



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 24th February 2017

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 12

Dear Parents

RE – Sacraments

Miss Thomas, our RE subject leader writes: "Currently our children are learning about the sacraments in R.E. Our youngest will learn that we come together as God's family to pray and say thank you and will become familiar with some of the prayers, signs and symbols associated with forgiveness. They will be thinking about the seven sacraments, relating them to stories about Jesus. Meanwhile, those slightly older learn through the celebration of the Eucharist, that the Church is doing what Jesus did at the Last Supper. They will also be thinking about their lives and their call to follow God. Finally, our older children come to know the importance of commitment and service in both the sacraments and how they fulfil the mission of the Church; ultimately through the sacraments we profess and live out the faith that comes from the apostles."

'As soon as Jesus was baptised he went up out of the water. At that moment, heaven opened.'
Matthew 3:16

World Book Day – fancy dress

Just a reminder that we are inviting the children to come to school as their favourite book character to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. This is something we only do every other year. In fact we have a whole week celebrating books and authors - with real life authors visiting and lots of additional activities planned that we hope the children will enjoy and enhance their love of books and reading. Thank you to our PTA for helping to fund the week. We will share what the children got up to in our next newsletter.

Year 4 winners visit The Pig Hotel

On Friday 10th February, 16 lucky Year 4 children spent the morning at The Pig Hotel, Brockenhurst. The competition involved designing a three-course menu, promoting healthy eating and sustainability. All the children had the chance to look around the kitchen gardens then to plate and eat the food they had

designed, which included crab cakes, gammon and trimmings followed by fruit salad, marshmallows and ice cream. The children had an amazing time, most of them sampling some of the produce for the first time. A huge thank you to James Golding, Chef Director at The Pig for organising the competition as part of Adopt a School Week and for giving our children such opportunities. We even made it into The Caterer magazine, which featured our Year 4 pupils on their special day out. Please see the attachment.

Keeping Your Child Safe Online

Ask yourself these questions.....Does your child know more about the internet than you? Do you know what Snapchat or Instagram are and what your child is posting on them? Is your child on Facebook, even though they are actually under the age that Facebook allows? How do you actually know who is seeing things that your child is posting online? Do you really know what your child gets up to on the internet?

To help answer these questions we are holding an E-safety session next week here at the school on **Wednesday 1st March at 2.15pm**. It will be delivered by the Schools Safety and Community Team and everyone is invited to attend. The session will finish at 3.10pm in time for end of school collections. If you are in any way concerned about the safety of your child online then why not pop along and get advice from the team. If you are able to let the office know you can attend then great - or if you suddenly find yourself free just turn up. The message they deliver is *so important* I'd want you to feel you can just show up rather than not because you hadn't informed the school office.

Our children can be so vulnerable when online. One final question...have you ever googled your child's name? Try it, you might be surprised by what you find.

School Uniform

For those of you who ordered uniform items at the beginning of term from QDOS most orders are ready to be collected from the School Office.

Mrs Medcraft at QDOS can be reached on 01202 434233 or 07971 309826.

Lent 2017

Lent begins next week and so we have attached our usual Lent Prayer Calendar for families to use during this special time. As it is also the Year of Mercy we pray this Lent that our school may be a place where all experience the patience, tenderness and compassion of God's mercy. As Pope Francis writes;

"Wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident.

Wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy."

Buxton Best Break

Each class teacher has chosen two children, who show good behaviour and do as they are asked, to have an additional break with me over at Waterman's Park. Well done to the following children for being shining examples of how to behave:

Ducklings	Lillianna	Ralphie
Year 1	Noah	Isabella M
Year 2	Jessica	Roman
Year 3	Otis	Chloe
Year 4	Anna	Amelia
Year 5	Sky	Daisy B
Year 6	Flynn	Alice

Sports Update

Indoor Athletics Years 5 and 6

On Thursday 23rd February 18 children from Years 5 and 6 travelled to Purbeck School in Wareham for the semi-finals of the Indoor Athletics competition. The team put up a spirited performance against tough opposition and we finished 2nd overall. St Joseph's sportsmanship showed through when they congratulated Christchurch Juniors and wished them good luck in the county finals.

Multi Skills Years 3 and 4

On Tuesday 7th February, pupils from Years 3 and 4 went to Highcliffe School for a Multi Skills morning which included football, basketball and relay races. Well done to Thomas for basketball, Luleya for target throwing and George for football, who were the overall winners.

Tag Rugby Year 5 and 6

On Wednesday 8th February we went to Bournemouth Rugby Club at Chapel Gate for the Christchurch Tag Rugby competition. St Joseph's played 7 matches which were very competitive and we finished 4th overall. We are pleased to

announce that we have been selected to attend the Spirit of the Games Tag Rugby competition to be held at Chapel Gate on Friday 31st March.

