



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 5th October 2018

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 3

Dear Parents

Results - Year 6

Following confirmation of our final results we want to share our end of key stage 2 achievements. We are very proud of our children who worked hard throughout their time at St Joseph's. I would also like to thank all the staff for the effort they make for each child as they journey through the school - ensuring all are able to achieve their best and for us to be able to share such results.

National comparison in brackets. ARE is Age Related Expectation, meaning the expected standard. GD is the higher standard of Greater Depth.

Key Stage 2	% achieving the expected standard and above	% achieving the higher than expected standard (GD)	Difference between school and national		Progress measure
			ARE	GD	
Reading	91% (75%)	40% (19%)	+16%	+21%	+3.4
Writing	89% (78%)	29% (18%)	+11%	+11%	+2.1
Grammar & spelling	100% (78%)	89% (23%)	+22%	+66%	
Maths	94% (76%)	52% (17%)	+18%	+35%	+5.5
RWM combined	83% (64%)	23% (no data)	+19%		

Fire Education

Fire Officer John Sweet came in to speak with key year groups about a variety of fire safety issues, ranging from the impact of hoax calls, the need for families to have escape plans and how to spot danger in the home. He also spent time in Year One telling them about the Great Fire of London - one of their history topics.

Life Education Bus

Harold the Giraffe returned this year with the Life Education Bus. The children learnt about aspects of personal and health education - such an important part of their learning.

Bikeability - Year 5

Our Year 5 completed their Level 1 Bikeability over the past weeks. They have been learning

the ABC of ensuring their bike is ready; Air Brakes and Chain. They have been practising also signalling for when they go out on the road next Spring.

Diocesan Building Fund

All diocesan schools have to fund 10% of the cost of their building projects. Contributing to this fund helps us to ensure we can provide the best possible buildings for our children in the future. We have really benefited from this fund in the past few years and so we ask you to support this. If you have not yet taken up the invitation to make a donation please would you consider doing so? A letter will be sent out from the governors next week detailing how this payment can be made. Thank you to everyone who already contributes – it really makes a difference.

Phonics 'Stay and Play'

We look forward to welcoming Ducklings to our 'Stay and Play' sessions on at 9.10am Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th October.

Harvest Festival

This year, while we let Father John Chadwick settle into his role, we will be holding a Harvest Festival just for the children in school on Friday 5th October. We want to continue to support the Christchurch Food Bank which supports many families in the area. They have asked if we could provide donations of tinned carrots, tinned fruit and tins of soup.

House Captains

Last week a number of Year 6 children put themselves forward to be house captains. Following an assembly on the importance of democracy the candidates had to speak to those in their house, explaining why they thought they would be suitable for the role. Then all children made their vote, using voting slips and ballot boxes. We were really impressed with how some of the children prepared their presentation. I am pleased to announce the results are as follows:

St. Matthew – Ella and Leo
St. Mark – Alex and Hughie
St. Luke – Oscar and Katelyn
St. John – Katherine and Gabriel

Parents' Evening

It was good to see the vast majority of our parents this week at parents' evening. I hope you found the discussions useful. If you were not able to attend these please can you make a separate appointment to see your child's teacher. It is so important that we work in partnership and it means so much to your child.

Attendance

This time last year the attendance for September was 96.93%. The percentage attendance figure this September is slightly higher at 97.33%. Often there is correlation between low school attendance and poor academic performance. All children are closely monitored on this and I write to all parents whose child's attendance drops below 90% to highlight our concern and request a meeting should attendance not improve as 90% attendance is equivalent to missing half a day each week.

After School Clubs

Attached is a list of after-school clubs which are held at the school. This list is also available on the website.

St Joseph's Church Christmas Bazaar

St Joseph's Church is holding a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 17th November from 11am - 2pm at The Immaculate Conception & St Joseph's Church, Purewell, Christchurch BH23 1EH. There will be a wide variety of stalls including cakes, refreshments and lunches. If you are able to donate any nearly new toys for the Christmas Bazaar please take them along to Sunday mass.

Sports Premium

As you know we will be in our fifth year of receiving money for sports and P.E. development. We will be continuing to work with Rachel Cocking from Christchurch Tennis Facility. She will be coaching teachers with their PE lessons and pupils in their learning. Twice a week Rachel's coaches run our active lunchtimes. We are also working with Dan Moody from The Grange School and with the other Christchurch schools on training, leagues and events for our children to take part in. Let's hope we continue to bring home a few trophies!

Girls' Football

The Girls' Football tournament was held on Thursday 4th October at Christchurch Junior School. Five schools attended and St Joseph's started with a goalless draw against Highcliffe but went on to win the next three games against Mundeford, Priory and Christchurch Junior School, and won the overall tournament. Well done girls!

