

Term 3 8th January—15th February 2019

ST. JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

We got away lightly this year with very little snow to interrupt our activities and the children's learning. There are many hopeful signs of Spring in and around the school grounds and next term we will turn our attention to our gardening again and make further efforts to improve the outdoor areas of the school. We would like to sow seeds in various parts of the school to encourage wild flowers to grow and all the children will be involved in this project.

This year we are working towards achieving the CAFOD 'Live Simply' award, which the School Council is leading on. There are three key strands: living simply; living sustainably; and living in solidarity with those in need. The children have decided upon some key actions and this term we have been trying to reduce the amount of food that is wasted at lunchtimes. In addition to continuing with this focus, we will be improving our external grounds to make them more inviting to insects and birds (as described above) and we will also have a mid-year collection for the local Food Bank. We will send more information out about all of these activities at the start of Term 4.

We have been working hard on increasing the children's breadth of vocabulary this term and we hope that you have been aware of this through our 'Word of the Week' and through the children's conversations about their learning. Please continue to encourage them to explore new words over the half-term holiday. Perhaps you could play some word games at home as a family, reading books together and telling stories to one another. If you are visiting family and friends, please encourage others to share stories with your children and encourage your children to ask questions. For example, grandparents describing their schooldays to the children and remembering holidays and funny things that the children did when they were babies etc. The more the children talk and share talk with others, the faster they will learn new words and this will help their reading and their writing as well.

As you will be aware we have Parents' Evenings on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February, the first week back, so please do ask more about how to support your children's development of language. We will also have information to share with you about different aspects of 'Well-Being' for your children and for you, so do allow a few extra minutes to stop and chat with Annie from Place2Be as well as Christina, our Home-School Link Worker.

The beginning of March will mark the start of the season of Lent and we will have Mass on Ash Wednesday in school.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 25th February at the usual time of 8.40 a.m. In the meantime, enjoy the half-term break.

With my best wishes to you all,

Clare Smith

**Virtues**

Next term our virtues are Learned and Wise:

if we nurture wisdom and a desire to learn in our pupils, they will use their gifts and skills for the benefit of others and will contribute positively to others' lives;

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### February

Mon 25th —start of Term 4  
Mon 25th 3.30-5.30—Parents evening  
Tue 26th—Author visit-Mark Robson  
Tue 26th 5.00-7.30—Parents evening  
Thur 28th—Feast of St Jadwiga

### March

Tue 5th at 19.00—Mass with confirmation celebrated in Church  
Thur 7th —World Book Day  
Thur 7th at 15.00—Book café in hall  
11th-15th —British Science Week

Tue 19th—Atomic Tom in school for KS2  
Fri 22nd—Year 5 to visit Space Studio  
Thur 28th—Year 1 at BGN multi-skills festival  
Fri 29th —Mothers' Day Lunch  
Sat 30th —Big Spring Clean

### April

Tue 2nd at 1.30—LKS2 Performance  
Wed 3rd—Year 5 and 6 visit to The Black Country Museum  
Wed 3rd at 6.30—LKS2 Performance  
Fri 5th at 3.00—End of Term 4

## BGN INCLUSION FESTIVAL

Ten children in Year 3 enjoyed a day at BGN taking part in the Inclusion festival alongside other schools in Banbury. Molly has written a report telling us all about it.



Today we went to BGN to do different obstacle courses at a Inclusion sports Festival. I'm sure we had so much fun. We also thank the sports leaders for helping us improve in our PE. We also give another big thanks to Mr Mann for leading this sports festival. We all tried our best and stuck up for each other and acted like a team. I'm sure all of the TAs and Teachers are very proud of us. We've all had our ups and downs but today we've done our best. There's only one more thing to say GO SAINT JOSEPH'S



# Attendance and Punctuality

## Beat the Gate—Don't be Late!



### Attendance for Term 3

Term 2 Overall Attendance	95.69%
Number of lates	69
Reception	93.90%
Year 1	95.80%
Year 2	94.72%
Year 3	97.24%
Year 4	96.15%
Year 5	97.32%
Year 6	94.68%

### 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.



### Medical conditions and Allergies

If your child has a medical condition or an allergy please make sure that school is informed so that we are fully aware of your child's needs.

Any changes to treatment etc should be passed on to the office staff so that records can be updated.

## ~FUNdraising Team news~

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

The FUNdraising Team would like to say a BIG thank you to all the parents who supported and helped make the cake sale a huge success. We had a large selection of cakes donated, and sales of cakes raised a grand total of £78. We hope you all enjoyed the tasty treats!

Thank you for your continued support and we hope you all have a great half-term holiday.

