



St. Joseph's Journal

Free! Friday, 9th February 2024

10th Edition

Spring Term Progress

As we head into the Spring half term there is lots to celebrate in terms of pupil progress and how well your child is currently doing. Every child in the school is carefully monitored and tracked through our termly pupil progress meetings. These meetings are to ensure every child reaches their full potential and allow teachers to discuss the various methods they are currently using to build pupil confidence, children's wellbeing, alongside their academic success. No matter how small the milestone may seem, writing their name for the first time, mastering long division, joining their handwriting, increasing their writing stamina or showing an increased confidence to put their hand up and ask questions during the lesson, we are seeing some really pleasing results. This February half term marks a half way point in the academic year. We took the decision a few years ago to send home your child's school report at the end of the Spring term rather than in July. It was felt that this provided a timely communication of how your child is doing both academically and with their attitude to their learning. By publishing this report at Easter, parents are offered advice of ways they can support their child and provide personalised targets for the rest of the year. Reception reports will be sent home at the end of July as this still remains part of the Early Years Curriculum. However, I want to take this opportunity to thank parents for all you are doing to support your child with their learning at home. I know some weeks this is easier than others but it really does have a big impact on the progress your child makes. Children who have regular attendance of 95% and above, who read regularly to an adult at home (even in Year 3 - Year 6) make quicker progress than the pupils in their class who don't. Please continue to do all that you are doing to maintain these learning habits at home because it really does make a difference. If you can find time to sit and hear your child read this half term or read a bedtime story to them we would be really grateful. For further top tips on supporting your child's learning you can refer to the class pages on our website.



Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant, working every day from 8.30am to 1.15pm totalling 23.75 hours per week, including Midday Meals Supervisor duties term time only.

We are looking for someone who would:

- ◆ Be able to support the Catholic ethos of our school
- ◆ Enjoy supporting children with additional needs
- ◆ Can adapt and respond to the strengths and needs of pupils
- ◆ Be flexible, approachable and always willing to 'have a go'
- ◆ Self motivated, organised and a team player
- ◆ Has a positive outlook

The position will be paid at a Grade 3 point 3 (22,737 per annum pro rata).

For an application pack and any enquiries, please contact our School Business Manager, Angela Parkinson

bursar@stjosephshh.org.uk 01444 452584 Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

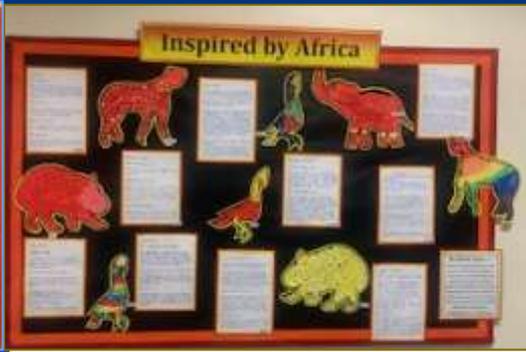
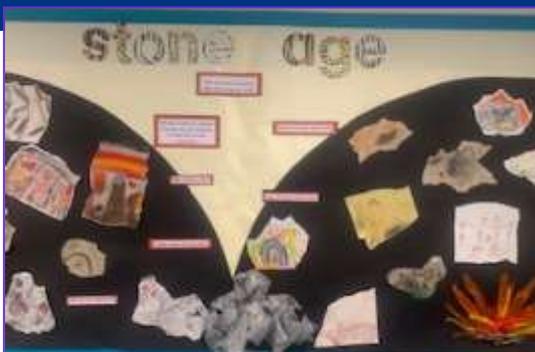


Fortnightly Attendance

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|--------|-----|------|-----|
| St A | 93% | St B | 89% | St C | 97% |
| St D | 85% | St E | 96% | St F | 91% |
| St Gen | 96% | St Geo | 96% | St H | 93% |
| St J | 91% | St M | 96% | St P | 87% |
| St T | 94% | St X | 98% | | |



Believe · Achieve · Succeed



Cricket Qualifier



Last week, a group of budding cricket players from years 5 and 6 attended a tournament at the Triangle in Burgess Hill. They were fantastic and smashed the first two games, winning convincingly. The competition was tough and despite a strong start and their best efforts, they didn't quite make it to the last two, in order to qualify for the next round - better luck next time! Many thanks to Mrs Threshie for accompanying them.



Foodbank



Please remember to get in touch with us if you require a Foodbank delivery, speak to a member of the school office team in the strictest confidence and we can arrange this for you. They now also 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.**

Measles

Cases of measles are rising across England, including among children and young people. The symptoms of measles, along with more information about the virus, can be found on [the NHS website](#). The Department for Education has published new advice for managing measles outbreaks, including advice for parents on what to do when they suspect their child may have measles. Parents are advised that children with diagnosed measles should stay off nursery or school for at least 4 days from when the rash appears. More information on how to respond to rising cases of measles can be found on the [DfE Education Hub](#)

Medication in School

If we hold medication in school for your child, please remember that it is your responsibility to check expiry dates with the school office. **Particularly Epipens and asthma inhalers. If your child requires antibiotics or any other medication, we can only administer if your child requires it 4 times or more in a school day. All medication MUST come to the school office in its box with the information leaflet enclosed.**



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.



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.



Spring Term Diary Dates

DATES TO REMEMBER

February

12th-16th Feb - Half Term

19th Feb - INSET DAY - School Closed

23rd Feb - FOS Social (Quiz), tickets available via ParentPay

28th Feb - 1st Mar - Year 5 Residential Trip to Hindleap Warren

March

1st Mar - FOS Disco

7th Mar - World Book Day

8th Mar - FOS Second Hand Uniform Sale

14th Mar - Yr 6 NCT Parent Meeting, 6pm

15th Mar - FOS Cake Sale (St A, St H, St M and St T to contribute please)

19th Mar - St Joseph's Day Mass, 1.30pm

22nd Mar - FOS Talent Show

25th-28th Mar - Spirituality Week

27th Mar - Reports out, years 1-6

28th Mar - End of term, normal school day finishing time

Summer Term Diary Dates

April

15th Apr - Inset Day - School Closed

16th Apr - Summer Term begins

17th Apr - SEN Parents Evening

26th Apr - FOS Fundraising, Non-Uniform Day - £1.00 via ParentPay

May

2nd May - Class Photos

6th May - May Day Bank Holiday

9th May - Ascension Day Mass, 11am

13-16th May - National Curriculum Tests (Yr 6)

17th May - May Day Procession, 2.15pm

17th May - FOS Cake Sale (St E, St Gen and St J to contribute please)

20-24th May - Year 6, Fairthorne Manor Residential

24th May - FOS Fundraising, Non-Uniform Day - £1.00 via ParentPay

27-31st May - Half Term

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