

**Newsletter - 14 September 2018**

**Our Catholic Mission**

Thank you to Fr Anthony and all family and parishioners who came to celebrate our Mass of Dedication this week.

We also joined in an on line broadcast with Archbishop Bernard Longley to join in the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the Adoramus congress in Liverpool at the weekend.

St Francis of Assisi is our nearest Catholic Secondary School and a natural progression for children from St. Joseph’s to continue their education in the Catholic faith. Their open evening for children in Year Six is on Wednesday 26 September from 6.30pm.

Y7 open evenings for Secondary Schools in Lichfield are as follows:

Tuesday 25 September – Netherstowe Open Evening – 6.00pm

Wednesday 26 September – King Edwards Open Evening 6.00pm

Thursday 27 September – Friary School Open Evening – 6.00pm

Dates also available on the school website.

**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 21 September SURNAMES C (WEEK 3 MENU)**

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

Come and enjoy a school meal with your children on Friday 21 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 before 12 noon on Wednesday 19 September.

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Reception, the class with the highest attendance this week with 99.7% attendance.

**Star Workers**

Congratulations to our Star Workers this week:

**Reception**: Sean & Isabella E

**Y1**: Jack L & Lily T

**Y2**: Mark & Francesca

**Y3**: India & Samir

**Y4**: Ethan & Amelia S

**Y5**: Liam & Amelia J

**Y6**: Lola & Jai Kai

**Headteacher’s Award**: Noah T-J & Esmee

**Data Collection**

You should have received this week an invitation to provide school via the SIMS Parent Lite app with statutory data. It is important that you provide this information as soon as possible as this will be the information we use in the event of an emergency. Can you please ensure that you have responded to this request by 25 September 2018.

**Reception Children**

On Monday 10 September, we welcomed our new intake of Reception children. What a fantastic bunch they are and have settled in really well. We are looking forward to Year 4 introducing them to the school on Friday 28 September during assembly.

**Y5 Library visit**

Y5 will be working with an artist to create poppies at the library on the afternoon of Wednesday 19th September. If you can help with walking the children there and back, please see or email Mrs Tonks.

**Y5 Alton Castle Meeting**

There is an information meeting for Y5 children going to Alton Castle on Thursday 20 September at 5.00pm in the school hall.

**Summer Reading Challenge**

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge and has brought in their certificate. It was a close competition but we were pipped to the post by Christ Church! Reading challenge reward assembly will take place on Monday 24th Septmeber so bring your certificates in by Monday 17th September.

**PE & Swimming 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.

Year 3 need their swimming kit every Monday morning. Please be aware, if you haven’t already, you must give permission for your child to wear goggles.

**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 children 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)

**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

**Parent Helpers**

Thank you to all who came to the Induction meeting this week. We really appreciate all your help. We could still do with even more even if for one morning or afternoon a week.

**Library**Your child’s class teacher will share information with you about when each class will visit the school 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. If you would like to apply for lessons, please email lichfieldmusic@yahoo.co.uk or text Clare Ray on  07806 933156 or see the school website.

**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 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 before 9 am if your child is going to be absent.



Thank you to Y6 for their lovely

Assembly about change this morning.

May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary