



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 4th May 2018

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 17

Dear Parents

Goodbye and thank you Mrs Reeves

Last week Mrs Reeves left the school team as she goes to pastures new, hoping to do lots of travel with her husband in the next couple of years. I would like to thank Mrs Reeves for all her professional knowledge and hard work over the past three-and-a-half years, and look forward to receiving postcards from all around the world.

We welcome Mrs Lithgow as she becomes our new SENCO. Mrs Lithgow has previously been SENCO at a large Catholic school and is very much looking forward to meeting parents and getting to know our children.

First Holy Communion

We wish all our First Holy Communion children all the best as they reach the final week of preparation. I look forward to joining them at their Mass next weekend.

Rosary Club

Throughout the month of May we remember how special Mary our Mother is. Currently we are holding a Rosary Club at lunchtime in our Prayer Garden - something that seems quite popular with the children and something I enjoy doing with them.

Ducklings sing up!

This morning our Ducklings are visiting Christchurch Junior School joining in a local singing festival. Their rendition of "Help! I need someone" by The Beatles is something quite special to experience! Well done Ducklings!

Action needed: New GDPR rules

As many of you will be aware, we have new data protection legislation starting in May. Schools are reviewing the way in which they collect, store and handle personal data and as part of this we have reviewed our photographic images consent form and sent it out last week. If you haven't already done so, please can you tick the boxes that show your preferences with regards to photos/videos and just as importantly complete the section with your name, signature and date and return to the

school office as soon as possible. Please remember even if you grant permission for photos now it is your legal right to change your mind at any point and this can be done as simply as popping into the office.

Sponsored Bounce

Well done to all our bouncy children who took part in the PTA fundraising. We raised £1,372 some of which I've already spent on crafts and party bits for our Royal Wedding Day. Thank you for making the difference.

The Royal Wedding

Last week you received a ParentMail letting you know that on **Friday 18th May**, we will be joining in the spirit of national celebration for the Royal Wedding by holding our own Party Day at St Joseph's.

We invite all our children to come dressed in red, white and/or blue. The children will be enjoying a range of art and craft activities throughout the day, along with learning about our rich heritage, British Values and some of our national traditions. At lunchtime, we hope to hold a street party so we are inviting you to join us with your picnic lunch from 12 noon to 1pm if the weather allows us. Picnic rugs and deck chairs will be required and we need to remember the school's no nuts policy. If it rains we may have to cancel this outdoor lunch invitation.

If you are unable to make this maybe your child can decorate their lunchbox and have an extra treat inside. If you have already booked a hot lunch for this day, your child will now be provided with an Away Day lunch bag, or you can contact Chartwells to cancel the meal for this day.

Please remember year 5 will be returning from Leeson House later that afternoon. I apologise that they will miss this event. We will still ensure they take part in any special activities the following week.

We hope to give our children a memorable day so please put this date in your diary, find your patriotic colours and know that we will be taking part in the country's celebrations.

School Uniform

Our school uniform supplier, Qdos can be contacted on 01202 434233 or 07971 309826 or emailed at enquiries@qdosclothing.co.uk. Qdos now have a supply of summer dresses, with the majority of sizes priced at £11.00 and larger sizes aged 10-11 costing £12 each. We also have a few second hand summer dresses held by the PTA. Please come to the school office if you would like to look at them and make a donation.

Scooter reminder

When I come in early morning I notice scooters have been left overnight in the playground by the racks. This concerns me for two reasons: firstly that your child's scooter may be stolen, and secondly it is attracting unwanted attention to the school and its property. Please remember to take all scooters and bikes home at the end of every day, ensuring they are wheeled out and not ridden out of the playground. Many thanks.

Summer uniform

Children are now expected to wear summer uniform:

Boys:

Mid-blue (sky blue) short-sleeved cellular cotton polo shirt, grey shorts.

Girls:

Light blue striped dress (obtainable from our uniform supplier Qdos, Barretts, Marks & Spencer and other stores).

We ask that shoes are black, brown or blue and of a sensible style for school, preferably not open-toed or sling-backed, for safety reasons. Thank you for ensuring that hairbands are plain, dark and suitable for school.

Sports Day

Sports Day is Thursday 14th June with KS1 (Ducklings, Years 1 and 2) events starting at 9.20am and KS2 (Years 3-6) events starting at 1.30pm. Should we need to cancel due to the weather the reserve day will be Tuesday 19th June. Please can you ensure that your child has a T-shirt in the colour of their house team:-

St Mark's – yellow

St Luke's – blue

St John's – green

St Matthew's – red

Social Networking Sites

As we enter the season of fayres, sports days and school leavers' events, can I remind everyone that while the school allows you to photograph your own children, permission must be obtained from the parents of anyone else who happens to be in the photo before they are placed on any social networking sites.

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.

