



**Bishop Chadwick**  
Catholic Education Trust



Summer Term 2023

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come close to the end of our school year, we would like to thank you all for the kind words of support and thanks over this last academic year and certainly to me these last two terms. Working together so positively strengthens us as a school community and we will strive to build on any feedback we have received from you. Communication is key and we have listened to feedback and as a result all classes will publish their own newsletter twice a term in the next academic year with whole school newsletters still being produced across the year. More information on these dates will be circulated at the beginning of September.

A huge congratulations must go out to all of our Year 6 children who have received their SAT's results, they have all been incredible, we are so proud of them, they have worked so hard and we wish them the best of luck as they continue to build on their great successes in their new Secondary schools. Equally all of our children across school have made great progress and shown confidence in any assessments they have undertaken especially our Year 1 children who had their Phonics test despite so many of them catching Chicken Pox at some point and our Year 2 children who also completed their SATS. Well done everyone.

I would like to share with you all that the Directors of Bishop Chadwick Trust and the Governors of St Joseph's have asked me to stay on at your school as the Active Executive Head Teacher for the next academic year, I am delighted with this request and look forward to continuing to support your children and families here at St Joseph's. I will also continue to work across at my other two schools and Mrs. Toward will continue as the Head of School here at St Joseph's.

### **School Summer Fayre**

Thank you for all your donations. Please join us at 3.30pm this Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of July for our Summer Fayre. There will be fair ground rides, raffles, burgers, hot dogs, toys and so much more.

### **Leavers Assembly and Liturgical Prayer**

Year 6 parents and carers are welcome to join us for our Year 6 end of St Joseph's prayer and assembly at 9.10am in the school hall. We will also be saying a fond farewell to Alfie, Kyria and Kyah who are moving to new schools in September. We wish them every success and happiness in their new schools. Finally, we also say a temporary goodbye to Mrs. Isherwood as she leaves for her maternity leave. We will await exciting news from her when her baby arrives and last but by no means least we say a very sad goodbye to Mrs. Archer as she will begin her retirement after working 23 years at St Joseph's. Mrs. Archer has supported so many children over the years in the class, on trips, in the school playground, treating them for first aid and tirelessly being our fund-raising queen. We wish her so much happiness in the next chapter of her life. I am sure you will join us in wishing Mrs. Archer a Happy Retirement and Congratulations.

## Leavers' Mass

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July, we will hold our leavers' Mass in church. It will be a wonderful celebration involving the school, our families and the Parish. Year 6 will lead the Mass. All are welcome to attend. Following Mass our families and parishioners are welcome back to school for tea and biscuits in the school hall.



We look forward to seeing you there.

## End of Term School Closure

Just a reminder nursery will close on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July and school closes for all children on Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of July at **1.00pm**. **School children will have their school lunch as normal on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July before they are collected at 1pm.**

School reopens for the children on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, Nursery and Reception children have been given their starting dates and arrangements in their welcome pack.

Term dates for 2023-2024 can be viewed on our website at:

<https://www.stjosephssunderland.school/parents/school-term-dates/>

## School Uniform Reminder

School uniform can be purchased from Little Gems in Sunderland, we have also asked if they can stock black school joggers which has the school logo on. May I also remind you that children planning to have their ears pierced need to do so at the beginning of the holidays as no jewelry is allowed to be worn at school.

## Registration Certificates

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

## Attendance Reminder

**Parents/Carers are responsible for:**

- Ensuring that their child attends school regularly and punctually unless prevented from doing so by illness or attendance at a medical appointment.
- Contacting the school office on the first morning of absence (before 9.30am).
- Informing the school in advance of any medical appointments in school time. For the absence to be recorded as a medical absence we do require evidence from the doctor or dentist. (Appointment card/letter). Where possible, ALL medical appointments should be made outside of the school day.
- Making requests for authorised absence in term time, only if absolutely necessary as these are not automatically authorised.
- Talking to the school as soon as possible about any child's reluctance to come to school so that problems can be quickly identified and dealt with.

### Authorised absence

An absence is classified as authorised when a child has been away from school for a legitimate reason and the school has received notification from a parent or carer. For example, if a child has been unwell and the parent telephones the school to explain the absence.

Only the school can make an absence authorised. Parents do not have this authority. Consequently, not all absences supported by parents will be classified as authorised.

### Unauthorised absence

An absence is classified as unauthorised when a child is away from school without the permission of the school.

Therefore, the absence is unauthorised if a child is away from school without good reason, even with the support of a parent.

Please take a moment to read our Attendance Policy on our website:

<https://stjosephscatholicsunderland.schacademy.durham.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2022/11/Attendance-Policy.pdf>

Should you require a Leave of Absence form, please ask at the school office.

### **Football Club Request**

Football club needs donations of football boots, gloves and shin pads. If you have any of these items that you no longer need, please can you donate them to our football club?

### **After School Clubs**

Information on the after-school clubs for next half term (Autumn 1) will be on ParentPay shortly.

We do not like increasing payments and have kept the cost the same for many years now, but unfortunately, we have had no choice but to increase the cost per lesson for violin, clarinet, drum and guitar tuition to £5.00 per session (Pupil Premium is £2.50). Orchestra Club will increase to £2.00 per session (£1 Pupil Premium) from September 2023.

Next half term, Monday's after school club will be Gymnastics and Tuesdays will be Mixed Sports. We are awaiting confirmation from Grassroots, who run these clubs, as to the costs.

Please remember that you must enrol your child, via ParentPay, before they attend Gymnastics and Mixed Sports Clubs.

### **School Games Award**

We are pleased to announce we have retained the Gold Active Sunderland Schools Award for 2022 – 2023.



We look forward to seeing you over these last few school days and we wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Best Wishes.

Mrs. M. Graham

Active Executive Head Teacher

Mrs. A.Toward

Head of School