 2024.**

Each child will also be given a book token to use towards the purchase of a book of their choice from participating retailers.

World Book Day provides a fantastic opportunity to focus on reading for pleasure.

Costumes: we would love the children to dress up as a character from their favourite book and bring that book in with them to share with others. It will be a fun day for all.

Easter Enterprise Events - CAFOD
During Lent, each junior class will organise an Easter Enterprise fund raising event. Please see the main calendar for dates – thank you in advance for your support.

Little Red Box Scheme – Mission Together
Mission Together is the Catholic Church's official children's charity for overseas mission. During Lent, each infant class, will take home a Little Red Box to collect money to help support Pope Francis' favourite charity. Boxes need to be returned by Monday 25th March 2024.



Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

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Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School