



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 17th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today is Children in Need Day which is such a wonderful charity that helps so many children and families. If you want to give to this charity click here: <https://donate.bbchildreninneed.co.uk/>

It has been Anti-Bullying Week the week beginning Monday 13th November. The special assembly on Monday was a huge success and we have certainly thought carefully about what to do to help stop bullying at our school by making a noise and telling someone if you are being bullied or see bullying taking place. The Anti-Bullying policy is on the school website for anyone who might need it now or in the future.

Children in Distress Shoebox Appeal 2023

The charitable organisation would like to thank your overwhelming generosity with this appeal. The amount of kindness and love shown in the shoeboxes this year was somewhat humbling- thank you.

Great News- National Spelling Competition Finalists

Children have been taking place on a spelling competition (on spelling sats or emelie app) and have made the final 32 out of over 450 schools. The finals take place next week from 9am on Wednesday 22nd November until 3pm Thursday 23rd November. As much spelling practice on this app on Wednesday night after school as possible will help us in these finals. Thank you to Mrs Fleming for signing us up.

P.E. Uniform

Children should wear their PE uniform on their PE days. We have noticed that some children are not wearing the correct uniform which is listed below. Please can we ask for your support with this matter.

- Black plimsolls and/or trainers;
- Bottle Green PE shorts;
- Yellow T-shirt;
- Black tracksuit bottoms for the winter months (for outside use).

P.E. Timetable- Reminder

- Monday -Y2, Y3, Y4
- Tuesday- Y1 & Y6
- Wednesday- FS2, Y6 & Swimming for Y5 only
- Thursday- Y1&Y2
- Friday- Y3,4&5

Christ be our light, in life, love and learning

Executive Head Teacher: Mr Simon Geaves Deputy Head Teacher: Miss Elizabeth Wright
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Rosecroft Lane, Loftus, Redcar and Cleveland, TS13 4PZ
Tel: 01287 640613 | Email: enquiries@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk | Website: stjosephs.npcat.org.uk

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Attendance Matters

Attending school really does matter and makes a difference to children's educational ability. I have sent some families an attendance letter this week. We are committed to promoting good attendance and reducing absence, including persistent absence and to act early to address patterns of absence. Our target for attendance is 97% which is ambitious but something we strive for for as many as possible. Unfortunately, there are times when children might be too unwell to attend school. If a child has sickness or diarrhoea, they need to stay off school for 48 hours. Please see the current attendance figures for our school below and I thank you all for your continued support of this matter.

	Attendance to date	Ranking
Whole School	95.3%	Concerns Emerging
Year 6	93.2%	Attendance Levels Causing Concern
Year 5	93.9%	Attendance Levels Causing Concern
Year 4	95.6%	Concerns Emerging
Year 3	95.9%	Concerns Emerging
Year 2	95.6%	Concerns Emerging
Year 1	96.8%	Concerns Emerging
Reception	97.3%	Attendance Levels are good
Nursery	98.5%	Attendance Levels are good

PTFA Reminders:

If you would like to be involved but couldn't make the meeting, please drop an email to ptfa@stjosephs.npcat.org.uk.

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- Christmas Bingo: Final Reminder to Save the date! **Thursday 30th November**, doors open 5pm, eyes down 5.30pm. Look out for our meal deal offer - burger/hot dog and a drink! Please can all money for these tickets be sent in by **Wednesday 22nd November**.

Easy Fundraiser App

I have signed up for this and hope that it will raise money for our children whilst doing my online Christmas shopping. Once you have signed up companies give a percentage of some sales to our PTFA. Download the easy fundraiser APP and help raise funds for St Joseph's PTFA whilst you shop online. Businesses will donate money to the fund. There are numerous businesses available including Just Eat, Amazon, Supermarket grocery deliveries to name but a few!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-josephs-ptfa-1>

Christmas Tree Decorations and Large knitted Character raffle 4th- 8th December

One of our Year 3 children will be running a Christmas stall at break times to raise money for Ovarian Cancer. She will be selling knitted Christmas tree decorations, sweet cones, cookies and cakes. There will also be a raffle to win a larger knitted character.

Maths App Change SUMDOG:

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that we no longer use Time Table Rockstars as we have purchased Sumdog to help the children. In our opinion this is a much better app that covers many more parts of the Maths curriculum. Please see if you can spend some time with your child using this app in the next few days.

After School Clubs- Reminder:

- Tuesday – Exciting Computing Club with Miss Ayton (Key Stage 2)
- Wednesday – Dodgeball with MFC
- Thursday – Football Club with MFC

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 £10 for each half-term. The computing club involves children using microbit technology which are pocket sized computers.

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Dates for your calendar:

- Monday 20th November Road Safety Week
- Wednesday 22nd November Closing Date for Bingo tickets (see above)
- Monday 27th November- Advent starts in school.

Christmas at St Joseph's 2023

Mary & Joseph Los Posadas Tuesday 21st November 2023

A special Mary and Joseph doll will be arriving at school on Tuesday before heading to another school on Wednesday. Ask the children about this on Tuesday evening as we start our Christmas preparations in earnest.

Christmas Lunch 19th December 2023

Once again the kitchen will be a hive of activity for this annual treat. If there are any children who would like a Christmas Lunch instead of their usual packed lunch please can you let us know by the **5th of December**.

Advent Stay & Pray Sessions 2023

As the time comes ever closer to get ready for Christmas we will mark the first week of advent with some prayer sessions at the end of each day. They will begin at 2.45pm and we invite any visitors to attend these sessions led by our staff and children. The dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 28th November 2.45pm Year 5 & 6
- Wednesday 29th November 2.45pm Year 1 & 2
- Thursday 30th November 2.45pm EYFS
- Friday 1st December 2.45pm Year 3 & 4

Other Christmas Dates 2023

- Thursday 30th November PTFA Christmas Bingo
- Wednesday 6th December NPCAT Advent Carol Service
- Friday 8th December Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 8th December EYFS nativity 10.00am
- Wednesday 13th December Christmas Panto Trip
- Friday 15th December Y1&2 Christmas Production
- Monday 18th December Christmas Disco 5pm
- Tuesday 19th December Christmas Lunch and Rudolph Run
- Wednesday 20th December Christmas Parties

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Stars of the Week:

This week certificates have been awarded to children who have worked with their PSHE

- LJ- Annabelle M
- FS1-Jackson B & Marlie S
- FS2- Freddie W
- Y1- Arabella H & Poppy H
- Y2- Annie D & Charlie S
- Y3- Martha H & Millie C
- Y4- Abigail W & Imogen T
- Y5- Oliver B & Matthew A
- Y6- Bella S & Xanthie F

Well done to the children for all their hard work.

Final Thoughts/Prayers:

A prayer for children on this 'Children in Need' day.

Gracious and loving God, watch over the youngest among us who face unrelenting and overwhelming troubles, illness and injury. Send your grace upon them so they will know your loving and healing presence. Give to these sick children strength, hope, and joy as they face difficult treatment and recovery.

Amen

Yours sincerely,
Mr Geaves
Executive Head Teacher

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