



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love

Newsletter – Friday 27th June 2025

This term is flying by - it is the end of June already. We seem to be having very varied weather. Please can you make sure that when it's hot and sunny that your child/ren come to school with their sun hat - we had a surprising amount of children in school without them at different points last week! (sun cream and water bottles too!) Having said that – it might be waterproofs this week, please check the weather sending your child to school suitably dressed and ready for any eventuality. Thank you to all of the parents who have been supporting the Year 5 children who have been gardening this year. By buying their produce and plants that they sell, you are enabling the club to be self-sufficient – so thank you. I hear that their broad beans were really good!

Music Lesson Opportunities

We will be holding our summer music concert on Wednesday 16th July. This is where we celebrate the hard work that some of our children have put into learning a musical instrument. Last week we had an assembly with Phil Jones, who came in to talk to the children about drumming lessons. Three children who have lessons currently were really impressive – with little notice all had the confidence to play a piece in front of the school – well done Frank, Julian and Niall, we were all so impressed with you. As well as drumming, we have teachers who offer – piano, violin, singing and guitar lessons. If this is something that you feel you would like your child to benefit from, do get in touch with the teachers who will be more than happy to help you. Please see below for the teachers contact details:-



Rich Tuttle: Guitar - rtguitarservices@gmail.com

Emily Mason: Singing, Strings and Piano - emilykakizakiblogg@gmail.com

Hannah Thomas: Piano - mrsthomasmusic@gmail.com

Phil Jones: Drums - phil@inspiredrums.com

EYFS parents evening

We held our New Parents evening last week and it was lovely to meet new families that have chosen our school as well as some existing families too. I would like to thank Mrs Daly for preparing the evening and presenting what we hope is all of the information that new parents need. If any current parents who attended feel there is anything that we didn't share that would have been useful to you please do let us know - we would value your feedback. Thank you to the PTA for sorting out the second hand uniform in reception sizes – we sold quite a bit that night and to Mrs Wooldridge who represented the Governors. I would like to thank again the PTA for all of the funding that they have given to the development of the reception environment, with the hard work of the staff and governors the area really has been transformed as was mentioned by several parents that night.

Transition Sessions



As you are aware, your children are spending their Friday REACH activity with their new teacher. The sessions are going well and the children that I have spoken to are positive and excited about their new class next year. The transition is set up to enable the children to make a smooth transition to the next year group. If your child

appears to have any worries at all, please do let class teachers know so that we are able to deal with them and reassure if necessary.

Leavers' Mass

Our Year 6 children were at Clifton Cathedral last week with Mrs Knight, Mrs Hamlin, Mrs Barron and Miss Gardiner for their leaver's mass. We were unable to hire a coach so I would like to thank all of the parents who drove and joined the service too: Mrs Pinnock, Mrs Connolly, Mrs Faulkner, Mrs Batten, Mrs Wooldridge, Mrs Wright and Mrs Hill. The children and staff said what a lovely service it was, that our children's behaviour was excellent and they did us proud.



First Holy Communion

Our Year 3 children took their First Holy Communion this weekend. The children looked beautiful and did so well. It was lovely to see the children supported by so many of their families. Father Philip and Deacon Domenic celebrated some of the Mass in Italian too. I would like to thank Mrs Gwyer for once again preparing the children so well and for organising the celebration afterwards at school – even making the celebration cake! Thanks also go to all of the staff who supported the children in this very special sacrament; Mrs Carr, Miss Drury, Mrs Jenkins, Mrs Barron and Miss Gardiner.

Congratulations to Tristan who celebrated his First Holy Communion last weekend too at St Joseph's, Stonehouse.



Health week

Health week is fast approaching. Thank you to all of the parents who have offered to come at some point during that week to offer something sport/health related to the children. Mrs Daly has collated all of the responses and the timetable for the week once again is looking great. How lucky the children are to have parents/grandparents who are willing to give up their time, share their skill and make a difference to the children. We are so grateful to you all – thank you.

Parent Forum

Thank you to all of the parents who came to the parent forum last week. It was a really helpful meeting and some good ideas shared that we will take on board and will help us to make improvements moving forward. One immediate change is that from September, all staff led clubs will finish at the same time for KS1 and KS2. This will mean that parents will not have to wait with younger children which can be tricky especially during the winter.

Attendance Matters, Moments Count

Just a reminder, children need to be walking through the school gates by 8.45am to be on time for learning. Whilst the gates don't close until 8.50am – any child walking through the gates at this time, or just before they close will be late for their first lesson of the day - reading.

We understand how busy a morning can be busy thank you for your support with this.



Breakfast Club

OOSC News

Some of you will be delighted to know that from September breakfast club will be opening from 7.30am. We know that this will make a big difference to some of our working parents. I would like to thank Marie and the team for being so flexible and willing to open at this earlier time to help some of our families out.

