



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

## Newsletter – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Dress for the weather

Well, the rain is falling again. To maximise our fabulous school grounds at break and lunch times please make sure that your child has a pair of wellingtons in school, now that the grass is wet in the morning either from rain or heavy dew, wellies will be required to enable your child to go on the school field at break and some lunch times. KS1 have wellie racks by their classrooms. Year 3, 4 and 5 have the 'wellie shed' on the playground and Year 6 have a trolley in their corridor.



### Ready to Learn whatever the weather



Just a reminder that Fridays are really active, children do outdoor learning and gardening. Often, there are children who do not have coats. This week a class was unable to do gardening because there did not have coats and wellies - definitely required today! Please make sure that your child has what they need to ensure they can take full advantage of all the exciting opportunities that are available to them.

### School trips

The staff have been planning some exciting trips to enhance the learning for their classes. Year 5 are off to a Stem day on Tuesday and Year 4 are off to Woodchester House. Thank you all for supporting these additional opportunities by helping with transport to keep the cost to a minimum.



### Harvest – everyone is invited!

As you will be aware, next Wednesday we will be celebrating through Harvest Festivals.

9.15am – Reception and Key Stage 1

9.45am – Key Stage 2

If you are able to come and join us, please email the admin team so that we know how many chairs to put out. Parents are welcome to come to both services and wait in the hall in between.

As usual we will be supporting the Stroud Foodbank with our donations. Please see their Autumn Shopping list of most needed items. Donations can be sent into school from Monday – please ensure that if the items are consumables, that they are in date. Many thanks for your support.

STROUD DISTRICT FOODBANK  
**HELPING LOCAL  
PEOPLE IN CRISIS**

**SHOPPING LIST**  
**MOST NEEDED**

Tinned Corned Beef, Tinned Rice Pudding, tinned custard, Jam, Marmite, peanut butter, biscuits, fruit squash, washing up liquid, laundry detergent, toilet rolls.

If you are able to help take the items to the Food Bank after Wednesday, please email the admin team to let us know.

### **Donations please**

Does anyone have any small cars at home that they would like to donate to school? Our new reception class love playing with them and we have a shortage of these for break and lunchtimes. If anyone is able to help out by donating any cars that they no longer need, we (and they) would be really grateful.



### **The Great Year 3 Macmillan Event**

Our Year 3 are very excited. Their REACH Activity this term has been to plan an event and they have chosen the Macmillan Coffee Morning Idea.

The event will take place next **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 1.30pm**

What can you do to help? Bake –if you are able, please support this worthwhile event by donating cakes that the children can sell and come to the event, bring friends and family – all are welcome! The children will be inviting our neighbours from the village too, the more the merrier.

### **Parents Evening**

Thank you all for coming to parents evening. Whilst this is the first meeting and is early in the year, it is important for you to meet your child's new class teacher and share anything that you feel would be useful for them to know or any concerns that you have. Thank you also for turning up on time and ensuring that your meeting didn't over run – it really does make the evening run smoothly for everyone involved.

Help us to help you – is there anything that you feel that we could do at this meeting that would improve parent's evening for you? Please email the admin team with your thoughts and ideas.

### **School Council**

The Council has been elected. These children play a really important role in shaping the school lives for our children. Last year the Council worked with the Chaplaincy Team to develop a prayer garden. The plans have been drawn up and they are now at the stage of getting quotes. Work on this will continue over the next year alongside many other projects throughout the year. Starting with a review of our behaviour policy. Congratulations to Lilly (Y6) who was elected this year's Chair, Vice Chair – Rosie and Secretary – Elsie. And all of the class reps who will be the voice for their friends.

### **Sporting Fixture News**

This week our Y6 and Y5 girls took part in a football tournament at Rednock – wearing the new sports kit they looked really smart. All of the children represented the school well, were the best that they can be and were great team players. Thank you and well done to Orla W, Megan, Tansy, Grace, Charlotte, Isla H, Rosalie and Orla S.



