

**Newsletter - 7 September 2018**

**Our Catholic Mission**

A very warm welcome back to all our families at St. Joseph’s. We hope you had a lovely summer and we are delighted to see the children looking so well and smartly turned out. We look forward to sharing in the wonderful learning journey that lies ahead of you all.

**Mass of Dedication**

A Mass of Dedication will be taking place in school at 9.30 am on Tuesday 11 September – everyone welcome.

**Welcome**

Please join us in welcoming the family of James (Y6) and we also welcome as a new member of staff Mrs Sbarra.

**Parish Mass/Children’s Liturgy**

The parish newsletter or website [www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk](http://www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk) contains information about Masses and other church notices.

Mass Times: 6pm Saturday @ SS Peter & Paul

(with Children’s Liturgy)

8.30am Sunday @ Holy Cross   
(with Children’s Liturgy)

11am Sunday @ SS Peter & Paul  
(with Children’s Liturgy)

**Family Lunch - Friday 14 September SURNAMES A-B (WEEK 2 MENU)**

**MENU CHOICE TO BE IN BY 12 NOON ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Come and enjoy a school meal with your children on Friday 14 September 2018 at 11.45am. Please ensure your account is in credit by at least £2.76 for your lunch on parent pay. Menu choices are available on the school website. Please email your choice to [lunches@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:lunches@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk) before 12 noon on Wednesday 12 September.

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Year 1, the class with the highest attendance this week with 100% attendance.

**Reception Children**

On Monday 10 September, we welcome our new intake of Reception children. We know that Miss Cartwright and Mrs Delgiudice are very excited to see you all. Reception parents are invited to join the PTFA in the school hall after settling their child into class. This is a lovely opportunity to chat with other Reception parents and to meet the PTFA.

**Pre-School**

The children have settled in well this week. Please remember they will need to bring a labelled coat (and wellies to keep in school).

**After School Clubs**

Information on our After School Clubs can be found on the school website.

**Summer Reading Challenge**

The Summer Reading Challenge finishes on Monday 10 September 2018 at 5 pm so there is still time for your child to get their medal and certificate from the library. The competition is strong this year so we would like to encourage all our pupils to complete the challenge to put us in with a good chance of winning the School Trophy!

**PE Kit**

Please make sure children have the correct PE kit in school each week. Could we ask you to label every item of PE clothing (sharpie pens are the best pens to label clothes with as they do not fade as much). Children will be unable to ‘borrow’ a PE kit from others; unfortunately, if they do not bring their kit to school, they will be unable to take part in this statutory subject.

**Golden Time**

If you have any unwanted board games (in good condition and with all the pieces), the KS2 children would appreciate them for Golden Time.

**Water bottles**

Children should have plain water only in their water bottles. We thank you for not sending them in with flavoured water or juice.

**ParentPay**

Parents are reminded that school lunches need to be pre-booked on ParentPay. If a meal has not been booked, it will be expected that they bring a packed lunch from home. Snacks and Parent Lunches are currently still be ordered on the ‘old’ system, however, we are hoping to be able to introduce the pre-booking system to these in the near future.

**Admissions**

On-line applications for secondary schools has now opened. The closing date for applications is 31 October 2018. The best way to apply is online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

**Parent Helper Induction**

We are very fortunate to have so many parents who are willing to help and offer time to the school. In order to ensure that all parents fully understand the expectations when working in school, and the role they play in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children, a full induction is offered at the start of each year. All volunteers in school will need to attend, even if you attended last year’s induction. Also, any parent or grandparent out there who has a morning or afternoon to offer, you are most welcome to come along. This year, the induction will take place at 11 am on Thursday 13 September. If you are unable to join us at this time, please let me know and I will arrange a suitable date for an alternative meeting.

**Pupil Premium/Free School Meals**

Parents claiming some benefits can claim free school meals for any of their children who are registered at a Staffordshire school and who would normally be at school at lunch time. School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime, and you can save yourself time and money.

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps their school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives.

* [Free school meals information leaflet](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals/free-school-meals-information-leaflet-PDF-.pdf) (397 KB

**Library**Your child’s class teacher will share information with you about when each class will visit the library. Every class will visit the library once each week to change their book. Please ensure your child is able to do so by reminding him/her to return their book to school on the appropriate day. Thank you to Mrs Cooper and all parents who help to run the library.

**Music lessons at St Joseph’s - September 2018**

Thank you to all those who have sent in their forms for music lessons next year. If you would like to apply for lessons, please email [lichfieldmusic@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lichfieldmusic@yahoo.co.uk) or text Clare Ray on  07806 933156 or see the school website.

**Message from the PTFA**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents in this new school year. Please join us on Monday 10 September in the School Hall from 9.10 am for a catch-up and chat.

Our latest newsletter is now available on the school website.

You are automatically a member, but we would be grateful if you could spare some time in becoming an active member. If you are unable to get to meetings but would like to help or have special skills we could use, we would really like to hear from you. Find us on the school website or Facebook "St Joseph's School Lichfield PTFA".

**School Calendar and Information**

You will be able to find more in-depth information on the school website. We will no longer be including a ‘fridge copy’ of the school calendar along with the weekly newsletter as this information is readily available on the website. However, should you require a fridge copy, please email [office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk) and we will email a copy to you.

**New School Year Housekeeping**

Just a couple of polite reminders as we start the new school year:

* Please ensure all your children’s belongings are clearly named
* Please do not enter the school car park especially with children at any time.
* Please email us at [absence@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:absence@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk) before 9 am if your child is going to be absent.

Happy Birthday to Our Blessed Mother Mary

8th September

May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary