



# School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dorset Road  
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 4

Dear Parents

## Fire Education

Following our visit earlier in the month from Fire Officer John Sweet, who came to talk to key year groups about fire safety, we are excited to hear that a fire engine will be visiting the school on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

## Phonics 'Stay and Play'

Thank you to all the parents who were able to make our Ducklings 'Stay and Play' phonic sessions. We hope you found it useful.

## Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who donated tinned food for our harvest festival donation to the Christchurch Food Bank. They were very grateful.

## Sports Update

### Football (girls)

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October we went to Mudeford Junior School for the girls' football tournament. There were 6 schools attending and we won three, drew 1 and lost to the eventual winners Mudeford Junior School. Well done to all the girls that took part and it was great to see Twynham Primary School entering their first tournament as they have now reached Year 5.

## Enterprise Day (Year 5)

Year 5 had a fantastic Enterprise day yesterday. The whole day was based around the children designing their own animal park. The children worked in groups to design a park, make an animal mask, create an animal adoption pack, make a cocktail for their park and present their park to the rest of the class. Year 5 had such fun and learnt a lot. Thank you very much to the adults from SAMEE charity and Sovereign Housing for the day that they prepared.

## Mass for All Saints

Father John will be coming to say Mass at 2.15pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November for the Feast of All Saints. He has suggested the Mass is kept very simple with adult readers and just two hymns. All are welcome.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have a concern about a family you know, for example someone in your neighbourhood, you can phone the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 228866. All the school's safeguarding related policies and procedures can be found in the safeguarding section on our website, or a copy can be obtained from the school office.

## Important reminder – inhalers

If your child uses an inhaler at school please ensure that you have returned the parental agreement form which was sent home at the end of the Summer term. The school also has an Emergency Inhaler for which we require a separate permission form (this is for use if your child's inhaler is empty or left at home). Please return both forms to the office as soon as possible. Just a reminder that it is the responsibility of parents to check expiry dates on inhalers and that they are clearly named.

## Poppies for sale

As always on our return from Half Term we will be selling poppies to aid the work of the Royal British Legion. Poppies are £1, while we also have friendship bracelets, slap rulers and LED torches all again for £1. Wrist bands and reflectors are 50p. These will also be on sale but each year they go very quickly. Year 6 will go around each class during the school day – please can children bring in correct change. As always we will be holding a small remembrance service with the children where we remember those who have died for their country and pray for peace.

## Changes to your child's end of day collection

Something that links to safeguarding and that we like to remind you about at this stage of the school year is that we need you to let us know by 2.45pm if there are any changes to the usual end of day collection for your child. It is very embarrassing having to tell a parent or family member that we don't have permission to release your child. A verbal message on the door in the

morning will suffice, or call the office. Many thanks for your support with this.

### Ducklings Welcome Liturgy

All new Duckling parents and family are invited to join us at our welcome liturgy at 9.30am on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Although this is only a short service, it is an important opportunity to centre our thoughts on Christ and our new children, as they join the St Joseph's family.

### Smoking

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. It would also be appreciated if no-one smoked around the school gates as it is not nice for a child to have to walk through clouds of smoke.

### Buxton Best Break

Each class teacher has chosen two children, who show good behaviour and do as they are asked to have an additional break with me over at Waterman's Park. Well done to the following children for being shining examples of how to behave:

Ducklings	Katie	Conor
Year 1	Harvey	Amelia
Year 2	Mayley-Ann	Eddie
Year 3	Ian	Magda
Year 4	Joseph	Ellis
Year 5	Mya	James
Year 6	Gabriel	Bethany

### House Points

Congratulations to St Mark's house who won last half term's house point competition.

- 1<sup>st</sup> – St. Mark's – 570
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – St. Luke's – 532
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – St. Matthew's – 524
- 4<sup>th</sup> – St. John's – 504

### Routes into Teaching

Are you interested in becoming a primary school teacher? Do you already have a degree?

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November St Walburga's are hosting an Open morning run by the Primary Catholic Partnership and the Catholic Teaching Schools Alliance. It will be an opportunity to hear about different routes into teaching, meet the trainers and meet some students who are currently on the PGCE course and the Schools Direct course. You will also meet some of our staff who trained through these routes! The Open Day will take place between 9.30 and 11.30. If you would like to come along, please contact the school office on 01202 528811 to let them know.