General Data Protection Regulation

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

PTA Events

Why not join us for the AGM on Tuesday 9th October, 7pm? Please consider joining the team - even if for just one year. Without anyone stepping up we won't have a PTA committee this year. If you would like to take on a role please use the nomination form that came home with your child or just turn up on the evening.

Please take a look at our school website: www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk to see our Q&A on what the AGM involves.

St Joseph's Admissions 2019

Mrs Hincks, Chair of Governors, writes:

Application websites are now open for children due to start primary school in September 2019 with a closing date of 15th January 2018. The national offer date is 16th April 2019. Remember to apply to your home Local Authority even if a school for which you wish to apply is in another area.

Also make sure that you carefully read the instructions beforehand. Paper application forms are available from your LA on request. Supplementary Information forms (SIFs) for St. Joseph's School are available from the office and should be submitted directly to the school by the same closing date.

St. Joseph's School was established to cater for the Parishes of St. Joseph Christchurch, Holy Redeemer Highcliffe and Our Lady of Lourdes New Milton. The head teacher – Miss Buxton – welcomes visits throughout this term and will show you around the school and discuss your child's specific needs. Please phone the school office on 01202 485976 for an appointment.

Mrs Hincks, Chair of Governors

Secondary School Admissions 2019

Year 6 parents will have received a letter from Dorset County Council regarding the transfer to secondary schools in 2019. The Parents Guide explaining the process and the application form is available on www.dorsetforyou.com, where you will be able to apply online or download paper copies to print. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2018, with the offer date being 1st March 2019.

Please contact the school office if you do not have internet access and we will supply you with a paper copy of the application form or give you access to one of our computers. Secondary schools in the area have Open Days/Evenings scheduled – check the local press for details or approach the school(s) you have in mind.

School photographer

Family and individual photos will be taken in school on Friday 19th October. If you would like a sibling, who has yet to start school, to be included please come to the school hall from 8.30am.

Annual Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Remember, this year's shoebox appeal closes Monday 19th November.

This appeal involves families putting together gifts for either a girl or a boy in a shoebox. These are then sent just before Christmas as a gift of our love to a child in a developing or war-torn country. The Christmas Box Appeal asks for a donation of £3.00 to be placed with each box to aid operational costs. We have always been amazed at the generosity of our families in the appeal over the past years.

Cool Milk

If you would like your child to receive a daily carton of milk then think about registering with Cool Milk. Have a look at their website www.coolmilk.com for details of costs and how to register.

Mary – Untier of Knots

October is the month when we think about Mary, Mother of Christ. One of the titles of Mary is Untier of Knots. During this month, all of the children and staff will be tying a ribbon on the fence by the cross of life to ask Mary to help us with any knots in our lives. If parents would like to tie a ribbon to the fence, please come to the office and get a ribbon.

Mini Vinnies

Ella, Year 6 Mini Vinnie, writes:

Last week, we had a meeting with Dorset Council. They have been given £1 million to improve the playparks in Christchurch and wanted our input. We discussed what is important to us in a playpark, before designing our own parks. Thank you to Dorset Council for giving us that opportunity. As Mini Vinnies, we then discussed our plans for the rest of the term.

School Closure - Inset Days

The next inset will be Monday 25th February immediately following February half term.

Please note the final inset days will be Monday 22nd July and Tuesday 23rd July and so the last day of the school year will be Friday 19th July 2019. Please can all family holidays be booked accordingly.

All term dates for this year and next academic year, 2019-20 are on our website to aid planning of family holidays.

Dates for 2018-19

Tuesday 9 th October, 7pm	PTA AGM. All welcome
Tuesday 16 th and Thursday 18 th October, 9.10 - 10am	Ducklings Phonic <i>Stay and Plays</i>
Friday 19 th October	School photos- Family/ siblings 8.30am
Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October (inclusive) Autumn Half-Term	
Wednesday 31 st October	Final Secondary Admission Application date
Monday 19 th November	Final date for Christmas Shoe Box Appeal returns
Friday 30 th November 5-7.30pm	PTA Family Christmas Fayre
Thursday 6 th December	PTA Christmas Disco KS1 4-5pm KS2 5.15-6.45pm
Wednesday 12 th December, 7pm	School Advent Service at Church – led by Years 5 and 6- all welcome
Wednesday 19 th December, 2pm	Ducklings to Year 4 Christmas Play
Thursday 20 th December, 2pm and 6.30pm	Ducklings to Year 4 Christmas Play
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Party Day Mufti
Monday 24th December- Friday 4th January (inclusive) Christmas Holiday	
Tuesday 15 th January	Final Primary Admission Application date
Monday 25 th February 2019	Inset Day 2 – school closed to all pupils
Friday 19 th July	Final day of school year for children
Monday 22 nd July 2019	Inset Day 4 – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 23 rd July 2019	Inset Day 5 – school closed to pupils

Weekend Mass Times - please note changes

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