St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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October 2023

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 2023/24: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2023-2024_Calendar.pdf
After School Clubs: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Autumn_2023.pdf

School Fund and School Funding in General



As many of you are aware from the news, school funding is extremely tight but St Joseph's is determined to ensure that your children have the 'best' not the 'cheapest' offer.

Parents can help by:

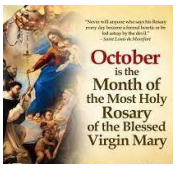
- Contributing the **£20** per family for school fund, much less than many schools. A separate letter will be sent home and this will be available to pay via School Gateway

Midday Supervisor Post



We have vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. Are you available to work from 12.15 pm – 1.15 pm, or do you know someone who might be suitable? The position involves supervision of children on the playground and in the dining hall. Please contact the school office for further details.

October the Month of the Holy Rosary



Parents and children are invited to join one of our Governors in saying a decade of the rosary before school. The prayer group will meet on Tuesdays: 3rd, 10th and 17th October at 8.30 am in the school prayer room.

Harvest Donations



Thank you for the marvellous response to our harvest collection. The harvest display reminded the children to give thanks for the wonderful bounty God gives us. The food that you have generously donated will be collected by the Salvation Army for their food bank. The last day for donations is Friday 13th October 2023.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – Thank You!



£111.55 was raised at the Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' last week by staff and parents. Cakes and refreshments were enjoyed by all. Particular thanks to parents who contributed cakes for this event. All money raised will go to Macmillan to support someone affected by cancer.

Hello Yellow Day



The wellbeing and mental health of our children is incredibly important. On Tuesday 10th October 2023, we are asking the children to come to school wearing an additional yellow coloured item (still wearing full uniform) to brighten up the school for the day. Each class will take part in activities in their classes to reflect on the different ways that we can look after ourselves better #HelloYellow.

Mary's Meals



Year 6 have organised a whole school non-uniform day on Friday 13th October 2023 to fundraise for a special charity chosen by Fr David. Mary's Meals serves nutritious meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries.

Help feed a child by donating a minimum of £1 via School Gateway. Thank you for your generosity.

Pick Up/Drop Offs and the Church Car Park



We have been asked to remind parents that the car park next to the school does not belong to the school and parents who drop off or pick up from the car park are inconveniencing (and are sometimes rude) to the parishioners. This is not a good example to your own children. Also we have had a number of complaints from our neighbours of parents parking across their driveways. This is unacceptable. Please leave 10 minutes extra for the school run.

The no drop off/pick up rule from the car park includes parents of Smiley Ark.

Winter Uniform



Please be advised that after half term, winter uniform must be worn. Please remember to label all uniform. A reminder of the school uniform is attached, on the parents' noticeboard and school website. The children look very smart in their uniform and the wearing of school coloured hair bands completes the overall look. Please take note of the information about boys haircuts at the bottom of the poster. Girls are reminded to remove their earrings and nail varnish before they come to school. Your co-operation is appreciated.

School Lunch Menu



The lunch menu will change to the Winter Menus after the October half term. The new menus are currently being updated and will be available on the school website from Monday 16th October 2023. Please be advised that the school office and kitchen staff need a notice period of one week for any changes to dinner arrangements.

Primary Reception Places – September 2024

The Bexley online site has now opened – www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions (for Bexley residents) and https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places and closes on 15th January 2024).



The school is holding a number of Open Events on the following dates:

- Friday 13th October - Open Morning - 9.15 am
- Monday 27th November - Open Evening - 5.00 pm
- Tuesday 5th December - Open Afternoon - 1.30 pm
- Wednesday 10th January - Open Morning - 9.15 am

A presentation by the Head of School will be followed by a guided tour of the school. Please remind friends and neighbours to put these dates in their diary. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2024. The school welcomes applications from Catholics and non-Catholic families (who are sympathetic to our values and practice).

Please note, if you are Catholic, Fr David, will be available to sign Supplementary Forms by appointment only. However, if you are not religious, you must still complete Part 1 of the Supplementary Form and return it to the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School