



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 9th March 2018

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 13

Dear Parents

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thank you to our some of our local priests, Father Daryl, Father Kevin and Canon Paul for joining us for our Lenten liturgy, led by Father John, and for hearing confessions for our older children. Many of children and staff were smiling on leaving – hopefully as they felt blessed and closer to God.

Mini-Vinnies

Each class has voted for their new Mini Vinnies. In assembly, the children had been told what the role of a Mini Vinnie is, as well as the qualities needed to be one. All children who wanted to be considered had to prepare a short speech (some of which were fantastic and clearly a lot of thought had been put into them), before the classes voted. The new Mini Vinnies were announced during an assembly. Here are the following children who will represent their class:

Ducklings	Bradlee	Bethany	
Year 1	Eddie	Annabel	
Year 2	Ian	Magda	
Year 3	Seth	Hollie	
Year 4	Alex	Nahla	
Year 5	Jack	Ella	Isla
Year 6	Kieran	Zahra	

The older Mini Vinnies will be representing St. Joseph's at the Silver Jubilee Mass at The Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph's Church, Christchurch on Monday 19th March.

Super Hero Week

Mrs Dayantis writes: "Last week we had a curriculum enrichment week at school. The week started off with a dramatic message from a 'villain' who had abducted Mrs Dayantis' pet Chihuahua, Percy. He sent the school a ransom video and we all watched Percy ask for help. Help was at hand in the form of a band of superheroes who burst into the school hall (Aka members of staff)! Throughout the week each class based their learning around the theme of

superheroes, creating characters, designing comic strips and writing stories. Art work included mask making, stick puppets, paintings and drawings of superheroes. In PE sessions we had superhero dances to Bonnie Tyler's famous track, 'Holding out for a hero'! Due to Thursday and Friday's dramatic weather, we had to finish off our superhero theme this week and we held our superhero dress-up day on Tuesday. On Tuesday morning we also invited parents in to share some of the work that the children had completed and some parents even took part in online drawing tutorials."

Miss Buxton writes: "I was particularly impressed with some of our children's choices of superhero on our dress-up day. It was great to see one of our children coming in his Cub uniform, a child choosing to come as a Guide Dog, an RAF Officer, doctors and nurses and the most obvious superhero of them all – our mums (even a Year 4 boy!). Finally, and probably most touching is a child who decided to come as a farmer, as last week the tough job they faced made them true heroes.

Bikeability – Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed their day of safer cycling training last week. They wrapped up warm and learnt how to check their bikes and the basics of keeping safe. Later on this summer they will be completing level 2 and be out on the road!

Year 4 visit The Pig Hotel

Today, 16 lucky Year 4 children have been spending the morning at The Pig Hotel, Brockenhurst. A huge thank you to Mr Golding, Chef Director at The Pig, for inviting the children as part of the Royal Academy of culinary arts Adopt a School week. Ten children were chosen by staff for showing great culinary flair, interest and for outstanding behaviour when we had the Food Festival visit St Joseph's a couple of weeks ago. The other 6 children were selected at random, via the magic lollipop sticks! All the children will be doing some 'fun foodie activities', they will also have the chance to look around the facilities including the kitchen gardens and Mr Golding will be discussing healthy eating and growing their own produce (sustainability).

Year 5 Leeson House information meeting

There will be an information meeting Tuesday 27th March at 3.30pm for parents.

Inset day – what we got up to!

Last Wednesday the teachers reviewed assessment procedures within the school. They also looked at curriculum coverage in English and maths, along with ensuring our judgements on writing are consistent between the year groups.

Children's Easter Craft Workshop

Following the *Stations of the Cross* service at 11.30am on Friday 30th March at St Joseph's Church, children will have the opportunity to enjoy an Easter Craft Workshop in the Parish Centre. A variety of art and craft activities will be on offer as well as refreshments and hot cross buns. The activity is aimed at children from Reception to Year 6. This is a ticketed event on a first-come-first-served basis. Tickets are £2 per child. If you would like to reserve a ticket please contact Jen Leonard via email at jennifer.leonard@ntlworld.com or [Whatsapp/text a message to Jen on 0781 4928602](#) to reserve your place. Kindly leave payment with the school office in an envelope marked Easter Crafts with your children's names/how many. The organisers would gladly welcome volunteers to organise and run a craft table or help with the refreshments. Please speak with Jen Leonard, Johanna Mills or Angela Barone if you are able to help. Thank you.

Parental Survey

Attached to this newsletter's ParentMail is a summary of the recent parental survey. Thank you to everyone who contributed – 100 replies were received (which was fantastic for when we went to work out the percentages!). The main suggestions that are workable have been added to our school improvement plan.

Year 5/6 Mass- re-scheduled

The Year 5/6 Mass is now re-scheduled for Thursday 7th June. All are welcome.

