



Head-lines

As our second term draws to a close, I write to you in our half-termly newsletter to share in the achievements and developments of our school and your wonderful children. It seems to have been a very quick half term since our last newsletter, but so much has happened in a short space of time! This edition is packed with events, reminders, updates and celebrations. I hope you enjoy reading it; I particularly enjoy writing these newsletters as it gives me an opportunity to look back on all that we have achieved over the half term. As ever, I give you my thanks for your continued support and involvement in the life of our school.

I wish you all a lovely Easter,

Mr Turner

Building Work Reminder



In the last newsletter I shared the news with you that we are having some important building work done over the Easter holidays. This work is being done to further improve the security and safety of the site and therefore your children. As I explained, part of the work involves the carpark - including creating a pedestrian gate on Woodchurch Road and a designated walkway across the carpark. A barrier will be installed, meaning that the carpark will become **staff only**. Whilst I understand that this may cause some inconvenience for parents who are used to using the carpark for collection/drop off, I hope you understand the reasons and have used this period to trial other arrangements. As I explained, there are other significant redesigns taking place. The builders are hoping to have the majority of the work done before the children return, but I will be onsite during the holidays to monitor and put in place any arrangements necessary if work is still in process when we return on Tuesday 18th April.

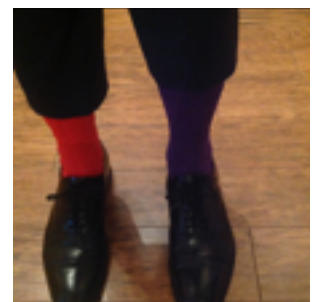


Welcome Fr. Chris!

For those of you who haven't yet had the chance to meet him, we welcome Fr. Chris Matthews as the Parish Priest of St. Joseph's. I'm sure you will enjoy getting to know him and make him feel welcome.

Celebrating all our pupils

We are proud of each and every one of our pupils. Each of them is made in the image and likeness of God, and loved without end, but at the same time is a unique and wonderful individual. We celebrate what makes us all special. This month, we were proud to 'Rock our Socks' to show our support for those with Down's Syndrome. When we return after Easter, we enter April which is Autism Awareness month. As part of this, we will learn about living with autism, and the children will be invited to 'Light It Up Blue' to show support for those living with autism. Further details to follow next term. Thank you to all who got involved. St Joseph's is a school full of amazing, wonderful, unique children. We join together to celebrate that.



VISIT FROM BISHOP MARK

LAST WEEK, WE WERE PROUD TO RECEIVE OUR VISIT FROM BISHOP MARK. HE TOURED THE SCHOOL, MET WITH STAFF AND LED AN ASSEMBLY AND PRAYERS FOR THE CHILDREN. HE WAS ALSO BRAVE ENOUGH TO TAKE QUESTIONS FROM THE CHILDREN! HE COMMENTED ON THEIR LOVELY MANNERS AND INSIGHTFUL QUESTIONS.



Parent Panel

Last week we held our first Parent Panel meetings. Many thanks to Mrs Kaytie Lonsdale, Mrs Alison Kiernan, Mrs Nique Turnbull, Mrs Becky Harper, Mrs Liz Ryan and Mr Kevin Gorry who were the members of the first panel. I really enjoyed the meeting, and got a real feel for the views of some parents on some key issues. Items we discussed included morning routines, behaviour and

discipline, communication, school uniform and clubs. The purpose of the meetings is not to make decisions there and then, but to be used as an opportunity for discussion and as a starting point.

This meeting has raised my awareness that parents feel communication has improved, but that the school doesn't always get it right, and sometimes is still too 'last minute', that uniform and appearance is important in creating pride in our school, that behaviour has improved, and we could explore introducing more after school clubs.

Many thanks to those who have put themselves forward. I always welcome more, so if you did not return the slip, the original letter can be found on the Letters page of the website; please do download and hand in at any time. I look forward to arranging the next meeting.

A huge well done to our school choir and Mrs Lester as the children will be taking the stage at the Floral Pavillion, New Brighton on Sunday to perform at the Spotlight on Youth event. I can't wait and will be there on the front row to cheer them!



Children return to school Tuesday 18th April

Following our return after Easter, we have lots of important things going on. In the WC 8th May, our Y6 children sit their 'SATs' tests. It is very important that the children attend school during this period and are punctual as tests begin in the morning. I know how hard they have been working in the build up and am sure their hard work will pay off. However I want them to know that all we ask is that they try their best - they are more than a SATs score.

Also next term, we celebrate with the children of Y3 as they make their First Holy Communion. We keep all our children and families in our prayers.

*A reminder we are closed Thursday 4th May for Polling Day

Thought for the term

Even though we are still in Lent, as we will celebrate Easter Sunday during our time away from school, may I take this opportunity to wish you every blessing and a very happy Easter. We rejoice in the fact that Jesus overcame even death in order that we may truly live. Let us therefore live our lives to the fullest.

He is not here;
he has risen,
just as he said.
Matthew 28:6

PTA Bingo afternoon. I hope those who attended enjoyed the PTA bingo afternoon and maybe even walked away with a prize or two! Thanks to your generous support, we have raised over £1,000 which can be spent on your children in school. Watch out for more upcoming PTA events and details of how you can get involved.



