



St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School- Newsletter 8 2019



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term at St Joseph's School. The children have settled back into school routine and the school is once again a purposeful and calm learning environment; after all the excitement at the end of last term. This term is extremely important because after Easter all the statutory tests begin, so we will be really focussing on homework and collecting the relevant information we need for the assessments. Therefore, it is crucial that your child attends school every day so their learning is uninterrupted; it is so unsettling for a child when they have been absent and then return and have to try to pick up the threads of what has been going on. Please be reassured that we will look after your child and if we judge them unwell, we will call to have them picked up.

Another issue causing absences is head lice. They appear to have returned to school after the Christmas holiday. To eradicate these pests it will take a concerted effort from all our parents in checking, combing and tying back hair longer than shoulder length. As a parent, I know that head lice are frustrating, time-consuming and costly, so please can the whole school community check their heads and treat if necessary so we can be nit free.

On a less itchy note, we have lots to look forward to this term and it would be great to see as many parents as possible attending the drop-in and getting involved in the life of the school.



Moses Class won the best attendance prize!

Well done to the parents and children in Moses Class for winning the best attendance for the term. Myla and Mason represented their class and went on Friday with Mrs Kemble to WHSmiths to choose three books for their class. The children started reading them on their return and the choices they made have been popular amongst their classmates. Thank you.

Well done to all the children in Blake House for collecting the MOST house points across the autumn term!

Please pray for the children who have started their Holy Communion preparation in our Parish:

- Aidan Cameron
- Archie Crisp
- Ola Kajdan
- Orla Batih



Faith life - The beginning of term Mass today had a very current affairs theme- Brexit. We all prayed that there would be good and just decisions made for all people in our country.

Thank you to the PTA for providing refreshments.



PTA NEWS

Thank you very much to the PTA helpers who assisted with the setting up and serving the children at the Christmas lunch just before we broke up. All the children enjoyed their lunch and in the afternoon, they were treated to a disco provided by the PTA.

Thank you parents for contributing the items for the lovely hampers that were raffled for PTA funds at the end of the Christmas performances! Well done to the parents who won!

The next PTA meeting will be held at the PRADO LOUNGE in town at 7.30pm this Wednesday 16th January. Miss Butcher will be attending to represent the school. Please come along and get involved.

Storehouse Foodbank- give emergency food bags to families and individuals through a referral system. Those coordinating the project would like to thank all the families at St Joseph's School who kindly donated luxury food items and toiletry gifts for Christmas.

Letter from our MP- Today we received a letter from the **Right Honourable James Cartlidge MP** the Member of Parliament for South Suffolk. He wrote that the improved outcomes for our children at Key Stage 2 must have been down to **our 'dedication and commitment.'** It is always affirming when our achievements are recognised; however, we already knew that the Key Stage 2 team had put in 100% effort to ensure that each child achieved their best results.

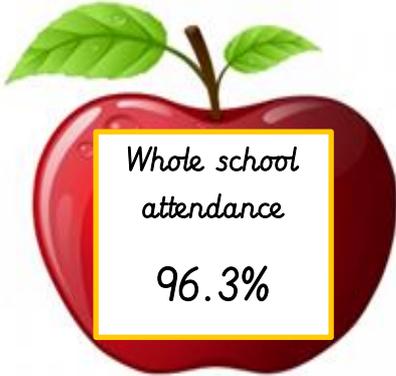
Food Waste- It has been observed by staff that the children are not eating very much at lunchtime and are especially leaving vegetables. Mrs Kemble and I both join the children for lunch across the week and our visitors often eat lunch in school, and we have found them completely edible and enjoyable. However, the children are reluctant to try unfamiliar food and common vegetables. I am concerned that they are not receiving the nutrition they need to be alert during the afternoon sessions and to ensure they thrive emotionally, physically and educationally.



Please try to encourage your child to eat vegetables and to try different types of food. We will be informing you when your child has not eaten their dinner, to help you in choosing what they like to eat in the menu choices.



Staff inform me that some children in school received 'fit bits' for Christmas and have started wearing them to school. The Teachers have found that they are extremely distracting; children are checking their heart rates and calories used during lessons, so not concentrating on their work. These watches are both expensive and relatively fragile and could therefore easily be broken, so please make sure these watches are NOT worn to school. The children are allowed wristwatches.



Whole school attendance

96.3%

Hair Accessories- A reminder that hair accessories should be in school colours, navy, blue/navy gingham, red and be clips hairbands and bobbles.

Please ensure that children are in school every day. We will always do our utmost to look after them and will phone parents if they become unwell at any time during the day. As a school, we do not want to be under 98%! Please help in ensuring that as a school community we meet our target.

Diary Dates

January

- 15th January Mass in school 9.30am
- 16th PTA 7.30pm Prado Lounge Sudbury
- 18th Swimming Gala- chosen children
- 31st January Parish Mass in church 9.30am

February

- 8th County Final Athletics [morning]
- 12th Solomon library visit Sudbury pm
- Tuesday 12th February Abraham to visit Gainsborough House
- 15th February- Half Term

March

- 1st am hockey tournament TGS
- 4th-18th March Learning conversations
- 5th Ash Wednesday Service in school 9.30 am
- 19th March St Joseph's Day Mass 9.30am

April

- 2nd Easter Mass in school
- 4th Easter breakfast in school

Drop-in dates for this term

Class	Dates	Theme
Noah	Tuesday 12 th February 9.00am	Maths Topic Gingerbread Cafe
	Thursday 4 th April 2.30am	Science Space Museum
Moses	Thursday 17 th January 9.00am	English 3 Little Pigs
	Thursday 21 st March 9.00am	Maths- Measuring
Elijah	Thursday 24 th January 9.00am	Maths
	Wednesday 6 th March 9.00am	English
Abraham	Monday 28 th January 2.30pm	Geography
	Tuesday 26 th March 9.30am	Maths
Solomon	Thursday 28 th March 9.00am	Topic project
Samson	Tuesday 5 th February 9.00am	Fractions
	Tuesday 12 th March 9.00am	Comprehension

This year our Holy father Pope Francis has asked us all to strive for peace in our world.

"Today more than ever, our societies need 'artisans of peace' who can be messengers and authentic witnesses of God the Father, who wills the good and the happiness of the human family."

Pope Francis 2019

Mrs Price and all the staff at St Joseph's School