



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 6th July 2018

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 21

Dear Parents

Thank you Father John

Thank you Father John for celebrating Mass for our Year 3 Holy Communicants. Once again sorry for any inconvenience caused with us cancelling the Mass for the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul last week. Thank you also to anyone who was able to join us for any of our celebrations this year. It is what makes us a school family.

As many of you know Father John is being moved by the bishop to take up the role of leading vocation in the diocese, encouraging people to take up the priesthood, and Holy Orders. He will be moving to Fareham parish in September. Even though he has only been with us for 8 months his enthusiasm for making worship accessible for the children and memorable has been much appreciated. We will also miss Mrs Ryan whose support has been invaluable too.

Alice in Wonderland Production

Last week our children enjoyed a live performance of 'Alice in Wonderland' by M&M Theatrical Productions. Live theatre is such a wonderful art form and I think essential as part of a full education. The children said this about the play... Thomas said: *"I really enjoyed the play. My favourite part was when everyone was singing 'an unhappy birthday to you.'"*

Anthony said: *"I enjoyed when everyone shouted out at one of the characters."*

Bruno said: *"I really enjoyed when Alice was growing and shrinking."*

Matilda said: *"I really enjoyed the whole play."*

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who has supported us with the Book Fayre. I hope the children enjoy their new books and it looks like we've raised a nice amount towards buying new books for our library.

Review Morning

All parents are invited into school on Friday 13th July, 9am-11.30am to review their child's work.

Parents will go into class to collect their child and their work tray and are invited to sit anywhere in the school, perhaps even on the field if nice, so your child can share their learning. School reports can be collected on your way out of review morning or from the class teacher at the end of the school day. We have made a change in our procedure due to GDPR.

Year Five Concert at The Priory

Once again I was very proud of our children as I attended the now annual concert of The Priory, where local schools come together. Our Year Five sang 'Supermarket Flowers' by Ed Sheeran by themselves and songs from the very popular film 'The Greatest Showman' with the rest of the school. They were fantastic.

Year Two Local Art Workshop

Some of our more able artists in Year Two attended an art workshop held at Christchurch Infant School. The children produced their own amazing canvases and made a beautiful piece of artwork as a team created from natural materials. This hanging artwork is now pride of place in my office!

Year One visit Longdown Activity Farm

Last week, Year One visited Longdown Activity Farm as part of their science project. While at the farm they participated in a range of hands-on experiences with a variety of animals including cows, horses, chickens, pigs and bottle feeding goats. Kerry, the guide, said the Year 1 children were fantastic farmers and we were very proud of how well behaved they were. Thank you to the teachers for organising this trip and to all those who helped.

Mini Vinnies - Day of Reflection

Miss Thomas took four of our Mini Vinnies - Ella, Isla, Alex and Nahla - for a day of reflection with other Mini Vinnies from local Catholic schools. They had a to give a short speech about the work that they do in school and then worked with the other children doing many different activities throughout the day, ending with a short liturgy in St. Mary's Church. The children came away very enthusiastic and full of ideas for next year.

Year 5 Science Project

Our Year 5 has been working on a science project with Mrs Walls through the STEM initiative (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). The children have trialled a STEM scheme of work, which has involved carrying out experiments, writing evaluations, creating their own working 'chain reaction' models at home and then working together at science club to upscale their ideas into one large model. The project culminated with a group of us taking this upscaled model to an inter schools event in Salisbury on Tuesday. We had to work with the other schools to join our models to create a giant chain reaction that filled the whole sports hall. This was then set off in the afternoon and it was really exciting to see all our hard work come together. We had to take a portfolio of work, photos and comments that STEM will use to improve science teaching across primary schools. Some of the children's comments were ... 'It's educational, fun and creative' ... 'We can actually witness forces happening'... 'We're questioning and challenging each other' ... 'It makes science fun' ... 'This morning I was so excited for school'.

Our Annual summer Family Project

As many of you know we try to set an annual summer project for families to complete. In the past we've done 'Book Trails', a photographic competition and match box challenge. This year we are setting you an 'Active Summer Challenge' where we challenge our children, and even you, to be active and try something different – recording your success in our booklets which will be returned in September for celebration of participation.

Violin Concert

Thank you to all the children who played at our violin concert last week and to Mrs Clark for all her hard work and never giving up - even when a child hasn't practised! We were proud of each child as it does take a lot to perform in front of so many people.

Christchurch Sports Awards

Last Monday three of our pupils received awards for their contribution towards to sport, as decided by the teachers.

Mariah (Year 6) – Dedication to running

Riley (Year 6) – Sports Leadership, football and all-round athlete

Charlie S (Year 6) – Sports Leadership, football and all-round athlete

Well done children on your efforts and perseverance. I know I keep saying it but I am very proud of the accomplishments of our children.

