

**Newsletter - 28 September 2018**

**Our Catholic Mission**

We look forward to welcoming family, friends and parishioners to share in our Harvest Mass on Tuesday 9 October 2018 at 9.30am.It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible there to join in our celebration. Can children also bring in items of dried, tinned and packet foods to be shared amongst the needy. Harvest items can be dropped in to the school office from Thursday onwards. Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to others.

**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)

**Star Workers**

Congratulations to our Star Workers this week:

**Reception**: Marina & Daniel

**Y1**: Darcie & Rory

**Y2**: Aoife & Jamie

**Y3**: Bree & Noah W

**Y4**: Evie & Harley

**Y5**: Nancy & Tom

**Y6**: Olivia & Owen

**Headteacher’s Award**: Tess & Edward

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Y1 and Y5 the classes with the highest attendance this week with 99% attendance.

**School App**

Can you please download the school app onto your mobile phone or tablet. You will find us in the app store under “School Jotter” and you will need to find us using our Postcode “WS14 9AN”.

**Reception Parents Workshop – 1 October 2018**

We look forward to welcoming Reception parents to our phonics and writing workshop on Monday 1 October from 3.45pm – 4.45pm. It is an informal session where Miss Cartwright will demonstrate how phonics is delivered and encourage children’s progress in writing in school so that you can provide consistent and invaluable support for your child with their reading and writing at home.

**Quiz Night – Holy Cross**

On Saturday 6 October 7.30pm in the Parish Hall (for 8pm start). Bar and raffle. Tickets are £7 including a fish & chip supper. Max 6 per team. Tickets available from Wendy Cleary and Dave Brown. All proceeds will go to the Haiti Project: Earthquake & Hurricane Relief.

**Photographer – Monday 8 October**

The school photographer will be here on 8 October – individual and siblings. If you would like a photograph of your children with their younger siblings who are **NOT** in school, please make sure you arrive **by 8.30am** - photographs can then be taken before registration.

**Family Lunch - Friday 12 October SURNAMES H-K (WEEK 3 MENU)**

**MENU CHOICE TO BE IN BY 12 NOON ON 10 OCTOBER 2018**

Come and enjoy a school meal with your children on Friday 12 October 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 10 October.

**Rainbows**

Rainbows provides a safe setting in school in which children can talk through their feelings with their peers who are experiencing similar situations. They are helped to articulate their feelings by a trained facilitator. If you feel your child would benefit from these sessions, please speak to a member of staff.

**Open Day for prospective Parents – 14 November**

If you have a child starting school in September 2019 and would like to come and visit the school, we are holding an Open Day on Wednesday 14 November at 9.30am and 1.30pm. Please call the office on 01543 263505 with your preferred time slot.

**Garrick – Tuesday 4 December 2018**

On 4 December we are taking the whole School and Pre-School to see Dick Whittington at The Garrick. The cost of the trip is £13.25 – to guarantee a ticket for your child, please purchase on ParentPay **by midday on** **5 October**. We are unable to guarantee that we will be able to get further tickets after this date.

We will need some helpers to walk and stay with the children during the performance, if you are available to assist, please tick your availability on ParentPay.

**PTFA**

* The PTFA are meeting at The Duke of Wellington on **Thursday 4 October** (7.30pm) – all welcome.
* If you are aware of anybody who would kindly donate raffle prizes for the Christmas Fayre, please ask PTFA Chair, Eva Coustumer, or the office for a suggested letter template.
* We are looking for a Parent Rep for Pre-School. The role of the parent rep is to be the liaison between the core PTFA team and their year group. Please email ptfa@stjosephslichfield.org.uk for more information.

**Parents Guide to Fortnite**

As many children now have access to games online, the NSPCC and net-aware have created a Parents “need to know” guide to the game Fortnite. If your child has asked to play this game please take a look at this guide to help you ensure your child is protected online <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/fortnite-all-you-need-know/>

**Film Club (Y3-Y6)**

There are still some spaces left in The Young Filmmakers Club. Please see ‘Parents/After School Clubs’ on the website for more details.

**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.

**Headlice**

Please regularly check your child’s hair for unwanted visitors and treat accordingly. For more information <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com>

**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

**School Calendar and Information**

You will be able to find more in-depth information on the school website. Top tip from Mrs Roberts - if you click the calendar icon in the top right hand corner again once you have loaded the calendar on the App, it will provide you with a full list of dates. However, should you still require a fridge copy, please email office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk and we will email a copy to you.

Thank you to Y4 for their lovely assembly introducing the Reception class this morning.



All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.

St Francis

May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary