



ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a lovely week it has been to start this new half-term. With October running into November and the first frost of the winter on my car this morning you can really feel the changing of the seasons. Dare I even mention the 'c' word with just 51 days to go before Christmas.

I was delighted that Father Simon joined us on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November in whole school mass to celebrate the holy day of obligation on All Saints Day. It is always a joy to see the school and parish working together so it was lovely that some parishioners were also in attendance.

On Thursday we also held a Governing Body meeting where the school development plan was shared with Governors. Unbelievably with half a term already completed we discussed the school's priorities as we try as ever to make St Joseph's an even better school. Hopefully if you have children in Years 1-6 they might have been mentioning some of the Curriculum lessons that have already been taught using our new scheme. I propose that I will share details of the new scheme at an information evening in the new Year once we have taught it for a full term.

Today we also welcomed back Hot Chocolate Friday which I understand has gone really well. Also, in our Early Years the children took part in a creative bonfire party which was wonderful.

Thank you as ever for your support of the school and take the time to read the notices below.

### **L is for Love – Children in Distress Shoebox Appeal 2022**

This year's "Love in a Box" Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2022 is here!

This appeal ensures that infants and children from the poorest families or in orphanages, hospices or hospitals know someone cares at Christmas. It's a volunteer-led appeal to ensure they receive a Christmas gift. Because so many of the donors involved now also fill boxes with senior citizens in mind, the appeal also ensures that those living alone or in care, are not forgotten. These special gift boxes will, for many, make the difference between a little joy and warmth or simply going hungry over the festive season.

**Please can all shoeboxes be returned by next Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.**

### **T is for Teaching- Road Safety Assemblies**

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 Reception to Year 6 children will be attending special assemblies on Road Safety. As the clocks have changed and the nights get shorter this is an important safety message to share with the children.

*Christ be our light, in life, love and learning*

Executive Head Teacher: Mr Simon Geaves Deputy Head Teacher: Miss Elizabeth Wright  
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### **L is for Love- Remembrance Sunday Assembly led by Y6**

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 2.30pm the school will be gathering together for a special Remembrance assembly led by Y6. Parents are invited to join us if they can. Can I take this opportunity to remind you that the school has some poppies and other items for sale, with all voluntary donations being given to the Royal British Legion. The School Council will lead the organisation of this.

### **T is for Teaching - Anti-Bullying Week Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

It is Anti-Bullying Week the week beginning Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November. During anti-bullying week itself, we plan to hold assemblies and other class-based activities to help and support informing our pupils about the issues and potential damage that bullying can do.

To kick start the week we start with Odd Socks Day when children can wear odd socks to celebrate everyone's unique individuality. Have fun choosing the wildest socks you can find.

This year, the theme for the week is 'reach out' – encouraging everyone to come together and reach out to others to stop bullying. We will be holding a special whole school assembly at 11am on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

### **G is for Greatness- Y1 Local School Trip**

Year 1 will be walking into Loftus next Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to carry out a survey of the shops in the local area. Please could you ensure the children have a coat and appropriate footwear.

### **H is for Happy- Bonfire Night this Weekend**

If you are celebrating bonfire Night this weekend, have lots of fun and hot dogs, but please keep the children safe and keep an eye on your lovely pets.

### **I is for Inspire- After School Clubs:**

The following clubs are running this half-term:

- Monday MFC Football
- Tuesday Cooking Club (limited to 12)
- Wednesday Table Tennis Club KS2

Clubs need to be booked via Parent Pay in advance. To ensure that clubs can run smoothly we ask you to sign up for a block of sessions, the cost of each club is £9 for the 6 weeks. The clubs will not be running the last week of term week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

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### **H is for Happy- Stars of the Week:**

This week certificates have been awarded to children who have worked really well:

- LJ- Riva
- FS1-Louie & Sebastian
- FS2- Rosie & Georgina
- Y1- Kaden & Pippa
- Y2- Genevieve & Cimmera
- Y3- Jacob & George
- Y4- Gracie & Oliver
- Y5- Oscar & Fiann
- Y6- Ethan & Sofia

### **L is for Love- Family Mass**

We have a new group of children preparing for their first Holy Communion in school on Monday evenings. The first family Mass is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November and it would be lovely if families were able to attend.

### **Final Thoughts/Prayers:**

Remembrance Prayer:

Ever-living God we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr Geaves  
Executive Head Teacher

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