St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Old Road
Crayford
Kent DA1 4DZ

Head of School: Mrs A Truss BA Hons
Executive Head Teacher: Mr M Hannon BEd MEd NPQH

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December 2022

www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Dear Parents

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.

Teaching Assistant Apprenticeship Opportunity



If you are interested in developing your skills and obtaining a Level 3 Teaching Assistant qualification, please email the School Office your expression of interest. Opportunities for January 2023 onwards.

Primary Reception Places – September 2023



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 2023).

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

- Friday 2nd December 2022 – 9.00 – 9.30 am
- Friday 9th December 2022 – 9.15 – 10.15 am
- Friday 16th December 2022 – 9.15 – 9.30 am
- Friday 6th January 2023 – 9.00 – 9.30 am
- Monday 9th January 2023 – 1.30 – 2.30 pm
- Friday 13th January 2023 – 9.00 – 9.30 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 2023. The school welcomes applications from Catholic 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 (after school or evening). However, if you are not religious, you must still complete Part 1 of the Supplementary Form and return it to the school office.

Advent and Christmas



It is really lovely to be able to celebrate the season of Advent as we reconnect the children with the story and message of Christmas. The whole school have been working really hard on their rehearsals and I know the children are looking forward to their opportunity to share this with you as parents.

Urgent request to all parents of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 children for donations of mince pies. After the Junior Christmas Carol Service, parents are invited into the school's main hall for some festive refreshments before hometime.

Love, Learn, Live

Christmas Lunch



This year our Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 14th December 2022. All children can opt to have Christmas dinner. If your child currently has a packed lunch and you wish your child to have a Christmas dinner please indicate on the slip attached. We require the £2.45 payment no later than Friday 9th December 2022. Children may come to school in their own clothes for the day but please remember to dress sensibly for the weather as children will be going out on the playground for breaks.

Children's Christmas Hamper Raffle – Supporting the Bexley and Greenwich Hospice

The school raised £229 from the sale of raffle tickets to win a Children's Christmas Hamper. Congratulations to Olivia in Year 3.

All money raised will be donated to the Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice. We will be dedicating a light on their virtual Christmas tree on their website and hanging a Memory Star on the hospice Christmas tree on Sunday 11th December 2022 in memory of Mrs Julie Stewart, a member of staff at St Joseph's who sadly passed away in September 2022.

Poppy Appeal



Thank you for all your contributions, St Joseph's raised £282.11 towards the Poppy Appeal.

Netball Team



Well done to St Joseph's Year 5 and 6 netball team on their win against Upton, with a winning score of 10. Thank you again to Miss Whitaker for organising these sporting events.

Christmas Holidays



The last day of term is Tuesday 20th December 2022 and school will finish at 3.15 pm. Children return to school on Wednesday 4th January 2023 when the gates will open at the usual time of 8.45 am.

Christmas Mass Times



Fr David is looking forward to welcoming all our families into St Mary of the Crays Catholic Church:

Saturday 17th – Advent Pilgrimage together with other Churches in Crayford. Begin at St Paulinus at 4.00 pm, journey to St Marys and then on to the Baptist Church to finish at approximately 5.00 pm

Sunday 18th – Carol Service	4.00 pm	
Saturday 24th - Christmas Eve	5.00pm Vigil Mass	
	Carols from 11.30 pm followed by 12.00am Midnight Mass	
Sunday 25th - Christmas Day	8.30am Mass	10.30am Mass
Monday 26th - St Stephen's Day	9.15 am Mass	

ParentSafe

Learn how to use parental control settings on devices using the following link https://parentsafe.lgfl.net to explore 'Safe Settings, Controls and Monitoring' – especially if you are planning on purchasing new computers/consoles/devices as presents. Help keep your children safe online this Christmas.

Christmas Shopping using Amazon Smile

We are 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 and 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

Yours sincerely

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School

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Please return this slip no later than Friday 9th December 2022

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 14th December 2022 – only to be completed by parents whose children have packed lunches.

I would like my son/daughter to have a Christmas Dinner this year.

