



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Fiennes Road, Banbury, Oxon OX16 0ET

Head Teacher: Ms Clare Smith

30th October 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the new term.

We haven't quite left October behind and we already seem to be looking ahead to Christmas! You will be receiving a letter during the week about donations for the Christmas Fayre which is due to take place on Friday, 14th December, and on Thursday of this week we are holding a cake sale to raise the money required to send our Christmas shoeboxes to children around the world who will otherwise not receive any gifts at Christmas time.

We are going to be eating rather a lot of cake this week as there will also be a cake stall after school today to raise money to buy some new glockenspiels for the children. We would like to purchase these to help enrich the musical opportunities to which the children have access in school, so do please stop and buy a couple of cakes on your way out this afternoon.

On Thursday we will be celebrating the Feast of All Saints with Mass in school at 9.30 a.m. All are welcome to join us for this.

Having enjoyed an unusually warm October the temperature has now dropped and it does feel as though winter is definitely on its way. We try to ensure that the children are able to play outside everyday as this is important both for their physical development and their concentration in class and so we would request that you send them in with coats, hats and gloves now so that they can continue to enjoy the outdoors. Please make sure that everything is labelled though as these items are frequently left on the playground and in cloakrooms.

Please also ensure that the school shoes children come in are **black and good strong shoes or boots**. It is not acceptable to send children in trainers (these are not school uniform) or in soft, shapeless boots which don't actually keep their feet dry.

Winter Safety

Once the weather does turn cold and wet more of you may decide to travel to school by car. Please do not drive down Fiennes Road or Mold Crescent as both these roads become extremely congested and dangerous for your children. Please make use of our daily 'walking bus' which comes down from St Joseph's church car park every morning at 8.40 a.m. The children who join us each day enjoy the company and the chat and we ensure that they

are escorted to their class lines on the playground. The car park is spacious and gives you the ability to drop your children off, turn around safely and be off again on your way to work within a few minutes.

You can drop off from 8.30 a.m. every day. If you haven't tried it yet, please give it a try this term.

Remember that the 'walking bus' is intended to keep all our children safe so please use it!

If your child comes to school on their bicycle please make sure that they have a well-fitted helmet to protect their head in case of a fall and that they wear a bright or fluorescent jacket so that they are visible in the darker evenings. They must have lights on their bikes.

A number of our older children (Upper Key Stage Two only please) do walk home on their own. As the evenings get darker please encourage them to walk with a friend or arrange to meet a friend on the way and remind them about road safety and the importance of being visible on the pavements.

Please keep an eye on the Calendar of Events on the website so that you have dates for the key events ahead of time.

I look forward to meeting you all at one or more of the many events and activities planned for this term.

Yours sincerely

Clare Smith
Headteacher