St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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April/May 2022

Dear Parents

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

Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) Tests – Year 6



Year 6 SATs tests take place the week of Monday 9th May 2022 – it is essential that all children attend school.

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 dresses (girls may still wear blue/white striped summer dresses if you still have these at home).

School Lunch Menu



The lunch menu has now changed to the Summer Menus and are available on the school website. Some Key Stage 2 children have had a sneak preview at the new menus and said they were very excited! Please be advised that the school office and kitchen staff need a notice period of one week for any changes to dinner arrangements.

Unfortunately, the issue with the Pay360 Dinner Money system is still ongoing. We are in regular contact with the company who are responsible for Pay360 and they are still trying to work out what the problem is.

You can still pay for your child's school meals by logging in to Pay360 and we will be able to see your payments on our school system. If you would like to know how much is owed for your child's dinner money, please put a note in your child's Contact Book and the School Office will send home a School Meal Statement of Account. We apologise for any inconvenience this is causing.

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 £339.60 and so far the Missio boxes have raised £182.80.



Easter

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



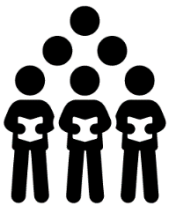
World Book Day

A big thank you to Mrs King 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.



School Football Team – Minor Cup Final

Congratulations to the Year 6 and 5 boy's football team who won the Minor Cup 2-1 against West Lodge Prep School. Thank you to Miss Whitaker and Mr Brady for organising and coaching the children for this event.



Nativity Painting Competition

Congratulations to all the children who took part in this competition and received certificates. 5 of our children were placed in the top 10 in Bexley. Well done.



Caring Classrooms

In response to a letter from Pope Francis, our Eco-Warriors will soon be setting up food donation boxes in each classroom. These donations will be collected regularly by Churches Together and taken to Bexley Foodbank. Further details will follow in a letter from Mrs Pinto. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



Midday Supervisor Post

We have a 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.



Parish Update and First Holy Communion



Father David and the parish of St Mary of the Crays are very pleased to see more and 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.

One of our pupils was nearly hit as she was walking along the pavement by a parent reversing out of the car park. Please be careful.

Walk to School Week – 16th – 20th May 2022



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 King 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.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Queen Elizabeth II is celebrating her Platinum Jubilee this year – 70 years on the throne as the Queen of England.

To mark this occasion, we will be having a special celebration day on Wednesday 8th June 2022:

- The children come to school wearing red, white and blue clothes
- Bring in silver coins to place on a large portrait of the Queen (money will be donated to the British Red Cross, of which, the Queen is patron of).
- All children have a packed lunch so we can have a whole school picnic on the grass at lunchtime.
- Monday 6th June 2022 is an extra bank holiday where the school will be closed that day.

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.

Reporting Pupil Absence



If your child is absent due to illness, please leave a message on the answerphone (Option 1) giving specific details of the absence i.e. high temperature, upset stomach, etc, rather than 'unwell/under the weather'.

Registration for 2022 Bexley Selection Tests – Year 5 Parents



The registration period opens on Tuesday 3rd May 2022 and closes on Friday 1st July 2022. Parents need to register online at www.bexley.gov.uk/selectiontests

The tests are planned for week commencing Monday 12th September 2022. If your child should require special arrangements to access the tests, an additional form is required with supporting evidence and the closing date for this is Friday 17th June 2022. Don't leave this to the very last moment as the school will need time to collate information. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Kent Selection Test registration opens Wednesday 1st June 2022 and closes Friday 1st July 2022.

Medway registration opens Wednesday 1st June 2022 and closes Thursday 30th June 2022. This is the responsibility of the parents to register.

Teaching Assistant Post



We have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant (including lunchtime cover), Monday – Friday 8.45 am – 1.15 pm, or do you know someone who might be suitable? Please contact the school office for further details.