Class Representatives:

Ducklings: Marie Delgado & Deborah Knights
Year 1: Paula Harrison & Tish Dauncey; **Year 2:** Katya Benedetto; **Year 3:** Kate Aimson & Eve Holmes; **Year 4:** Dee Kenny; **Year 5:** Emma Piper & Lorraine Walters; **Year 6:** Jen Leonard & Dee Kenny;

There will be a Mufti Day on Tuesday 5th June in return for Summer Fayre donations. Our suggestions for donations are:

Ducklings: Homemade or boxed cakes to come in on the morning of 8th June;

Year 1: Children's Tombola Unisex Pocket Money Toys (approx. value £1-2);

Years 2 & 3: Bagged or wrapped sweets (no chocolate please);

Years 4, 5 & 6: Bottles for the Tombola.

All year groups: Nearly new books and toys suitable for all ages 4-11. If bringing games and puzzles please ensure that there are no missing pieces. Please bring in on the mornings of the week commencing 5th June. Thank you.

PTA Events

Our next meeting is Wednesday 16th May 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.

School payments – download the App

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.

Dates for 2018

Tuesday 8 th May, 6pm	St Peter's admissions evening for Year 5 parents, our school hall.
Friday 11 th May, 3.15pm	Year 6 Cake Sale
Saturday 12 th May	First Holy Communion at St Joseph's
Week beginning Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs (tests)
Wednesday 16 th May, 7pm	PTA Meeting, all welcome
16 th – 18 th May	Year 5 Leeson House residential visit
Friday 18 th May	Royal Wedding celebration day
Week beginning 21 st May	Year 6 Avon Tyrell residential visit
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
Thursday 14 th June	Sports Day KS1 9.20am KS2 1.30pm
Tuesday 19 th June	Reserve Sports Day – as above
Wednesday 20 th June	Year 3 Trip to Winchester Science Museum
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
Wednesday 4 th July	Secondary transfer day- Year 6
Thursday 12 th July, 2pm and 7pm	Leavers' Play
Tuesday 17 th July, 7pm	Leavers' Mass at Church
Friday 20 th July, 2pm	Leavers' Assembly
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
Friday 21 st September	Inset Day - school closed to children

Request from a couple of parents with push-chairs

A couple of our parents have recently found it difficult to get their prams through 'chatting parents' to get to Ducklings. Can I ask you to wait behind the white line on the playground

before the children come out, so allowing push-chairs and toddlers on their bikes through. Thank you.

Year 6 Cake Sale

On Friday 11th May our Year 6 will be holding a cake sale after school to raise money towards their leavers' hoodies.

Before the start of the school day

I believe a couple of children have been going to Waterman's Park when being dropped off at the beginning of the day rather than coming into the playground. While recognising that it is parents who are responsible for their children before we open the door at 8.45am, I still feel uncomfortable about our children being in the park unaccompanied. I suspect that the parents are unaware that they are even doing this. We have reminded the children about keeping safe and we ask you to do the same.

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.

Inset Day- academic year 2018-19

Friday 21st September is the first of our Inset Days for 2018-19.

Term dates for this year, and the following two academic years are available on our website.

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).

End of day Trim Trail

Over the past week I keep finding myself asking children to come off the Trim Trail, both my own pupils and younger siblings. I have reminded all the children they are not to use the Trim Trail at the end of the school day and ask them to remind whoever is collecting them that the Trim Trail is off limits to all. I can't guarantee having a first aider on site at the end of the day and even when the children use the Trim Trail during the day it is always supervised by school staff.

Sports Update

On Monday 30th April we took part in a Netball Tournament at The Grange School. There were six schools altogether and we are proud to say we were unbeaten winning 4 games and drawing one, so we were equal first but Highcliffe won the tournament as they scored more goals overall. Congratulations for a fantastic team effort to Emily, Emma, Lucy, Mariah, Daisy W, Grace and Mariella. A big thanks to Rachel for doing a brilliant job coaching the team.

Dates for Year 6

Year 6 SATs

These will be held week commencing 14th May. A timetable for this week was given out at the SATs information evening. Please ask the teachers for another if required.

Year 6 Trip to Avon Tyrell

Leaving Monday 21st May and returning Friday morning, 25th May.

Secondary School Transfer Day

This will be held on Wednesday 4th July for our Year 6 children who are going to St Peter's, Highcliffe, the grammar schools or Twynham School.

Leavers' Mass

Year 6 parents and family are invited to the Leavers' Mass at St Joseph's Church, 7pm Tuesday 17th July with refreshments afterwards in the parish centre.

Leavers' Play

Year 6 will be performing their play Thursday 12th July 2pm and 7pm to which Year 6 parents, family and friends are invited too.

Leavers' Assembly

Year 6 parents are invited to the Leavers' assembly 2pm, Friday 20th July

Dates for Friday class assemblies-summer

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

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

First Holy Communion

Dates are as follows:

Rehearsal – Thursday 10th May 6-7pm

First Holy Communion - Saturday 12th May

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

Wishing you a lovely bank holiday weekend and look forward to seeing the children back on Tuesday 8th May.

Louise Buxton