



# St. Joseph's Journal

Free! Friday, 6th October 2023

3rd Edition

## Anti Bullying Ambassadors

Some young people experience bullying behaviours in their every day lives. They often don't speak out about it because they are scared of what might happen or they are unsure about who to tell or how to report it. At St Joseph's we want to ensure children feel secure and confident about speaking out about bullying. This term we have launched our very own Anti Bullying Ambassadors. These are pupils who have applied for this very important role. Our ABA team will be the eyes and ears of all our pupils and will help promote anti bullying across the school. They will meet regularly with Mrs Walker and members of the teaching team to discuss their ideas and give feedback from pupils on



all matters related to bullying. We firmly believe in the power of 'pupil voice' at St Joseph's. There is real strength in hearing pupil's opinions and ideas that can really help to shape their school. We want to show young people that they deserve to be heard and that help and support is available. Our Anti Bullying Ambassadors will be designing a pupil questionnaire as part of their training this term. We look forward to sharing more news from our Anti Bullying Ambassadors over the coming weeks.

## New Co-Chairs of Governors

St Joseph's Local Governing Committee have new chairs. Teresa Barnard and Helen Bilton were voted as co-chairs on 25<sup>th</sup> September. They are taking over from outgoing chair, Dominic Dow. Mr Dow is stepping down after 8 years as a governor of which 3 were Chair and he will be greatly missed. We are very grateful for all his excellent service to the school. Helen and Teresa have been governors since 2018, and Teresa had a 4-year period as a parent governor prior to that. Both are active in the Parish of St Paul's and have children who have been through the school, we look forward to working with them in their new roles. The Governing Committee has vacancies at the moment for Foundation Governors, please see: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/education/governance> for more information or contact St Joseph's governors through the office.

## Open Days - Starting School September 2024



We have Open Days on Monday, 16th October from 1.30– 2.45pm and Friday, 17th November from 9.45– 11am for prospective parents of children due to start primary school in September 2023. There will be a presentation on the 16th October at 1.45pm and a presentation on the 17th November at 10am, followed by a tour of the school by our school prefects. No appointment is necessary.

## Secondary School Applications—Year 6

Please remember the deadline for secondary school applications is Tuesday 31st October. You must apply online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions). If you are applying for a place at St Paul's Catholic College you will also need to complete one of their Supplementary Information Forms, available from their website in addition to the on-line application with the Local Authority. **Catholic application forms do need to be signed by your Parish Priest. Fr Raglan will be doing this after Mass on Sunday, 8th October after 9am and 11am Masses.**

## Fortnightly Attendance

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



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## Football Team



Our boys football team were in action on Wednesday afternoon, playing in a competition at St Paul's Catholic College in Burgess Hill. They won 2, drew 2 and lost 2 - coming 3rd overall - well done boys! Many thanks to Mr Philpott for accompanying them to the competition.

## Welcome Mass



It was lovely to come together to celebrate the start of a new school year at our Welcome Mass, it was well attended and the prayers and singing were incredibly uplifting - Thank you to Fr Vlad for overseeing the service.

## Year 4 Trip

On Tuesday, our year 4 children had a lovely visit to Borde Hill. The sun shone on them and they spent the day learning about living things and habitats in line their current science topic. They also learnt about the local environment. They had a thoroughly enjoyable day. Thank you so much to parents for transporting the children to and from Borde Hill and to all the staff who accompanied year 4 on the trip.



## Starting School - September 2024

Online applications are now open, go to: [westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)  
Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries, the closing date is **Monday 15 January 2024** and you must submit your completed application by this date. We require a Supplementary Information Form (SIF), to be completed. Catholic applicants application forms must be signed by your parish priest. Details of dates that Fr Raglan will be signing have yet to be announced, details will be in the church bulletin.