Parents' Evening

You will be receiving your appointment time for Parents' evening at the end of next week. I have asked teachers to contact any parent who is unable to attend for another appointment after school as this is a very important meeting about the progress your child is making.

Child Protection

If you have a concern about the long term safety of a child or young person Dorset County Council Children's Services has a single point of

contact for any new referrals or safeguarding concerns. Anyone can make a referral on **01202 228866** or childrensafeguardingferndown@dors-etcc.gcsx.gov.uk. Referrals can be anonymous. They encourage the person who has the concern to make the referral and not to wait to pass it onto a third party, such as a member of school staff. Please remember anyone can make a referral and safeguarding is everyone's concern!

Dates for 2018

Tuesday 20 th March	Parents' evening
Thursday 22 nd March	Parents' evening
Friday 23 rd March	PTA sponsored bounce
Tuesday 27 th March, 3.30pm	Leeson House Information Meeting for parents
Tuesday 27 th March, 7pm	PTA Meeting – all welcome
Friday 30th March – Friday 13th April (inclusive) Easter Holiday	
Week beginning Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs (tests)
16 th – 18 th May	Year 5 Leeson House residential visit
Week beginning 21 st May	Year 6 Avon Tyrell residential visit
Wednesday 23 rd May	Year 3 trip to Winchester Science Centre
Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June Half Term Holiday	
Tuesday 5 th June	PTA Mufti Day – non-uniform
Tuesday 5 th June	7pm New Parents' Liturgy
Wednesday 6 th June	Inset Day - school closed to children
Thursday 7 th June	Year 5/6 class Mass
Friday 8 th June	Summer Fayre
Wednesday 27 th June, pm	'Alice in Wonderland' performed by M&M Productions
Thursday 28 th June am/pm	'Stay and Play' - Ducklings
Monday 2 nd July - Friday 6 th July	Book Fair
Tuesday 24 th July	Last day of school for pupils
Wednesday 25 th July	Inset Day - school closed to children
Wednesday 25th July – Friday 31st August (inclusive) Summer Holiday	
Monday 3 rd September	Children return to school

School Uniform

Mrs Medcraft at QDOS can be reached on 01202 434233 or 07971 309826 should you wish to buy uniform directly from her. There is also a downloadable order form on our school website: www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk for your convenience.

School Closure - Inset Days

Please note Wednesday 6th June is a training day and so the school is closed to children.

Please note the final inset will be Wednesday 25th July 2018. This means that the final day of the school year will be Tuesday 24th July 2018. I am letting you know this early so you can book your holidays accordingly.

The children will be returning to school Monday 3rd September. It won't be an inset day so please book holidays accordingly.

Dates for Friday class assemblies

Parents and family are invited to the following Friday assemblies.

Friday 16 th March, 2.30pm	Year 1
Friday 23 rd March, 2.30pm	Ducklings

School payments – download the App

We hope you are finding our new online payment service +Pay a convenient way to pay for school items. Don't forget to download the free ParentMail App to make online payments easier. To do this simply search for 'ParentMail' in your App store. If you need any additional information or assistance please contact Mrs Holmes in the school office.

Sports Update

This week we concluded our House Netball Matches after the final fixtures were snowed off! St Matthew's and St Mark's will compete in the final at our Schoolgames Finals Day on the 18th July.

On 5th March, 8 children went to Moors Valley for an Outdoor Activities Day. They participated in orienteering (the Forest course), competing against 5 other schools. After lunch they went mountain biking (in the rain!) but thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

Bright Sparks Holiday Club

Lauren writes: "Bright Sparks are looking to open a holiday club starting this Easter holidays for all the children who attend St Joseph's. We have lots of fun activities planned. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Lauren or Amy on 07891 209207 or email us at Christchurch.bright.sparks@gmail.com. We are also in every afternoon from 3pm so please feel free to pop in. Bright Sparks are also doing an Easter raffle which will be drawn the week before Easter holidays tickets are 25p each or £1.00 a strip. There will be an Easter cake sale on Friday 23rd March after school where you will

have the chance to grab some tickets to win one of our three Easter hampers."

PTA Events

Our next meeting is Tuesday 27th March when we are planning future events including the Summer Fayre which is on Friday 8th June 2018, so please put this date in your diary.

First Holy Communion

Dates are as follows:

Session 6b- Saturday 10th March 9-11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 17th March 11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 24th March 11am

Parents' evening - Tuesday 17th April 7.30pm

Weekend Mass Times

Mass at the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph's Church, Purewell are; *Saturday vigil - 6.30pm, Sunday 9am*

Mass at Holy Redeemer, Highcliffe, is: *Sunday 11am Website: www.avonstourpastoralarea.org*

I look forward to seeing some of you at our *Race Night* this evening.

Best wishes

Louise Buxton