



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Dear parents/carers,

Our first half term has gone super quick, everyone in school has worked really hard and deserve a well-earned rest over the half term break.

Whole School Celebration of the Word

This week we have exploring that to be great in God's sight, we must put others first.

We have learnt that through Jesus' service and self-sacrifice, He won for us the greatest prize – the joy of eternal life with Him in Heaven!

Celebration of the Word

Our Year 3 children led mass in church. Thank you to all of the families and friends who attended mass to support the children.

Parents and carers were invited to Year 3's 'Celebration of the Word' on Friday with the theme of Baptism. Thank you to all families and friends who came along.

Harvest Food Donations

Along with volunteers from the Washington Community Food Project, some of our mini- vinnies were interviewed by a journalist from the Sunderland Echo this week. It was to highlight the great work they do every year collecting items for the Washington Food Project and the People's Kitchen. The children were able to talk about why they do this in school and the reasons behind the harvest collection. Look out for us in the Sunderland Echo newspaper and an interview with Mrs Hampson and the children online for the Sunderland Echo.

Year 1

Year 1 participated in an Athletics event at Sunderland Tennis Centre. The session developed the children's athletics skills and allowed them to participate in a range of athletic activities. The children travelled to the event on a double decker bus and crossed the Northern Spire bridge which they had been learning about in Geography – it was very exciting.

Year 6

Year 6 have been to Derwent Hill this week on their residential. They have taken part in activities which included gorge walking, canoeing and mountain walking, which included a hike up Cat Bells. They have had a wonderful week. The children have been so busy, they may sleep for a whole weekend when they return!

Flu Immunisations

Consent requests for children in reception to year 6 have previously been sent to parents for children to receive their flu vaccination in school. The school nursing team will be in school on Monday 4th November to administer the vaccine to those children who have received consent.

School Photographer

Our school photographer – Tempest, will be in school on Wednesday 6th November. They will be taking individual photographs of the children and also photographs of any siblings in school. Proofs will be sent home with further details on how to place an order.

Parents Evening

The autumn term parents evening will take place on Tuesday 5th November and Wednesday 6th November between 3.30pm and 6.00pm. Please sign up for an appointment with your child's class teacher on Arbor.

Please note: on these dates, there will be no after school clubs, children who attend after school club on a Tuesday or Wednesday should be collected at the normal time of 3.20pm.

IMPORTANT - Consents on Arbor Consents for photographs can be made through the Arbor app. Could all parents check their app and give consent to photographs in school. This can be found on the main Arbor login window with the option of consent. We are still not up to date with all consents on Arbor.

All personal details, change of address and contact numbers can all be updated through the Arbor parent app.

If parents could check on Arbor that we have correct contact details for you and your family and details about your child.

This allows us to keep all records up to date.

Staff Shout Out

This week our 'Shout Out' goes to Miss Cutter, Mrs Lawton and Miss Hutchinson for accompanying the Year 6 children to Derwent Hill.

The experience of a school residential trip would not happen without the support and dedication of staff who give up their own time so the children can have a wonderful adventure.

Attendance

As part of our attendance monitoring and in line with the attendance policy, letters of attendance will be sent out to parents every half term, detailing your child's attendance percentage.

We will be continuing our attendance monitoring this term. If attendance has dropped below our Trust target of 97% an attendance letter may be sent out.

Congratulations to Year 3 who won our attendance mascot 'Bingo' this week with 99% attendance overall.

Keeping Children Safe

Every member of staff in school will act to keep children safe. Our designated staff who have a lead role in keeping them safe are:

Mrs E Maher - Headteacher

Mrs F Lawton – Acting Deputy Headteacher

Mrs J Johnson – Senior Leader

Mrs P Swanston – Business Manager

We wish you all a safe and happy half term holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 4th November.

Mrs E Maher

What's on this Half Term – this may change and new dates maybe added

Friday 25 th October 9am	Year 3 – Celebration of the word
Monday 4 th November	Flu Vaccinations in School – Reception to Year 6
Tuesday 5 th November	Parents Evening – school hall (letters will follow)
Wednesday 6 th November	Parents Evening – school hall (letters will follow)
Wednesday 6 th November	School Photographer - Tempest in school
Friday 8 th November 9am	Year 4 – Celebration of the word
Monday 11 th November 8.50am	Remembrance Service on the school yard – parents invited
Tuesday 19 th November 10am	Year 5 – Mass in church
Friday 22 nd November 9am	Year 6 – Celebration of the word
Thursday 5 th December 4pm	Year 4 – Reconciliation service - Church
Friday 6 th December 9am	Year 3 – Celebration of the word
Tuesday 10 th December 10.30am	EYFS Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 11 th December 10.30am	EYFS Christmas Nativity
Thursday 12 th December 2pm	KS1 Nativity
Friday 13 th December 10.30am	KS1 Nativity
Monday 16 th December 1.30pm	KS2 Carol Service in church
Wednesday 18 th December	Nursery, Reception and Year 6 – Christmas party
Thursday 19 th December	Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 and Year 5 – Christmas party
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas lunch in school