Attendance Update

The attendance figures for the school year so far from September up to last week are as follows:-

Ducklings	96.17%
Year 1	96.23%
Year 2	96.36%
Year 3	95.5%
Year 4	97.53%
Year 5	95.8%
Year 6	96.74%

Year 4 are ahead at the moment – who will come out on top by the end of term?!

Alpha Course

Ever wondered what life is all about...?! ALPHA is a course that explores the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. To find out more about the course there is an Alpha Taster Session on Tuesday 11th September, 7.15-9.15pm at St Joseph's Church, Purewell. If you would like to attend please email alphaavonstour@gmail.com for catering purposes.

Volunteering at St. Joseph's- can you help?

Mr Curran writes;

Consideration of others beyond the school gates is a key part of our St. Josepharian make-up and service to God. We achieve this through fundraising for local and wider causes which give us purpose. A display board in the school reception area proudly shows off what we have done for those less fortunate than ourselves. Learning about the needs of others provides an understanding of what we have to give and how our gifts and talents enable us to serve others. The Mini Vinnies (an extension of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Church) serve our school proudly and make some key decisions about school life.

One thing our children often tell us is how they love reading to adults, both at home and at school. If you, or someone you know, would be able to join us on a regular basis to hear children read, or to help in any way possible, please contact me.

A regular commitment is important as this helps planning, although it is unlikely that we will ever reject any offer of help! All adults working in school are required to complete a Disclosure Barring Check (DBS), formerly Criminal Records Bureau form, as this is a voluntary position there is no charge for this. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to the school. Your time can really make a difference.

School lunch costs

There will be a small cost increase in hot school lunches to £2.20, an increase of 5p, which is less than what Chartwells' increase for us is. This is from September.

Summer Library Reading Challenge 2018 'Mischief Makers'

Last year over 8,000 Dorset children aged 4- 12 years participated in the Summer Reading Challenge, which is run annually by libraries. This year's challenge, 'Mischief Makers' celebrates the 80th anniversary of the Beano comic. Children taking part will follow clues to explore their map of Beano Town. As they read library books they will collect special stickers to help them find the mysterious buried treasure. You can join the challenge from July 7th until 8th September simply by filling in a registration card and collecting a fold out poster. The website www.mishchief-makers.org.uk offers a range of information, useful links and activities.

School Library Book Returns

A gentle reminder for all school books to be returned by the end of term. Please look under the beds, in the wardrobes and in all those other special places things disappear to!

School Uniform

Our school uniform supplier, Qdos can be contacted on 01202 434233 or 07971 309826 or emailed at enquiries@qdosclothing.co.uk.

General Data Protection Regulation

Should you have any questions with regards to personal information, please see Miss Buxton.

Sports Events

Multi-Sports

We took 8 children from Years 5 & 6 to a Multi Sports event at The Grange. They played handball, basketball and tried out curling.

Rounders

We took 9 children from Year 6 to a rounders competition at The Grange School where they played to secondary school rules. Overall, St Joseph's lost by half a rounder but the P.E. teacher from The Grange commented about the high standard from all the teams.

Sports Leaders

On Monday, Dan Moody came into school to present our Sports Leaders with their medals. The Year 5 Sports Leaders received their 1 Star badges and the Year 6 Sports Leaders received their 3 Star badges. Well done everyone!

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.

Class Representatives:

Ducklings: Marie Delgado & Deborah Knights
Year 1: Paula Harrison; **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;

PTA Events

Our next meeting is Tuesday 11th September, 7pm when we are planning future events such as our Family Christmas Fayre. Please consider popping along and joining the group- we are very friendly!

The annual PTA AGM will be held Tuesday 9th October, 7pm when a new committee come forward. Please consider becoming part of this as last year only a few people were left to run the PTA. *Many hands make light work!*

Tuesday 10 th July and Tuesday 12 th July, 3.40-6.30pm	Year 1 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 11 th July, 7pm	Leavers' Play
Thursday 12 th July, 2pm	Leavers' Play
Friday 13 th July, 9-11.30am	Review Morning – all parents invited to come in and review their child's learning
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 7 th September, 2pm	Mass celebrating the new school year. All welcome
Tuesday 11 th September, 7pm	PTA Meeting. All welcome
Friday 21 st September	Inset Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 9 th October, 7pm	PTA AGM. All welcome

School Closure - Inset Days

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.

Dates for Year 6

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 Wednesday 11th July at 7pm and Thursday 12th July at 2pm 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 13 th July, 2.30pm	Year 1
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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