



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 23rd March 2018

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 14

Dear Parents

Silver Anniversary Celebrations

On Monday, the Feast Day of St Joseph, Mr Curran, Miss Thomas and I attended a special Mass to celebrate the silver anniversary of the consecration of our church in Purewell. We were joined by our older Mini-Vinnies who paraded our school banner, took up the offertory and read. It was a very special Mass and I was very proud to be the head of our school and I give thanks for the support we receive from the parish.

Holy Week at School

As you will know next week is Holy Week - a series of special days when the events leading up to Our Lord's death are commemorated. We will be holding a series of liturgies for our children as we remember Palm Sunday, the washing of the feet, the Last Supper and finally each class will complete their own Stations of the Cross. We hope that you have been able to use the prayer calendar this Lent - or if you haven't yet had the chance maybe commit to trying family prayer just during Holy Week?

Easter Resurrection Garden Festival

Attached to this newsletter is an invite to design and make a miniature Easter Garden to be brought in after Easter. This is something we have done for the past couple of years - so I suppose it is now a St Joseph's custom! Last year we had thirty entries - let's see if we can double this. They will be kept in the Prayer Garden for viewing and to aid our Easter worship. If making a small garden is not your thing then we also have invited religious Easter cards and poems to be sent in for this festival.

Holy Week & Easter at St Joseph's Church

We have sent out details of the Holy Week Services at St Joseph's Church. There is lots going during this liturgically rich season.

Mass for Easter and new school term

You are all invited to a whole school Mass on Friday 20th April, 2pm with Father John. We will be celebrating Easter and the new summer term.

Children's Easter Craft Workshop

Following the children's 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.

Race Night at School

A fantastic night was had by all at the Year 6 parents' Race Night. There was lots of eating, drinking, laughing and shouting (at the horses racing!). The horse Buxton Buckaroo once again won!

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 **£531.20** was raised! This money will go towards leavers' sweatshirts.

Sponsored Bounce

Well done to all our bouncy children who took part in the PTA fundraising today! There were lots of smiles and puffed out children by the end of it. I look forward to letting you know how much was raised after Easter. Thank you to all the adults who came to help to count the bouncing and the money.

Year 5 Leeson House information meeting

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

Caring for our New Forest

This week Sue Palma, who works for the New Forest National Park, returned to St Joseph's, holding workshops for our younger children. Sue presented an assembly on the theme of 'Plastic Planet', all about how plastic litter in the Forest can end up in the sea. Following the assembly, Ducklings enjoyed a workshop looking at cuddly toy animals and thinking about how the litter affects them. Year 2 were given an activity sorting out recyclable materials from litter which prompted them to think about what they can do to help.

Parents' Evening

It was good to see many of you during our two parents' evenings. If you were unable to make an appointment for these, please can you arrange to see your child's teacher as the home-school link is so important and something that can really make a difference.

Admissions to St Peter's School – Year 5

There will be an information session on Tuesday 8th May, 6pm for all Year 5 parents who are interested in their child applying to St Peter's school for Year 7 (September 2019 entry).

Smoking

Once again we would like to remind you that the entire school site is a **No Smoking zone**. Please note that this rule also applies to E-Vapours, Vapes and E-Cigarettes as well.

PTA Summer Fayre

As you know we no longer have a PTA committee as such, although we do have a small band of dedicated volunteers. So this year we will be holding our summer fayre on a Friday evening, rather than all day Saturday, so scaling down the amount of organisation required. So this year the summer fayre will be on Friday 8th June, 4-7pm. The PTA will still be organising the main attractions, such as BBQ and bouncy castle, while our Year 6 will still be organising and managing their stalls - a real highlight of the event. The PTA still need lots of volunteers for the event - both in setting up stalls throughout the afternoon and for the event itself. If you are able to help please email the school office.

In the meantime please can you consider donating a raffle prize if you are able to, possibly you own a shop, or work for a company that is generous to local causes? Thank you in advance for your support.

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.

Somerford Arc- litter pick

Somerford Arc and McDonalds will be doing a community litter pick on Friday 6th April at 11am – refreshments provided.

Dates for 2018

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	
Friday 20 th April, 2pm	Mass for Easter and new term. Everyone welcome!
Tuesday 8 th May, 6pm	Admissions to St Peter's evening – Yr 5 parents
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 4-7pm	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 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.

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, at 3.15pm. 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-spring term

Parents and family are invited to the following Friday assemblies.

Friday 23 rd March, 2.30pm	Ducklings
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Dates for Friday class assemblies-summer

Families are invited to the following Friday assemblies in the summer term.

Friday 27 th April, 2.30pm	Year 4
Friday 11 th May, 2.30pm	Year 3
Friday 25 th May, 2.30pm	Year 5
Friday 15 th June, 2.30pm	Year 2
Friday 6 th July, 2.30pm	Ducklings
Friday 13 th July, 2.30pm	Year 1

Sports Update

Netball

Monday 19th March, Year 5 and 6 played against Christchurch Junior School. Trying to continue their success from last year when they beat Mudeford 3-1 away, this was our first home game and we triumphed with an emphatic win, 19-0 - a fantastic achievement! Although I'm not altogether surprised as it was the Feast Day of St Joseph!

Football

On Monday 12th March, Years 5 and 6 played against The Priory. Unfortunately it rained for the whole match but it must have spurred the children on because the children won 9-0.

On Monday 19th March Years 5 and 6 played against Christchurch Junior School in the snow and ice - we anticipated tougher opposition but the team did us proud winning 8-0. Well done!

Year 2 Football Festival

We took 8 children to Highcliffe Secondary School where the sixth form sports leaders organised a football festival for 5 local primary schools. The children were shown a variety of

drills and skills and they played some mini matches at the end. They all had a fantastic time.

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:

Sacrament of Reconciliation- Saturday 24th March 11am

Parents' evening- Tuesday 17th April 7.30pm

Session 7a- Saturday 21st April 9-11am

Session 7b- Saturday 28th April 9-11am

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*

Best wishes

Louise Buxton