Photographs and sporting success

Once again we ask if any parents have any extra-curricular sporting news about their children please could you send reports and photographs to the school office by 17th March at the latest to be included in the school sports newsletter.

Want to be a teacher?

Would you like to train to be a Primary School Teacher? Do you already have a degree? You could train locally with the Primary Catholic Partnership either for a PGCE or through Schools Direct. Why not come along and find out more?

Paul Haslam, the PCP Director will be holding a short open afternoon at St Walburga's Catholic Primary School in Malvern Road, on Thursday 2nd March at 1.30pm. As well as hearing about potential routes into teaching, there will also be an opportunity to meet with current students, and teachers who have completed the course and are now working at St Walburga's. If you would like to attend, please contact the school office on 01202 528811.

House Points

Congratulations to St Matthew's house who have started the year with the most house points. The totals are:

- 1st – St. Matthew's – 2049
- 2nd – St. Mark's – 2015
- 3rd – St. Luke's – 1984
- 4th – St. John's – 1729

PTA Events

Our next afternoon meeting is Tuesday 28th February at 2pm and evening meeting is Tuesday 14th March at 7.00pm.

Race Night at School

A fantastic night was had by all at the PTA Race Night. There was lots of eating, drinking, laughing and shouting (at the horses racing!).

Thank you Dee Kenny once more for a fabulous evening, to all those who helped on the evening, along with Wayne Batsford, of Red Cherry Catering for, once again providing us with a lovely supper. As well as it being a lovely community event an amazing £750 was raised!

Bake Sale Success

Well done to Evie-Rose for holding such a successful Bake Sale after school on Friday 3rd February. Evie was raising money for three special charities close to her heart. We are delighted to say that the Bake Sale raised an impressive £130.

Dates for 2017

Wednesday 1 st March 2.15pm	Keeping Your Child Safe Online Workshop
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book day - children come as their favourite book character (fancy dress)
Tuesday 14 th March, 8.45am	School Nurse Drop In Session – all welcome
Tuesday 14 th March, 3.30pm	Leeson House meeting for Year 5 parents
Tuesday 28 th March	Parents' evening
Wednesday 29 th March	Parents' evening
Monday 3 rd April	Sponsored spell for Bamenda- Lenten charity
Monday 10th – Friday 21st April (inclusive) Easter Holiday	
8 th -12 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Monday 15 th May, 6.30pm	Avon Tyrrell Information Evening
Monday 22 nd May	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 23 rd May	Year 6 Sports Day
Monday 12 th June	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Friday 16 th June 5-7pm	Summer Fete
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd June	Year 6 Avon Tyrrell residential trip
Monday 26 th June	Year 6 Skateboarding
Friday 30 th June	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 4 th July, 7pm	Year 6 Leavers' Mass at St Joseph's Church
Monday 10 th July 9.30am	Year 6 Play Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 11 th July, 2pm and 7pm	Year 6 Play Performance 1 & 2
Wednesday 12 th July	Year 6 Inter-House Finals
Wednesday 19 th July, 2pm	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

School Nurse

Our School Nurse will be holding a Drop In Clinic on **Tuesday 14th March**. Any parent who has a question about their child's health is welcome to drop in to see the Nurse from 8.45am onwards. Please come via the School Office.

Sainsburys Active Kids

We will once again be collecting the Sainsburys Active Kids vouchers. Over the years they have proved invaluable in providing the school with extra free resources so please make sure you

and your family members keep hold of these when you are doing your shopping!

Final Inset Days

Please note the following days are school closures due to teacher training; Monday 22nd May, Monday 12th June and Friday 30th June.

Date for your Diary – Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will be Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March.

Dates for Friday class assemblies

Families are invited to the following Friday assemblies:

Friday 3 rd March, 2.30pm	Year 3
Friday 10 th March, 2.30pm	Year 2
Friday 24 th March, 2.30pm	Year 1
Friday 31 st March, 2.30pm	Ducklings

Year 5 Leeson House information meeting

There will be an information meeting Tuesday 14th March at 3.30pm for parents.

St Joseph's First Holy Communion dates

Parents' evening- Tuesday 28th February, 7.30pm

Session 6a - Monday 6th March, 3.45pm

Session 6b - Monday 13th March, 3.45pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 18th March 11am or Saturday 25th March 11am

The next parent and toddler Mass at St. Joseph's Church is Tuesday 14th March at 9.30am.

Best wishes – and don't forget it's come as your favourite book character next Thursday for World Book Day.

Louise Buxton