## Book Battle

Four of our young ladies attended a 'Book Battle' on Wednesday against other local schools. This event is organised to embrace and develop the spoken language aspect of the curriculum and the girls had to present their chosen book in a persuasive manner, leading to a debate on which book is the best and why. There were heats to narrow down the books until they got to the final two contenders. Our ladies battled well!! Thank you to Mrs Threshie for taking them.



## NUTS & SESAME



**Please remember we have a NO nut or Sesame policy in school. This includes sandwich fillings such as Nutella / Peanut Butter, dips such as hummus and chicken satay. We have several children with severe nut and sesame allergies who are at risk of anaphylactic shock.**

## Foodbank

We are very aware that many families are currently under considerable financial pressure and it isn't always easy to ask for help. We have a very good relationship with the local Foodbank team. If there are any families within the school community who would benefit from a Foodbank delivery, please speak to a member of the school office team in the strictest confidence and we can arrange this for you. They now have a Baby/Children's Bank and have an assortment of items to share, including Moses baskets, prams, cots, travel cots, high chairs, baby baths, bedside cots - **Please do get in touch.**



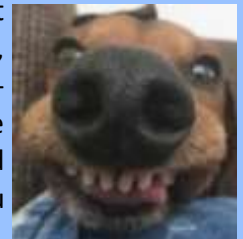
## Reporting Absences & Appointments

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.



## Dogs On School Premises

Please could we remind dog owners that as lovely as your furry friends maybe, they are NOT allowed on school premises - this includes the foyer outside the school office! There are both adults and children who find dogs scary - thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



## Coffee Morning

Thank you to those who attended our first coffee morning of the year. It was great to catch up and enjoy a cup of tea in peace. Keep your eyes peeled for other coffee mornings and parent workshops that will be happening soon.



## Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Review

If your child is in years 1-6 and has an ILP, please remember to make an appointment for the ILP review evening, 18th Oct, 3.30-5.30pm (19th Oct—St Francis Class only) Via <https://stjosephscatholichh.schoolcloud.co.uk>

## Date Change, Parent Consultations — St Francis Class Only.

Please note that Parent Consultations for St Francis will be on Wednesday, 8th November and **Thursday, 16th November** (not 15th, November as previously advertised).

# Autumn Term Diary Dates

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### October

- 13th Oct - Harvest Festival, 2pm
- 13th Oct - FOS Cake Sale - St B, St C, St F & St X to contribute please
- 16th Oct - Open Afternoon, 1.30-2.45pm (starting school September 2024)
- 18th Oct - SEN Parents Evening, 3.30pm
- 19th Oct - SEN Parents Evening, St Francis ONLY, 3.30pm
- 20th Oct - FOS Non Uniform Day, £1 payable via ParentPay
- 20th Oct - 6 Weeks In Meeting, Early Years (Yr R), 9.15am
- 23rd-27th Oct - Half Term
- 30th Oct - INSET DAY— School Closed
- 31st Oct - Back to School

### November

- 1st Nov - All Saints Day, Mass 11am
- 3rd Nov - Individual Photos
- 8th Nov - Behaviour Workshop, 9am in the small hall - no booking required
- 8th Nov - Parent Consultations, 3.30-6pm - all years
- 15th Nov - Parent Consultations, 3.30-6pm - all years (NOT St Francis Class)
- 16th Nov - Parent Consultations, 3.30-6pm - St Francis Class ONLY
- 17th Nov - Open Morning, 9.45-11am
- 17th Nov - FOS School Disco
- 24th Nov - School Closed
- 27th Nov - INSET DAY - School Closed

### December

- 4th Dec - EYFS Nativity, pm
- 5th Dec - EYFS Nativity, am
- 5th Dec - KS1 Nativity, pm
- 6th Dec - KS1 Nativity, am
- 7th Dec - Flu Vaccinations
- 7th Dec - KS1 Nativity, evening performance
- 8th Dec - Carol Service, 2pm years 3-4 / 6pm years 5-6
- 15th Dec - End of Term, **1pm finish**