### General Data Protection Regulation

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

### PTA Events

Our AGM was held last week. Thank you to everyone who came to support the PTA. I would like to thank everyone who came and especially those who made a significant contribution including Mrs Piper and Mrs Gillard and all the class representatives.

We discussed the Christmas Fayre which will be held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. We have already sent out a request for brand new unwanted gifts for the 'Secret Santa Room'. We will have a multi-day on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November in return for donations from each class. Our requests have been sent out by ParentMail.

Our next PTA meeting is Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm. We will be discussing the School Disco which will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December. We are looking for volunteers to help at both the KS1 and KS2 discos so please let the school office know if you can offer a helping hand. Our Christmas Party Day will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December when Father Christmas will visit the school and surprise the children with a little gift each to take home. We are always looking for more helping hands on the PTA so we welcome any offers of help for our events. The little extras from the PTA make all the difference to the children.

### St Joseph's Admissions 2019

Mrs Hincks, Chair of Governors, writes:

Application web sites are now open for children due to start primary school in September 2019 with a closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The national offer date is 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Secondary School Admissions 2019

The Parents Guide explaining the process and the application form is available on [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com), you will be able to apply online or download paper copies to print. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018, with the offer date being 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

## School photographer

Family and individual photos were taken in school today. The school office will keep you informed of official dates for ordering.

## World Book Day Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

As many of you know we celebrate alternate World Book Days by inviting the children to come dressed as their favourite book character. I want to give you advance notice that this will be Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 - and so hopefully alleviate the stress of you having to find something last minute!!!!

## Attendance

When visiting another school recently I saw some interesting facts on a poster. If at the end of the year your attendance is the following percentage then it details the amount of learning lost.

%	Days/ weeks missed	Lessons missed
100%	0 days	0 lessons
99%	1 day	5 lessons
97%	1 week	25 lessons
96%	1.5 weeks	35 lessons
93%	2.5 weeks	50 lessons
90%	3.5 weeks	90 lessons

Hence I write to anyone with attendance below 90% and follow up with a meeting if things don't improve. If our children are going to maximise their potential they need to be in school learning.

## Annual Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Remember, this year's shoebox appeal closes Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

This appeal involves families putting together gifts for either a girl or 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 charity asks for a donation of £3.00 to be placed with each box to aid operational costs. We have been amazed at the generosity of our families in the appeal over the past years. We thank you in advance for supporting this appeal.

## 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](http://www.coolmilk.com) for details of costs and how to register. School milk is free to children under the age of five or children entitled to free school meals. It is subsidised for all other children in primary education.

## School Closure – Inset Days

The next inset will be Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January immediately following the Christmas break. The following inset day will be Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February immediately following February half term. Please note the final inset days will be Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July and so the last day of the school year will be Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Dates for 2018-19

<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October (inclusive) Autumn Half-Term</b>	
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am	Ducklings Liturgy. All Ducklings parents welcome.
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October, 7pm	PTA meeting. All welcome!
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Final Secondary Admission Application date
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2.15pm	All Saints Mass. All welcome.
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 1am – 2pm	Parish Winter Fayre at church
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Final date for Christmas Shoe Box Appeal returns
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Non-uniform day for PTA Christmas Fayre goods
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 5-7.30pm	PTA Family Christmas Fayre
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Christmas Disco KS1 4-4.45pm KS2 5.15-6.45pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December, 7pm	School Advent Service at Church – led by Years 5 and 6- all welcome
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December, 2pm	Ducklings to Year 4 Christmas Play
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December, 2pm and 6.30pm	Ducklings to Year 4 Christmas Play
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Party Day Mufti
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January (inclusive) Christmas Holiday</b>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Inset Day 2 – school closed to all pupils
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Final Primary Admission Application date
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Inset Day 3 – school closed to all pupils
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day- children dress as book character
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Final day of school year for children
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019	Inset Day 4 – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019	Inset Day 5 – school closed to pupils

**Parish Winter Fayre – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>  
November 11-2pm**

The Immaculate Conception & St Joseph's Church, Purewell are holding their Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 11am-2pm. Come along for the tombola, craft stalls, face painting, cakes, refreshments and the Grand Christmas draw. Come along and support them and our parish.

*ALL ARE WELCOME!*

**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](http://www.avonstourpastoralarea.org)

Best wishes for the half term. We look forward to welcoming the children back Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

***Louise Buxton***