Name of child/ren …… Year (s): ……

Signed……

I enclose £2.45 per child ☐
I have paid £2.45 via Pay 360 (SIMS Pay) ☐

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

DECEMBER 2022	
Friday 2nd	9.00 – 9.30 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Monday 5th	PTA – 12 Days of Christmas Countdown – Bexley Foodbank
Wednesday 7th	2.15 – 3.15 pm – Infant Nativity – parents invited
Thursday 8th	pm - Year 4 and 5 Handball Festival at St Columba's – details to follow
Friday 9th	9.15 – 10.15 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents Year 6 – last swimming session
Tuesday 13th	2.30 – 3.30 pm – Reception Class Nativity – parents invited
Wednesday 14th	Christmas Dinner Day pm – Beauty and the Beast Pantomime Production in school – Years R-6
Thursday 15th	1.30 – 2.30 pm – Junior Christmas Carol Service in church, followed by coffee and mince pies in the school hall after the service – parents invited
Friday 16th	9.00 – 9.30 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents CRIBS Christmas Play – in-school event
Wednesday 21st	INSET Day – school closed
Thursday 22nd	School Holidays
Christmas Holidays Wednesday 21st December – Tuesday 3rd January 2023 (children return on Wednesday 4th January 2023)	
JANUARY 2023	
Wednesday 4th	Children return to school
Friday 6th	9.00 – 9.30 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents 9.15 am - Feast of the Epiphany – Whole School Mass
Monday 9th	1.30 – 2.30 pm – Open Afternoon for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Tuesday 10th	3.30 – 6.00 pm Parents' Evening – appointments to be sent out 2 weeks before
Thursday 12th	3.30 – 6.00 pm Parents' Evening – appointments to be sent out 2 weeks before
Friday 13th	9.00 – 9.30 am – Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents 2.30 – 4.00 pm – Year 5 – first swimming session
Thursday 19th	9.15 am - Year 6 Class Assembly – parents invited
Friday 20th	INSET Day – school closed
Thursday 26th	9.15 am – Year 5 Class Assembly – parents invited
Tuesday 31st	Year 1 trip – Florence Nightingale Museum
FEBRURY 2023	
Thursday 2nd	Year 5 Trip to Westminster Cathedral 10.30 am – whole school Mass in school hall – led by Canon Victor Darlington 2.30 pm – Year 2 Class Assembly – parents invited
Monday 6th	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 7th	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8th	6.30 pm PTA Meeting (hybrid)
Thursday 9th	9.15 am – Year 1 Class Assembly – parents invited
HALF TERM MONDAY 13TH – FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2023	
Tuesday 21st	am – CAFOD Assembly (tbc)
Wednesday 22nd	9.15 am – Ash Wednesday Mass in Church (juniors)
Thursday 23rd	Year 5 Alchemist Theme Day
Tuesday 28th	MISSIO Assembly

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 Smiley Ark Kids Office on 07947 910282 or e-mail enquiries@smileyark.com The telephone number for Smiley Ark is 07947 909082

Details of all our regular school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Monday	**Mathletics – Mrs Webber** Invited pupils only Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 9th January – 20th March 2023
	Netball Club – Miss Whitaker Three terms of netball for Years 5 and 6. The cost is £40.00 for the Spring term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360 Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 9th January – 20th March 2023
Tuesday	**Sports Club – Mr Whitehead – Years 5 and 6** 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. Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 10th January – 21st March 2023
	Mandarin Club – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Mandarin lessons led by a teacher from Dartford Grammar School This club is free of charge	3.15 – 4.15 pm 10th January – 21st March 2023
Wednesday	**Games Skills Club – Mr Whitehead – Year 1** Autumn Term – Games Skills Spring Term – Games Skills (including football) Summer Term - Cricket The cost is £40 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360. Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 11th January – 22nd March 2023
	Choir – Mrs Tylee – Years 3, 4, 5, 6 Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 11th January – 22nd March 2023
Thursday	**Games Skills Club – Mr Whitehead – Year 2** Autumn Term – Game Skills Spring Term – Games Skills (including football) Summer Term - Cricket The cost is £40 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360. Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 12th January – 23rd March 2023
	Orchestra – Mrs Tylee – Years 4, 5 and 6 Invited pupils only Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 12th January – 23rd March 2023
Friday	**Sports Club – Mr Willis – Years 3 and 4** Autumn Term – Football Spring Term – Hockey Summer Term - Cricket The cost is £36 for the term (£4 per session). Payment to be made by Pay 360. Please contact via your child's Contact Book.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 13th January – 24th March 2023 (9 weeks due to INSET Day on the 20th January 2023