PTA



Please look out for up-coming events on the PTA newsletter. The Inflatable Event will need parent helpers on each bouncy castle. The Summer Fete will need volunteers to organise each stall. Please keep these dates in your diary. Thank you to all the parents that helped at the recent school discos.

Amazon Smile



Please remember to use Amazon Smile for all your Amazon purchases. Every time you do they will donate a percentage to your chosen charity (St Joseph's PTA, Crayford). If you download the Amazon App, you don't need to visit the AmazonSmile website first every time you want to order something.

We are now registered with Amazon Smile to select **St. Joseph'S Pta, Crayford** you must go to Amazon Smile or link it to your account. Amazon smile does not cost you anything they donate 0.05% of your purchase to the school from AMAZON. Make sure you use the spelling as it appears above. The link to register is: https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1154834-0

Ukraine



London Borough of Bexley is welcoming Ukrainian nationals through the government's Homes for Ukraine scheme.

If you have any queries, please email HomesForUkrainians@bexley.gov.uk
Our website includes information and guidance for Ukrainians arriving in Bexley and links for residents or businesses who may wish to help.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School

The calendar is updated every month so please update your home/family calendar.

APRIL 2022	
Friday 1st	am – School Choir out at Bexley Catholic Primary School's Choral Festival at Our Lady of the Angel's church A Day for Ukraine – children to wear blue/yellow
Easter Holidays Monday 4th April 2022 – Monday 18th April 2022 INSET Day – Tuesday 19th April 2022 (children return on Wednesday 20th April 2022)	
Wednesday 20th	9.15 am – Whole School Assembly on Earth Day – in-school event only
Thursday 21st	9.15 am - Year 1 and Year 4 Class Mass in church – parents invited Year 3 and 4 start tennis at VCD
Friday 22nd	Earth Day including Wild Science Workshops (animals/habitats) Year 5 Victorian theme day
Monday 25th	6.30 pm – Year 6 School Journey Meeting – Main Hall – parents and Year 6 children
Tuesday 26th	9.15 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Wednesday 27th	Year 4 Viking theme day
Thursday 28th	9.15 am – Year 4 Class Assembly – parents invited
Friday 29th	Year 5 – first swimming lesson
MAY 2022	
Monday 2nd	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 3rd	Crowning of Mary Assemblies this week – in-school event only – children to bring in a flower
Wednesday 4th	Year 3 and 4 Tri-Golf at Hurstmere School – selected children only
Thursday 5th	9.15 am - Year R and Year 5 Class Mass in church – parents invited
Monday 9th	Key Stage 2 SATS
Tuesday 10th	Key Stage 2 SATS
Wednesday 11th	Key Stage 2 SATS
Thursday 12th	Key Stage 2 SATS
Friday 13th	Key Stage 2 SATS Teddy Bear Picnic – Year R and local nurseries
Monday 16th	Year 6 Bikeability – this week Walk to School Week
Wednesday 18th	Sponsored Spelling Test Science Fun Session for Year 5 and 6 girls at Townley Grammar
Thursday 19th	Year 3 - Ancient Greek Theme Day 9.15 am – Year 1 Class Assembly – parents invited
Friday 20th	9.15 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Wednesday 25th	Year R Minibeast Theme Day Year 2 Fairy Tale Day Year 6 – School Journey – Windmill Hill
Thursday 26th	9.15 am - Feast of the Ascension - whole school mass in church - parents invited - led by the parish Year 6 – School Journey – Windmill Hill
Friday 27th	Year 6 – School Journey – Windmill Hill
HALF TERM Monday 30th May 2022 – Monday 6th June 2022 (children return on Tuesday 7th June 2022)	
JUNE 2022	
Tuesday 7th	Children return to school pm - Year 6 out at Junior Citizenship (Erith Fire Station)
Wednesday 8th	Whole School Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration
Thursday 9th	9.15 am – Year R Class Assembly – parents invited Year 5 trip to Wingham Wildlife Park
Friday 10th	Year 4 Adopt a Chef

