

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

September 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the start of the new year! We hope you and your families have had a good summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome our pupils back to school this September and also to meet our new joiners in both Early Years and across the school. This term we are also welcoming some new teachers to St Joseph's and wish them - and everyone who is joining us - a very happy start to the term!

Mrs M Murphy

## Family Workers:

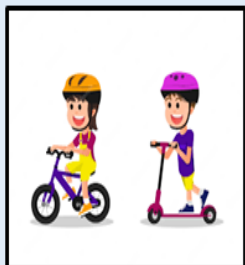
For those who may be new to the school, Mrs. Teresa Naughton, Mrs. Clair Griffin, Mrs. Maria Stevenson and Mrs. Maria Naughton are our Family Workers here at St. Joseph's. They are a huge asset to the school community, playing a valuable role for pupils, parents, carers and staff. They are available during the school day to help you, so should you wish to contact them you may find them on the playground before or after school, or please call the main school number 01582 572964.

## Contact Details:

At the start of the new year, we ask you to ensure your contact details including phone numbers and home addresses and emails are correct and regularly updated. This is essential in the event of an emergency. Please do also let the school know if there are any changes to any medical conditions relating to your child so we can update our records. Thank you.



## Bikes and Scooters:



Please can we remind everyone that when on school grounds, bicycles and scooters should be pushed and not ridden. We ask this to ensure the safety of all our pupils and their families. Thank you for your understanding.

## Eat Well Guide:

The Eat-Well guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet.



You do not need to achieve this balance with every meal, but try to get the balance right over a day or even a week.

To learn more, you can find your guide [here](#)

## Catholic Schools' Week:



Education Sunday was celebrated on the 10th September with Churches together in England and Catholic Dioceses across the country. The theme this year is 'Together in Mission' and during our RE lessons the children will have an opportunity to reflect on their role in working together as we continue to follow in Jesus' footsteps. We would ask families to spend some time in prayer as a family using the resources we have sent home.

## Sports News:

Well done to our Year 6 boys' football team who won their first game of the season 5-1 against St. Matthew's Primary School last week. Netball try-outs for the Year 6 girls' team will be starting soon.

Extra curricular clubs are starting at lunchtime and after school for KS2 children. We are particularly excited for a new Archery Club which begins on Monday for some of our Year 6 pupils.

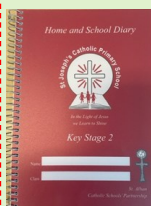


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## Home and School Diary:



The children have now received their Home and School Diary; this includes the Home and School Agreement, key dates, learning prompts and much more. The diary is for the children to record specific tasks or prompts regarding their learning, equipment they may need for activities in school or important class notices such as dates. Any communication or messages regarding absence, appointments or additional information must be written in a separate letter to the class teacher or by telephone through the main School Office. Parents and carers need to ensure that they read and sign their child's diary at the end of each week. Please note if diaries are lost or damaged there is a £2.45 replacement charge.

## PLAYtarium:

We are pleased to advise parents that PLAYtarium which is based on our school site offer wrap around care between 7.45am and 6pm.

Due to limited spaces, bookings must be requested in advance and will be allocated to parents with the highest childcare needs.

If you wish to make a booking please email: [bookings@playtarium.com](mailto:bookings@playtarium.com).



## Play Leaders:

Last week Miss Ovenell trained 48 wonderful Year 6 volunteers, who will take up the important role of Play Leaders this year.

They are really looking forward to ensuring that all the children have an active and enjoyable lunchtime.



## Welcome new staff:

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following members of staff who have joined St Joseph's this year:

Teachers – Miss Richardson and Miss Vikneswaran. Also thank you to Miss Edwards who is currently covering 4PA until Mrs Adams returns from maternity leave at the end of this term.

Sadly, in the next few weeks we will be saying farewell to Mrs Thompson and we would like to thank her for the contribution she has made to the school and wish her every blessing in her new role.



## St Joseph's Parish Mass:

We would like to make parents and carers aware that Year Groups have been invited to celebrate Mass with the Parish of St. Joseph's Church on the following dates:

Year 4: 07 November

Year 3: 05 December

Please be aware that Mass starts at 10:00am. If you would like to join us we ask that you sit towards the back of the Church.



If for any reason we have to cancel these celebrations we will inform parents by ParentMail.





## Welcome Back





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## School Parking:

Parking before and after school continues to be an on-going issue. If you collect your child by car please be considerate of the local residents and other parents.

**Do not** park across private driveways or dropped curbs and avoid confrontation with residents and staff, this is not the type of conduct we expect or promote as role models to our children.

Road Traffic Enforcement will continue to carry out spot checks at both school entrances to help monitor and improve parking congestion at peak times – before and after school.



## Pedestrian Crossings:

We have been advised that there is currently no School Crossing Patrol Officer at the top of Neville Road and the position will soon be advertised by Luton Borough Council. If you would like to apply to become a school crossing patrol officer, please contact Judy Stuart on 01582 546263 or email [judy.stuart@luton.gov.uk](mailto:judy.stuart@luton.gov.uk)

## School Website and Social Media (X):



During the holidays 'Twitter' was rebranded and is now known as 'X'. We will continue to use this social media platform to showcase and share events. Please do also take the time to browse our school website: [www.stjosephsprimaryluton.co.uk](http://www.stjosephsprimaryluton.co.uk) where you can find all key information.

## School Website and Curriculum Updates:

We continue to work hard to maintain a current and informative website. A great deal of time and thought has been given to the design so that it reflects our Catholic faith, and represents the wonderful learning and enjoyment which takes place in our special school community and encourage all parents to make use of the information provided.

## Friends of St Joseph's:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your fundraising efforts last term. Part of this money has been used to purchase new resources for RE including prayer books, and religious icons which will further enhance the childrens' liturgy in their classrooms.

## Mobile Phones:

Please can we ask parents to ensure children do not bring in mobile phones to school; this is against school policy even if children are travelling independently to and from school, as we feel it puts them at risk. If children are found to have one in school, these will be taken away and parents contacted. Thank you for your understanding.



## ParentMail:

If you are not already signed up to ParentMail, we ask that you download the app on your mobile phone and/or tablet. This will help you keep in touch with the school for all the latest communication including booking your appointments for the parent consultations meetings.



It is vital parents who may have changed their details, log into their account to make any changes under 'Settings' then 'Personal Details'.

If you have any difficulty with signing up to ParentMail, please speak to the school office and they will be able to assist you.

