

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Term 3 4th January—9th February 2018

TERM 4 STARTS: Tuesday 20th February at 8.40am



Dear Parents & Carers,

I am glad that we have made it through this term without encountering any more snow. There are even some signs of Spring now in the school grounds and by the time we come back after the half-term break the mornings and the evenings will be lighter.

After half-term we will have another St Joseph's Big Spring Clean. This was very successful last year and we achieved quite a lot by working together. This year we would like to plant up the area at the front of the school. We have had a couple of failed attempts at this, so this time I thought that we might have a Bring and Plant! If everyone brought one plant then we can create our own little garden down there and it will be a real community garden. If you are a gardener then please do come forward and offer your expertise! The provisional date for this day is Saturday 24th March. We will also compile a list of jobs to be done on that day and then we will need as many of you as possible to come along – even for an hour or two – to help us smarten up our playground and reception areas. It'll be a great opportunity to be together in a different way from usual, to enjoy one another's company and then share a picnic lunch and some tea and cake!

We will also have a renewed focus on healthy eating in the new term so please look out for information coming home about that.

Wednesday 14th February, as well as being Valentine's Day, is Ash Wednesday. Please endeavor to take your children to a Service of Ashes on that day, to prepare for the season of Lent. There will be a Service of Ashes in St Joseph's Parish Church at 9.30am on that day and in St John's at 12.00 and 6.30pm.

I would like to remind you that **Monday 19th February 2018 is an INSET day** and therefore school will not be open for the children. We look forward to seeing them again on Tuesday 20th February at the usual time of 8.40 a.m.

Please make sure that you regularly visit our website at www.st-josephs-banbury.oxon.sch.uk and in particular I would like to draw your attention to some information about this term's SCiB topic in our 'Keeping Our Children Safe' page.

With my best wishes to you all,

Clare Smith

Dates for the Diary

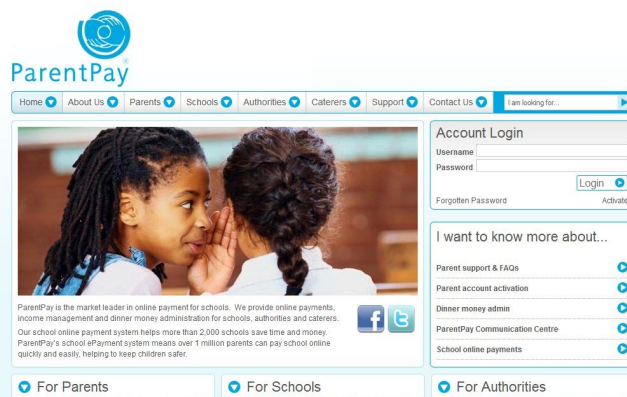
Mon 19th February— SCHOOL CLOSED –INSET day	Fri 2nd March—Parents' meeting –Reconciliation
Tues 20th Feb at 8.40 —Term 4 starts	Thur 22nd Mar—Year 1 Multiskills at BGN
Sun 25th Feb at 10.30—Sacrament of Confirmation at St	Sat 24th Mar—Big Spring Clean
Mon 26th Feb 3.30-5.30 Parents' evening	Tues 27th Mar at 6.30pm-Year 3/4 Easter performance
Tues 27th Feb 5.00-7.30 Parents' evening	Wed 28th Mar at 1.30—Year 3/4 Easter performance
Thur 1st Mar—World Book Day	Thur 29th—End of term 4
Fri 2nd Mar —Year 5/6 Athletics final BGN	Mon 16th Apr—Term 5 starts

Next term we are reflecting on our journey as Christians to be the best people we can be. We believe that:

if we nurture a strong conscience in our pupils, they will have the confidence to lead by example, reflecting God's love to others and striving for harmony and equality in the communities around them.

ParentPay - our new online payment service

We're pleased to announce that as from 5th March we will launch an online payment system for items such as dinner money and school trips. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card.



What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- the technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- payments can be made by credit/debit card
- full payment histories and statements are available to you securely online at anytime
- your children won't have to worry about losing money at school

Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text

How to get started with ParentPay...

We will shortly be sending you your account activation username and password, just follow the instructions in the letter we give you to get started with ParentPay.

If you want to find out more about ParentPay go to: www.parentpay.com/Parents



Attendance for Term 3

Term 3 Overall	96.75
Number of lates	63
Reception	97.25
Year 1	96.13
Year 2	97.09
Year 3	98.30
Year 4	95.11
Year 5	97.08
Year 6	95.79

Healthy Eating

Next term we will be refocusing on healthy eating and we will be encouraging children to have a healthy lunchbox.



For more information there are some useful websites;

www.eatwell.gov.uk/

www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk/packedlunches/



School Dinners

To ensure your child has a hot, balanced meal each day why not order a school dinner for them. School meals are free to children in Reception, year 1 and year 2. For years 3 to 6 they are £2 per day.