



St. Joseph's Journal

Free! Friday, 27th January 2023

10th Edition

Chinese New Year

We have had another fantastic week at St Joseph's. We started our week by learning all about the Chinese New Year. It is the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit. Our youngest pupils in our Early Years classes have continued this learning journey throughout the week. Children made Chinese lanterns and celebrated Chinese New Year with their very own Dragon dance today.



Working Together - Improving Outcomes

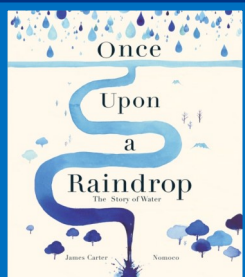
It is well known that the best outcomes for children happen when school and home work closely together. I would like to acknowledge and thank the huge number of our families that support the school. Thank you, this partnership really does have a major impact on your child's progress. You will have read my recent letter on attendance sent home a couple of weeks ago. We have carried out some data analysis on our attendance statistics that make for some stark reading. The number of days missed **ONLY** refers to children that have been taken out of school on holiday (unauthorised). This data is not referring to children who have missed school due to illness or a long awaited hospital appointment. The data outlines how many hours of learning have been missed since September and has been sent to individual year groups for information. These hours equal an awful lot of lost learning for these children. The lessons missed will not be repeated. We have excellent teachers but they can only teach the children who attend. I know this is not the case for the vast majority of our families. Every 20 minute phonics lesson counts. Every maths lesson helps to build your child's confidence with number. Please do not take your child on holiday just because it's cheaper in term time. Their education is priceless. Please do take a moment to read the data for yourselves. Thank you to everyone, visitors, parents and all the staff who have contributed to making this another incredible week at St Joseph's. Have a lovely, well-deserved weekend everyone.

Mrs Walker

Fortnightly Attendance

St A	97%	St B	93%
St C	97%	St D	93%
St E	98%	St F	95%
St Gen	98%	St Geo	95%
St H	94%	St J	98%
St M	95%	St P	92%
St T	96%	St X	99%

Award Winning Poet Visits St Joseph's!



This week we were lucky enough to have a visit from the author and poet, James Carter. He came in to do assemblies with the whole school and poetry workshops with KS2. The children were transfixed and inspired by James' enthusiasm for poetry, linguistics and the texture of words. The impact of James' visit was clearly evident in the jaw dropping writing produced by the children and we ended the fabulous day with performances of their poems, blowing away the staff with some of the best poems that they have heard! A wonderful learning opportunity for all our children. Please feel free to order a copy of one of his books through ParentPay.

FOS Event



Don't forget our fabulous Friends of School (FOS) have organised a Quiz / Social Night next Friday, 3rd February. Doors open at 7pm, with the quiz starting at 7.30pm. There will be drinks, nibbles and prizes. Tickets are £3 and available via ParentPay or on the door on the night. Do come along to what promises to be a fun and very entertaining evening! Please note this is an adult only event.

Foundation Governors

We are delighted to announce the recent addition of two Foundation Governors, Daniela Spagnoli and Amantha Seneviratne. Both have children at the school across years 1-3. They are a very welcome addition to the Governing Body.



Believe · Achieve · Succeed

After School Clubs

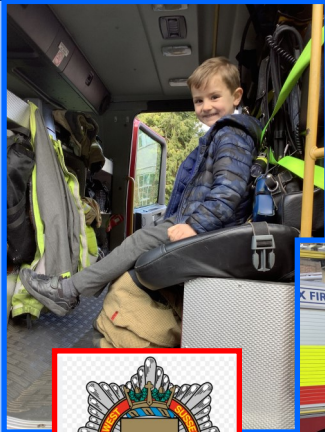
A reminder that after school clubs have started. Please make sure your child has suitable clothing for the club that they are taking part in, particularly clubs held outdoors. These take place whatever the weather, so water proof jackets, layers etc. are highly recommended!



Wet Play Entertainment

We are currently in the process of making up some wet play boxes to entertain the children when the weather is not playing ball, and they have to stay in class at break-times! If you have any unused board games, top trumps cards, playing/Uno cards or arts and crafts, we would be more than happy to take them off your hands!! Please drop them off at the school office - thank you.

Fire Brigade Visit



Over the last couple of weeks we have had two visits from West Sussex Fire & Rescue Brigade to speak to years R, 2 and 5. These safety sessions cover various age appropriate topics including: hazards, calling 999, arson and hoax calls, the science of fire, the role of a fire-fighter to name but a few. The children found the visits both enjoyable and informative - with the fire brigade also having to leave for a short time on blue lights to attend a cooking fire at a house locally.



Reporting Absences

Please can we remind parents that all absence, whether for illness or medical appointments or any other reason, should be reported to the school via Studybugs. Studybugs is a free app and all reported absence goes directly into the register and keeps class teachers informed of the reason for your child's absence. We have a legal duty to ascertain the whereabouts of all children. By reporting all absences, it prevents office staff from having to ring and email parents to find out the reason for them not being at school and avoids unnecessary home visits. Please remember to report absences daily, your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Studybugs +

History
...
.. MATHS ..
Biology

A better, safer way to report when your child is sick and off school.

Moving On

Sultana Yesmin, one of our hardworking lunchtime supervisors has recently bid us farewell. She will now be working as a Care Assistant, we wish her every success in her new role.



Second Hand Uniform

Friends of School (FOS), will have their next second-hand uniform sale on Friday, 3rd March. If you have any outgrown uniform, that is in good condition and clean, it would be very gratefully received - thank you.

Winter Water Safety

Following on from the tragic events in Solihull prior to Christmas, please find a link from the Royal Life Saving Society around winter water safety:

[Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK\)](#)



Spring Term Diary Dates



February

1st Feb - Parent Consultations YR ONLY, booking online

3rd Feb - FOS Social - tickets via ParentPay

8th Feb - Parent Consultations YR ONLY, booking online

10th Feb - Non-Uniform Day

10th Feb - FOS Valentines Cake Sale, St D, St Geo, St P & St X to contribute please

13th-17th Feb - Half Term

20th Feb - Back to School

22nd Feb - Ash Wednesday

22nd Feb - St Helen Class Assembly, 9am

March

1st Mar - St Xavier Class Assembly, 9am

1st-3rd Mar - Hindleap Warren Residential, Year 5

2nd Mar - World Book Day

3rd Mar - Second Hand Uniform Sale

8th Mar - St Theresa Class Assembly, 9am

9th Mar - Year 6 NCT Parent Meeting, 6pm

15th Mar - St Francis Class Assembly, 9am

20th Mar - St Joseph's Day Mass, 1.30pm

22nd Mar - St Elizabeth Class Assembly, 9am

24th Mar - FOS Disco

27th-31st Mar - Spirituality Week

28th Mar - Reports Out Years 1– Year 6

31st Mar - Cake Sale, St A, St H, St M & St T to contribute please

31st Mar - End of Term, normal finish time

**Please note all dates and events are subject to change.
Dates are also available to view on the St Joseph's website calendar.**