Monday 13th	Year 3 Walkability - Pedestrian Training 5.00 pm – Open Evening for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Tuesday 14th	Year 3 Walkability - Pedestrian Training
Wednesday 15th	Year 3 Walkability - Pedestrian Training Year 2 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes
Thursday 16th	9.15 am – Year 3 Class Assembly – parents invited
Friday 17th	Year 4 Adopt a Chef Year 6 Swimming Gala Practice – no Year 5 swimming
Monday 20th	Year R Environmental Day – children wear own clothes Year 6 Swimming Gala
Tuesday 21st	Year 6 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes Welcome meeting for new Reception parents
Wednesday 22nd	Year R trip to Tyland Barn
Thursday 23rd	9.15 am - Year 2 and Year 3 Class Mass in church – parents invited
Friday 24th	Year 1 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes Year 4 Adopt a Chef
Tuesday 28th	Year 5 Bexleyheath Geography Fieldwork
Wednesday 29th	9.15 am - Feast of St Peter and Paul - whole school mass in church (led by parish)
Thursday 30th	9.15 am – Year 2 Class Assembly – parents invited
JULY 2022	
Friday 1st	Sports Day am – Infants – school grounds pm – Juniors – VCD sports field Last day for donations for Caring Classroom boxes
Tuesday 5th	9.15 am - Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents Year 3 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes
Friday 8th	Year 2 class trip to Joss Bay Year 5 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes
Wednesday 13th	1.45 pm – Year 5 and 6 end of year production – afternoon performance 7.00 pm - Year 5 and 6 end of year production - evening performance
Thursday 14th	Bexley Music Festival 2022 - Fairfield Halls, Croydon - coach tbc
Friday 15th	Year 4 Environmental Day – children wear own clothes Year 5 – last swimming lesson End of year reports to be sent home
Tuesday 19th	2.00 pm – Year 6 Leavers' Mass in church – parents invited
Thursday 21st	Sally Knox visiting Year 6 3.30 pm - Year 6 Leavers' Picnic – parents invited
Friday 22nd	Last day of term

Details of all our regular school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Mondays	**Mathletics – Mrs Webber** Invited pupils only Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 25th April – 11th July 2022
	Netball Club – Miss Whitaker Three terms of netball for years 3 and 4. The cost is £25.00 for the first term (£2.50 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360 (SIMS Pay) Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 25th April – 11th July 2022
Tuesday	**Sports Club – Mr Willis – Years 3 and 4** Autumn Term – Football Spring Term – Hockey Summer Term - Cricket The cost is £40 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360 (SIMS Pay). Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 26th April – 12th July 2022
	Choir – Mrs Tylee Please contact via your child's Contact Book	12.45 pm – 1.15 pm 26th April – 12th July 2022
Wednesday	**Football/Sports Club – Mr Brady – Years 5 and 6** Two terms football/one term cricket for Years 5 and 6. The cost is £40 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360 (SIMS Pay). Please contact via your child's Contact Book. There is no charge for this club for Year 6	3.15 – 4.15 pm 27th April – 13th July 2022
Thursdays	**Sports Club – Mr Brady – Years 1 and 2** Autumn Term – Game Skills Spring Term – Football Summer Term - Cricket The cost is £40 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360 (SIMS Pay). Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 28th April – 14th July 2022
	Orchestra – Mrs Tylee Invited pupils only Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 28th April – 14th July 2022
Fridays	**Mandarin Club – Years 3, 4 and 6** Mandarin lessons led by a teacher from Dartford Grammar School This club is free of charge	3.15 pm – 4.15 pm 29th April – 15th July 2022

Smiley Ark Breakfast Club – 7.30 am – 8.45 am – Monday - Friday
After School Club – 3.15 pm – 6.00 pm – Monday - Friday

For further details please contact Susan Ikpefuran on 07956 263531 or e-mail kids@smileyark.com
The telephone number for Smiley Ark is 07549 244180