St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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February 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_-_Spring_2025.pdf

Parish Mass – Sunday 2nd February 2025
It was lovely to see the children leading the singing at the 10.30 am Mass at church on Sunday to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Fr David blessed the candles as it was 'Candlemas' and the children received a round of applause at the end of Mass.



They certainly deserved St Joseph's University points for their efforts.

Well done to Mrs Tylee for organising this. I look forward to seeing even more of the children at the next one on 23rd March 2025.

Top tips: Positive relationship and discipline with your child at home



At St Joseph's, we have 3 key agreements with the children regarding our expectations of their behaviour at school, encouraging them to respect others so that every child can feel safe and confident:

- Keep their hands and feet to themselves
- Follow instructions
- Treat everyone with respect

Our school would like to work together with parents/carers to help support non-physical sanctions within the home, where you can set clear, loving boundaries to provide structure and security (remember, the behaviour was 'naughty', not the child). By law, it is not acceptable to physically punish your child for their poor behaviour.

As first educators of your child, parents/carers play an important role in developing a positive, strong relationship with them. This video shows the importance of spending quality time with them from a child's point of view:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aISXCw0Pi94&ab_channel=TED

Learning and growing together with Christ

Caring Classrooms



Bexley Foodbank are very grateful for all of your generous donations which will help support thousands of Bexley residents who rely on foodbanks as part of their weekly shop. They are currently in need of long life milk, noodles, tinned fruit, custard, coffee, toothpaste, shower gel, razors and deodorant. We will be restarting our Caring Classrooms next week, please continue to send items into school. Thank you for caring.

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.

Children's Mental Health Week: 3rd – 9th February 2025 - Theme 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'



The theme for 2025 is focus is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself', with the aim to equip and empower children and young people across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. We want children and young people to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 11th February 2025 – Theme '*Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'*



The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Please take time to talk to your child about this issue; 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'.

Safeguarding: Marketing in mobile games



Whilst many mobile games claim to be free, companies use clever tactics to make money through the services that they offer. They are not always obvious and can be very persuasive to children.

Click on this link to learn how to support and protect your family:

https://better-internet-for-kids.europa.eu/en/learning-corner/parents-and-caregivers/marketing-games

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 31st March 2025.

World Book Day



This year, we are celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 6th March 2025.** The mission of World Book Day is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own, as reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success.

Easter Bonnet – all children in Years R to Year 6



The St Joseph's traditional Easter Bonnet Competition is here again on Friday 4th April 2025. We hope that the whole family will contribute towards making the Easter creations at home; giving the judges some difficult decisions to make!

E-safety and RSHE parent presentations



We had a very positive response from our two parent e-safety presentations in January. A big thank you to Tim Wilson who provided a wealth of information about the current issues affecting our children. Please see our school website about 'Supporting Online Safety': https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Supporting_Online_Safety_PPT_for_Website_2025.pdf

Last week, we also had an informative RSHE parent presentation led by Mrs Arundell and Mr Hook, providing valuable insights of the curriculum within a Catholic school setting. If you were unable to attend, you can find a copy of the presentation on our school website: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/docs/Website_-_RSHE_at_St_Josephs_new_pptx.pdf

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

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Executive Head Teacher

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