

Term 1 5th September—19th October 2018

ST. JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are finishing this term on a high note with a very successful Citizens of the World Week. I am sure that your children have been sharing with you all they have learned about different world religions this week and by the time you receive this newsletter many of you will have joined us in school for an overview of the different activities that have been enjoyed. This annual event has become a great favourite with pupils and staff alike, and we particularly enjoy observing how well the older children work with the younger ones and how much the younger ones benefit from this too. Last year we reviewed the week with the children and they asked for some outside speakers to be invited next time; therefore, this year, we have had three invited speakers who have come to share their faith with the children. It has been a very enriching experience for everyone and one which I am sure the children will remember for some time to come.

We have seen the start of some exciting new initiatives in school this term. Our daily book swap bookcase has been very popular with the children and it was pleasing to see a good number of families stay for the Book Café last week. This is going to be a monthly event and so we hope that more of you will be able to stay next time – have a cup of tea and a biscuit and enjoy a book with your children at the end of the day before heading home. The classes are also taking it in turns to visit our local library on a Friday afternoon and parent helpers are always welcome so do please speak to your child/ren's teacher and let us know if you could spare an hour or so on the Friday that they are due to go. The half-term holiday is a perfect opportunity to visit the library as a family too so why not drop in and spend some time with them there!



Please keep your eyes open for information coming to you about PTA activities and fund-raising and thank you to those parents who have shown an interest in supporting events – if you would like to be more involved please see either Fran Jenkins or Mrs Rayner and let them have your details.

Thank you for your continued support of St Joseph's School.

Enjoy a restful half-term break.

Best wishes,

Clare Smith

Next term's virtues are Faith and Hope

- if we nurture faith and hope in our pupils, they will have the confidence to contribute positively to the communities in which they live and inspire others to be hopeful for the future;

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

<p><b>October</b></p> <p>Mon 29th at 8.45 —Term 2 starts</p>	<p>Thurs 13th—EYFS Nativity for parents</p> <p>Fri 14th at 3.00pm—Christmas Fayre</p>
<p><b>November</b></p> <p>Thur 1st at 9.30—All Saints Day - Whole school Mass</p> <p>Thurs 1st at 3.00—After school cake sale</p> <p>Wed 7th at 3.00—Reading Cafe</p> <p>Wed 7th—Deadline for shoe box items for Operation Christmas child</p> <p>Thur 8th —Flu vaccinations for Reception to Yr 5</p> <p>Thur 8th —Children singing for children</p> <p>Tue 27th &amp; Wed 28th —Life Bus</p> <p>Fri 30th —Christmas activities session</p>	<p>Mon 17th at 1.30 —KS1 Nativity for parents</p> <p>Tue 18th at 6.30—KS1 Nativity for parents</p> <p>Wed 19th at 1.30—Christmas Service</p> <p>Thur 20th at 3.00—End of Term 2</p> <p><b>January</b></p> <p>Tue 8th at 8.45—term 3 starts</p> <p>Thur 17th—'Peter Pan' pantomime</p> <p>Fri 25th —Year 4 visit schools concert at the Sheldonian</p> <p>Tue 29th —Reception and Year 6 height &amp; weight measuring</p>
<p><b>December</b></p> <p>Wed 5th at 3.00—Reading Cafe</p> <p>Fri 7th —Christmas Elf for EYFS and KS1</p> <p>Wed 12th—EYFS Nativity for parents</p>	<p><b>February</b></p> <p>Fri 1st Feb—Year 6 Junior Citizen session in Oxford</p> <p>Fri 15th Feb—end of Term 3</p>



### Harvest Festival

This year yet again the generosity of our families was evident by the amount of donations of food made during the Harvest celebrations. Banbury Food Bank collected the donations and they will be used to help families in Banbury who are struggling. Thank you very much for your generosity once again.



### Admission Deadlines

Applications for Year 7 places at Secondary Schools for September 2019 must be made by noon on 31 October 2018. (Forms can be completed online).

Applications for Reception places for September 2019 must be made by 15 January 2019. (Forms can be completed online).

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

# Attendance and Punctuality

## Beat the Gate—Don't be Late!



### Attendance for Term 1

Term 1 Overall Attendance	96.47
Number of lates	50
Reception	97.40
Year 1	96.76
Year 2	95.59
Year 3	96.61
Year 4	97.13
Year 5	95.45
Year 6	96.25

### Reporting absence from school

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school please phone the school before 8.45 to report their absence.

If your child has been sick or had a bout of diarrhoea they must not return to school until they have had no reoccurrence for 24 hours.



## FLU VACCINATIONS

A reminder that the nasal Flu vaccinations for children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 are being administered on Thursday 8th November. Please return the forms before 31st October.

## Fencing Club

Fencing with a qualified coach will take place after school on 5 Wednesdays in term 2. The club is open to children in years 4, 5 and 6, and there are just 12 places. The cost is just £15 per child for the whole 5 weeks, which is a fraction of what this experience would cost in other settings.

All the equipment is provided and children simply need to wear tracksuit trousers, a short-sleeved tee-shirt and clean trainers. To sign up please go to your ParentPay account, and if you have any queries, please talk to Mrs Hardie.



## Driving and Parking on school grounds

In the interests of safety may we ask that you do not drive onto the school premises at any time. Please also be considerate to our neighbours and park responsibly. The church car park can be used to park hassle free and the walking bus can be used in the mornings to make dropping off easier.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Child Collection

Please ensure that you let the office know of any change in the collection arrangements for your child or children.

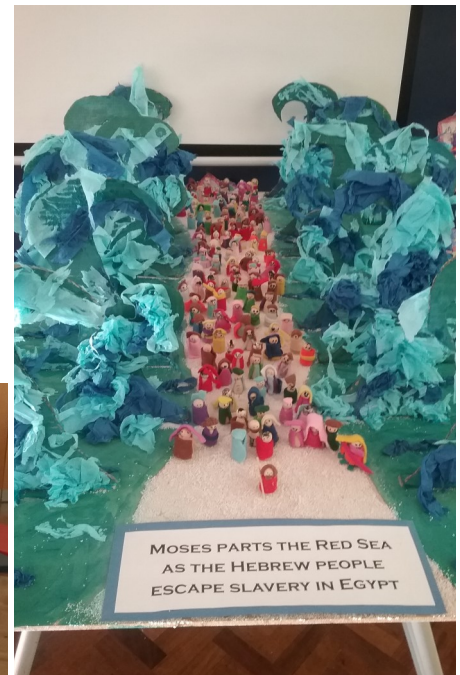
In the interest of safeguarding we will only let children go with known adults.





## Citizens of the World Week

This week has been 'Citizens of the World Week' here at St Joseph's. The children in KS1 and KS2 have enjoyed learning about aspects of other world religions: Judaism, Islam, Sikhism and Hinduism. They have looked at some of the beliefs, shared stories, talked about festivals, created group and individual art works, and have benefited from the experience of visitors who have come in to explain a little about their faith. The children in our Early Years classes have been sharing stories linked to other religions. There has been a lovely atmosphere in school all week, and it has been wonderful to see the attention and care the children have shown to one another, working in their vertically-grouped houses.



### E-mail communication

Our main form of communication is via email. Could you please ensure that you check your emails regularly so that you do not miss any important information.

If you are not receiving emails please contact the office.