New PTA Logos

Introducing the new PTA logos that you will see on their letterheads, signs, advertising etc. We would like to congratulate Henry Trew once again for the fabulous design and Mrs Faulkner, who has digitalised Henry's work – don't they look great - thank you so much.



PTA News

Don't forget about the PTA fun run after school tonight. The children really enjoyed this event last year - thank you to the PTA for putting in the time and effort to organise this and to the parents and children who support it. All of the funds raised will go towards enhancing opportunities for all of the children.



Ice cream Sales



There continues to be a shortage of volunteers for the ice cream sales this week – if you are planning on letting your child/children play after school on a Friday even if it is only for 10 minutes please do consider volunteering to help sell ice creams – the children really enjoy it.

OOSC AGM



The new date for the OOSC AGM is Tuesday 1st July, 7.30pm on TEAMS. Please do join if you can, especially if you are a parent who depends on this essential childcare service that the club provides. This meeting needs at least 12 parents to be quorate. The committee have arranged it on Teams in the hope that this will enable enough parents to join.

Mini Pilgrimage to St Roses and the Rosary School written by Charlotte Trimble Y3

Last Monday the Year 3 chaplaincy team and the children making their First Holy Communion were invited to St Roses to join in a mini pilgrimage with the Rosary school. We first went to St Roses school where we met some of the teachers and pupils and we walked with them to the Immaculate Conception to join with the Rosary school. Father Gary met us there. We were shown some sign language for a song that we would be singing at the end of the pilgrimage.

St Joseph's read the bidding prayers. After Father Gary said a reading and a prayer we then moved in procession to the Rosary while singing a hymn.

We went into the Rosary school where we sat in the school hall with the rest of the school and St Roses and listened to more prayers before going in procession to St Roses school.

I enjoyed it because we could meet lots of new children and we sat and had a picnic with them at St Roses. I had a nice time. We also went into the chapel in St Roses where we said a quiet prayer together before coming back to school. We were each given a little bag with the Pilgrims of Hope symbols in them.



Beyond the School Gate

Thank you to the parents who came to the parent support group with Sam Stocken on Tuesday, although the response was somewhat disappointing. I hope that the parents who were able to come found the session useful. Thank you also goes to Mrs Ponting for organising this event.

Please look after our environment

Concerns have been raised by several parents and staff about what some children are allowed to do while waiting to come into school either at school drop off, pick up or while waiting for a club to finish.

Children are being allowed to:

Climb on/walk on the dry stonewall between school and the bus shelter

Walk along the logs outside of the school

Play in the hole in the hedge by the public footpath

The results of this over time is that the wall is being damaged, parts are beginning to fall down, the logs are being kicked off and broken and the hole in the hedge is becoming bigger - at times some children have been seen in the convent garden.

Whilst none of the above belong to the school, we are responsible for any damage that is caused by our community. We have already funded a re-build of the wall and mending of the retaining logs happened only 2 years ago. Not only are these costly to repair, we don't have the money in the budget for it and even if we did – we would far rather spend limited funding on resources for the children.

Please when waiting to come onto the school grounds ensure that your children are not walking on the wall, logs or playing in the hedge. Thank you for your support and understanding.



Thursday 3rd July – Year 2 10am
Thursday 10th July – Year 1 10am
Thursday 17th July – Whole School Leavers 9.30am



Just a reminder that you are able to access and see the focus for our Liturgies through the Ten Ten monthly Parent Newsletter.

<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/WbzrXSiGw16hU/>

This week's prayer is written by Y3:

Almighty Father,

Thank you for this year we have had at school,
We are grateful for the beautiful grounds that surround our school,
Thank you for keeping our world from darkness,
We thank you for the faith the Holy Spirit brings us,
Help us to grow in faith as we grow through your school,
And help us to perform little acts with great love that make a big difference.

Amen

Dates
for your



Summer Term 2 - June

Mon 30th - Y6 production dress rehearsal
2.00pm

Tues 1st - Y6 production 2.00pm

Wed 2nd - Y6 production 6.30pm

Thurs 3rd - EYFS Transition afternoon

Thurs 3rd - Y6 production 6.30pm

**TEACHER RUN AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
FINISH WEEK ENDING 4TH JULY**

W/B 7th - Health Week

Tues 8th - Activities (morning)

Tues 8th - Sports Day 1.00pm

Wed 9th - reserve Sports day

Fri 11th - Reports out to parents

W/B 14th - Week of Awe and Wonder

Tues 15th - Whole School picnic - Y6 grow
£5 stalls

Wed 16th - Music concert PM

Thurs 17th - Leavers' mass 9.30am

Thurs 17th - Final celebration assembly
2.45pm

Fri 18th - Leavers' assembly 9am

End of the Year 1.30pm