



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Statement to Live By: I co-operate with others in work and play.

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back after half term. We hope you all had a restful break and are looking forward to this half term and the lead up to Easter.

## **Whole School Celebration of the Word**

Lent is a time of growth and preparation. In school, we have been thinking about how we can share God's hope with others this Lent when we GIVE, ACT and PRAY.

Dear Jesus

You are our hope! Thank you that no matter what we go through, we can always have hope and trust in you.

Amen

## **Celebration of the Word**

Our year 4 and year 1 children attended Mass in church on Tuesday morning. Thank you to all of the families and friends who supported the children and attended.

Our year 4 children received their Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of their First Holy Communion journey. Congratulations to all children who received this sacrament, we will continue to keep you in our prayers.

Year 5 and reception class will be attending mass in church on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, we look forward to welcoming families and friends to celebrate this mass with us.

## **Wizard of Oz**

Year 4, year 5 and year 6 enjoyed a performance of the 'Wizard of Oz' at St. Robert's on Tuesday afternoon. The key stage 3 children were performing in the show and we were treat to a lovely afternoon of singing, dancing and performing by the children.

## World Book Day



World book day will be celebrated on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in appropriate pyjama's (no onsies for key stage 1 please.)

There will be book themed activities for each class throughout the day to encourage our love of reading.

## Scholastic Book Fair

Our annual book fair will take place from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March. There will be something for everyone at the book fair with over 30% of titles under £5. World book day vouchers can be accepted at the book fair which will give you £1 off any title on the fair. Each class will visit the book fair during school. The book fair will be open to parents and children after school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March in the morning. The book fair will be 'Cash' only.

## Lent and Holy Week

There are many activities planned for Holy Week, please make a note of the events and dates.



### Big Lent Walk – CAFOD

We are planning a 'Big Lent Walk' from school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, taking in a 1.5km walk around the park and up through the village. We will be leaving school at 3.30pm and ask any children or families wanting to join us to be accompanied by an adult.

Staff will only be there to facilitate the walk and not to chaperone the children. A letter with further information about sponsorship and raising funds for CAFOD will be sent out separately on Arbor.

## Journey Through Easter

As we journey through to Easter, every class will be learning about and recreating one aspect of the Easter story. Leading up to Holy week, each class will video their part of the story. The stories will then be put together and a presentation of the 'Journey through Easter' will be made available to parents on the yard during holy week. We will be using a QR code on each 'station' on the yard. At school pick up throughout the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> March, the 'stations' and QR will be available on the yard and parents will be able to watch each class video from the 'Journey through Easter'.

## Faith in Action

As part of their Faith in Action award, year 6 will be selling raffle tickets from the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> March to raise money for CAFOD. Staff have donated Easter eggs for the raffle prizes which will be drawn on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. It will be 20p per ticket, or £1 per strip with a maximum of 2 strips per child.

## Easter Bags

From Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February, year 2, year 4 and year 6 will be bringing home the Easter bags. Each child will receive the bag to come home overnight, it should be returned the next day so all children will have a turn. The bags are a way to encourage reflection and prayer during Lent.

### **Easter Disco**

We will be holding a school Easter disco on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March after school. Children from Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 2 will have their disco straight from school at 3.20pm to 4.20pm. (Nursery children can return to school). Children from year 3, year 4, year 5 and year 6 will have their disco at 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Tickets will be £4 and children will be provided with a small snack at the disco. Please watch out for a letter on Arbor when payment can be made on Arbor.

### **Non-uniform day**

There will be a non-uniform day on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 50p voluntary donation.

### **Parents Evening**

Parents evenings will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March in the school hall. Allocated 10 minute booking time slots will once again be made through Arbor. Please look out for a letter on Arbor with further information.

### **Sporting Events**

Year 2, year 5 and year 1 will be taking part in sporting events this term, please watch out for letters on Arbor regarding these events.

### **Parking outside school**

#### **Parking outside of school is becoming a safety concern.**

Traffic wardens and parking patrols will be intermittently monitoring parking outside of school.

Please can we remind you to be considerate when parking around school, it has recently become very hazardous for children getting across the road. Parking is not permitted in the bus stop, or on the yellow lines directly outside of school, even for drop off. There is parking availability in the Church carpark and at the park. Sunderland Council are aware and will be doing spot checks on cars parked illegally or causing a hazard and may issue penalty notices.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Mrs E Maher

### **Keeping Children Safe**

Every member of staff in school will act to keep children safe. Our designated staff who have a lead role in keeping them safe are:

Mrs E Maher - Headteacher  
Mrs F Lawton – Acting Deputy Headteacher  
Mrs J Johnson – Senior Leader  
Mrs P Swanston – Business Manager

### **Attendance**

We will be continuing to monitor attendance this term. If attendance has dropped below our Trust target of 97% an attendance letter may be sent out.

Congratulations to year 2, their attendance was 99% this week and therefore they look after 'Bingo' our school attendance mascot until next week.

## What's on this Half Term

27 February 2024	Year 5 and Reception Class – Mass at 10am Our Lady's Church – Parents/carers welcome.
07 March 2024	World Book Day
07, 08, March 2024	Scholastic Book Fair – School Hall 3.20pm
08 March 2024	Reception – Celebration of the Word. 9am School Hall – parents /carers welcome.
11 March 2024	Scholastic Book Fair – School Hall 8.40am
19 March 2024	Parents Evening. School hall.
20 March 2024	Parents Evening. School hall.
25 – 28 March 2024	Journey Through Easter – School Yard
26 March 2024	Big Lantern Walk – 3.20pm
27 March 2024	Non-uniform day – 50p voluntary donation
27 March 2024	Easter Disco – after school
28 March 2024	Break up for Easter Holidays

**School Meals** = Please note the price of a school meal is increasing from 1<sup>st</sup> September to £2.65. Payments should be made through Arbor