Next week it is the boys (mixed) football competition and on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October it is the first cross country meeting of the year.

## Parking

We have again had complaints from our neighbours about some of the parking at school drop off and collection. Please can I ask that when you park, you consider the impact on the villagers:

- ✓ Don't block driveways
- ✓ Turn round in driveways
- ✓ Park parallel to the kerb (without the front/rear of the car sticking out)
- ✓ Double park

The village hall is a few minutes walk away and is often empty. Please try to use this as your first option. Many thanks for your support in keeping our neighbours happy.

## Safety First, look after the children at our school!

We have had a couple of parents who have raised concerns about their children being pushed into the road by the staff car park gate, where parents are congregating while waiting to drop off their children. Please can parents be aware of the children that are walking down the path to the main school gate.

In light of the concerns that have been raised, we have contacted the police who will be dropping by at some point to monitor the situation.

## Chaplaincy Commissioning



We had a lovely morning, yesterday, when we took our new members of the Chaplaincy Team to Clifton Cathedral, where they took part in the Commissioning Service and received their badge. They sang beautifully and were the best that they could be. Thank you to Mrs Barron and Mrs Hill who do such a fantastic job of leading the team and to Mrs Foran and Mrs Montgomery, who joined us and helped to transport the children there and back.

## Keeping up with Technology

We have worked really hard to improve the efficiency of our IT over the past few years. Starting with upgrading the infrastructure, new laptops and laptops for staff and children, new photocopiers and the last investment is to upgrade the smart boards in the classrooms. As you can imagine, this is not a cheap upgrade, however, with the help of the PTA new smart boards will be installed during the October half term.



## Building Work

The plans for the work that is being done to the hall wall is moving swiftly ahead and scaffolding is due to be put up on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. It is estimated that the work will take between 3-4 weeks.

## PTA News



I would like to say thank you to the PTA for a great Autumn Fair. There has been so much excitement about the event. Thank you all too for your donations and anything that you did that contributed to the success of the afternoon and for bringing your families to support the event.

**On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm – AGM** at School. Please come along and support the evening. We need your ideas and support, please do come along and help shape the future of St Joseph's PTA.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November – PTA Firework night.** This will be the last firework night and is promised to be the biggest and the best.

**24<sup>th</sup> November** – PTA School Disco



<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/programmes/collective-worship/>

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



This week's prayer was written by;  
Molly, Bella, Amberlee, Illythia,  
Elizabeth

Prayer for our school

Lord, help me guide everyone in my class.

Help us to keep this world healthy and clean.

Thank you for uniting all our friends together again.

We are so thankful for the amazing cooks we have at school who provide us with yummy food every day.

## Class Mass

Class Mass will take place on a Thursday at 10am, we would be delighted if you are able to join your child's and their class when it is their turn.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Year 4

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2

# Dates for your



## October

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Y5 Stem Day at Wycliffe

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Harvest Liturgy  
(KS1 9.15am) (KS2 9.45am)

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October cross country  
race

WB 23<sup>rd</sup> - Week of Awe and Wonder

WB 23<sup>rd</sup> - Y6 residential week

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term

## Autumn Term 2

## November

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> - PTA firework night

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - INSET day - staff

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Y6 K'nex Challenge

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Y5 swimming starts

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Stroud Book  
Festival

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - KS1 Stroud Book Festival

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day  
10.30am

WB 13<sup>th</sup> - Anti bullying week (Make a  
noise about bullying)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Councillors visiting Year 6

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November cross country  
race

WB 20<sup>th</sup> - Structured conversations  
face to face

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> - Advent Retreat

## December

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December cross country  
race

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - KS1 dress rehearsal  
(11am)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> - 9.30am KS1 Nativity

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> - 2.00pm KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - School Christmas dinner

6.30pm - KS2 Carol Concert

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Pantomime AM

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - Christingle AM

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Christmas Breakfast

Assembly 9.30am Hamper raffle

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Key Stage parties in the  
morning

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 1.30pm end of term

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Christmas jumper day

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> End of term 1.30pm