



Spring Term 2023

Friday 31st March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Our Spring Term Newsletter reflects the tremendous work that has continued across the whole school and the many varied, exciting and diverse opportunities and experiences with which pupils have engaged. There has been lots of interesting learning from visits to the Youth Village, Safety Works in Newcastle, Teddy Bear Olympics at St Aidan's......to name but a few and I am sure the other classes are planning interesting visits to enhance their curriculum.

This week we have welcomed families in to be part of our Easter Liturgies, the children are to be commended on how well they have retold the events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. I feel privileged that I was asked to support your school, I have been made so welcome and I am enjoying leading the school with Mrs Toward. It is an absolute joy to have time to speak with the children and hear their interesting stories and their positive thoughts and reflections on their school.

Governance:

Last week the Governors of St Joseph's met for their half termly meeting, we welcomed Dr T Fetherston who joined as a Foundation Governor and I know he is looking forward to meeting the staff and children across school next term.

Our Local Governing Committee now consists of:

Co Chair of Governors: Ms E Brooks and Ms T Thomas

Foundation Governors: Mr A Bernal and Dr T Featherston,

Parent Governor: Mrs R Bettinardi

Staff Governor: Mrs A Toward

We do still have Foundation Governor vacancies and if you would be interested in joining this committee please do contact the school office for more information. The Governors amongst other discussions and decisions that needed to be made, agreed that we will have a more flexible drop off for our children on a morning. We will open our school doors on a morning after Easter from 8.45AM, the children can come into school between 8.45 and 9.00am, all children must be in class to be registered by 9.00AM. We hope this will ease the pressure on traffic when dropping children off at school and also give them time to come into school and settle ready for their day to begin. Early morning activities will be available for the children.

The arrangements are as follows:

KS2 – Years 3,4,5 and 6 will access school through the side door, Mrs Smith or Mrs Swinhoe will be the staff member in this area ensuring all children enter safely after being dropped off, you may pass messages onto the staff member or the school office.

Reception and KS1 children- Reception, Years 1 and 2 will enter from the school yard through the one main door, not their classroom door, Miss Hudson and Mrs Archer will again be there to greet the children and ensure that they enter school safely.

On a night time Year 6 will dismissed without their class teacher as we prepare them for Secondary School. Years 3, 4 and 5 will be dismissed from the end school door in the school playground and Years 1 and 2 will be dismissed in the playground from the main school door they enter on a morning. All children should know these new arrangements.

PE

We also agreed that children can come into school on their PE days in a pair of black jogging trousers, their white PE T-shirt and their school sweatshirt. Black trainers will also be acceptable. Please ensure that your child still has their PE shorts in their PE bag held in school in case they need to change into shorts. The black jogging trousers should be plain with no logos or branding on please.

Behaviour

I am sure the children will have been talking about the new behaviour policy we have introduced in school, please familiarise yourselves with this. All staff will follow this policy and all children have been involved in discussions around rewards and consequences.

Sponsored Run

The Mini Vinnies arranged a sponsored run for all of our children to take part in.

The monies raised will be donated to Syria and Turkey because of the recent earthquake and aftershocks. The children have been running as many miles as they can on the school mile up until the end of Lent. We will be grateful if parents could please sponsor their own children with any amount, big or small, for this very deserving cause. Donations can be made via ParentPay. Thank you.



Registration Certificates

Please look out for your child's registration certification which will be sent home with your child today.

After School Clubs

Information on the after-school clubs for next half term (Summer 1) is now on ParentPay. This includes violin, saxophone, clarinet, orchestra, drum, guitar, gymnastics and Summer Sports. Please ensure any monies are paid by the due date to allow your child to continue with their tuition. Please look out for an expression of interest form coming out after Easter to gather views on opening Wrap Around Care before and after school.

Well as I take time to look out of the window it is absolutely pouring, what a contrast in weather we have seen this last half term— it has been snowing, the wind picked up, the rain has been falling, we have had hail and the sun has been shining.... certainly, a mixed bag. However, I hope we see some good weather over the Easter holidays and you all find time to enjoy it....

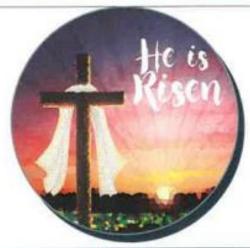
With the lighter mornings and evenings, and hopefully some nicer weather heading our way may we say thank you to everyone for your continuing support. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 17th April 2023 after their safe and enjoyable break.

Happy Easter,

Mrs M.Graham

Mrs A.Toward





Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Week Times 2023

Confession Times

St Anne & Holy Family:

Wednesday 29th March 5pm-6pm

St Patrick:

Thursday 30th March 5pm to 6pm

St Joseph:

Friday 31st March 4pm to 6pm

Wishing you all a meaningful Holy Week and a Happy Easter.

May the Risen Christ bless you and all your families.

Fr Louis, Fr Ligori, Fr Bernard, Sr Alphonsus

	St Joseph	St Anne & Holy Family	St Patrick
Holy Thursday 6th April	5:30pm	5:30pm	5:30pm
Good Friday 7th April	2:30pm Stations of the Cross 3pm The Passion of Our Lord	No Service	2:30pm Stations of the Cross 3pm The Passion of Out Lord
Easter Vigil 8th April	5:30pm	5pm	No Service
Easter Sunday 9th April	9:30am	11am	9:30am
Divine Mercy Sunday 16th April	2:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm Holy Mass in hon- our of Divine Mercy		

Upcoming Events

April 2023

3rd - 14th April School closed for Easter break

17th April School reopens to all children after Easter break

19th April Reception Eye Tests

20th April *Y3 visit to Davenports Chocolate Factory (pm)

27th April Y5 visit from School Nurse re Puberty

May 2023

1st May School closed – Bank Holiday 8th May School closed – Bank Holiday

10th May 8 x Year 3 Children at Tennis Centre, Silksworth

16th May Reception Hearing Tests

29th May – 2nd June School closed for half term break

June 2023

5th June School re-opens to all children after half term break

6th June Individual and Group School photographs

10Th June First Holy Communion

12th June First Holy Communion Group and Individual Photographs in school

21st June Brush Bush visiting Nursery (PM)

27th June *Year 6 Primary Festival at Youth Village, Consett

Visits and workshops enhance learning and the school is keen that all pupils are able to enjoy and learn from these.

*Please help us by giving your permission and making payment via ParentPay. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to provide these special learning opportunities in the future. Thank you.