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Cherry Orchard, Lichfield, WS14 9AN Tel: 01543 263505 25 November 2016

Website address: <http://www.stjosephslichfield.org.uk> Twitter: @StJoesLichfield

**Our Catholic Mission**

Please join us on Sunday at Ss. Peter and Paul’s Church when Father Gerry Lennon will be celebrating our Advent Family Mass at 11.00 am. Children do not need to wear school uniform, but should dress smartly. They should sit with their families or the choir, unless they are reading. Readers sit in the front bench. I am conscious that this is a busy time of year, and it is late confirmation that this Mass is going ahead but I ask for your support in ensuring that this Advent Family Mass is well attended.

**Father Michael**

Please join me in sending our prayers and best wishes to Father Michael as he leaves us to move to a new parish in Reading. Thank you so much for your generosity in contributing to Father Michael’s collection. He was overwhelmed with the kindness of everyone and delighted to receive the cards and well wishes from the children.

**Holy Communion**

The Sacrament of the Eucharist - First Holy Communion – will be celebrated on Sunday 7th May 2017 at SS Peter and Paul’s at 1.00pm.

**Parish Mass/Children’s Liturgy**

The parish newsletter or website www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk contains information about Masses and other church notices.

Mass Times: 6.00pm Saturday @ SS Peter & Paul (with Children’s Liturgy)

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

**11.00am Sunday @ SS Peter & Paul (with Children’s Liturgy)**

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Y5 with 99.4% attendance this week – well done.

**Outdoor PE**

Now the weather is getting considerably colder, please make sure all children bring in jogger tops and bottoms (clearly labelled) for outdoor PE.

**Reception**

On Monday 5 December at 2.45pm, Reception parents are warmly invited to come in and help children decorate Christmas cards and baubles.



**Y5**

On Thursday afternoon, Y5 had a visit from the freshwater theatre company for an interactive drama session linked to next week's topic- Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot.

**Family Lunch - Friday 2 December U-Z**

**MENU CHOICE TO BE IN BY 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2016**

Come and enjoy a school meal with your children on Friday 2 December at 11.45am. Please pay £2.76 for your lunch on parent pay by Wednesday 30 November 2016 using your child’s school dinner account. Menu choices available are: fish fillet, vegetarian roll, jacket potato, cheese, or tuna sandwich. Please speak to, or email, Mrs Burke by 12 noon on Wednesday 30 November of your menu choice.

**Parent Pay**

Could we please politely remind you to keep parent pay acounts up-to-date?

**Y2 – Topic Week**

As part of Topic Week, Y2 will be learning about Victorian schools. On Wednesday 30th November, the class will be having a ‘Victorian morning.’ Can children please dress as a Victorian school pupil for the day? If you have any questions please speak to Mrs Dolphin.

**Christmas Lunch**

This year’s Christmas lunch is on Monday 12 December 2016. This is always such a lovely, festive event and anticipated with much excitement. If your child would like a Christmas lunch please complete the form at the end of this newsletter. All orders to be placed by MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016. Please note we are aware the majority of KS1 children, and quite a few in KS2, have a school lunch every day; however we need to ensure numbers are correct and ask that everyone completes the form below to confirm the orders. Even if your child is in KS1 and receives infant free school meals, we still need this to be completed.

**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 the school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives. Even if your child is receiving free infant school meals, and you may be eligible, please apply.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals/free-school-meals-information-leaflet-PDF-.pdf>

**PTFA Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you so much to the families that have sent in boxes; the office is beginning to look quite festive! If you have not already done so and would like to fill a box, the collection date for the boxes has been extended to Friday 2 December 2016.

**Christmas Fayre**

Preparations are well underway for the Christmas Fayre and thank you so much for the teddy bears and chocolates sent in last week and today. The next Dress down day is Friday 2nd December – please bring in jars, unwanted gifts, books, toys and bottles.

**Is Your Child 4 years old before 1 September 2016?**

The online applications service for a school place in September 2017 opened on 1 November 2016 [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions) Please ensure applications are submitted by Sunday 15 January 2017. For assistance please call the Customer Contact Centre on 0300 111 8007 or email: [admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk).

***And finally…***

You will find the dates for spring term at the foot of this newsletter. Please copy and stick on the fridge!!

May God be with you.





Mrs D McLeary

Headteacher

**Christmas Lunch – Monday 12 December 2016**

**I confirm that my child/children would like to have a Christmas Lunch @ £2.20 per child**

**Name of child: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………Y……………………………………………**

**Name of child: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………Y………………………………………………**

**Name of child: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………Y………………………………………………**

**Please ensure this is returned to school by Monday 5 December 2016**

L**ooking Ahead…**

**School Dates –**

**Changes in red**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday 27th November | | Advent Family Mass 11am SS P&P |
| Monday 28th November | | Mission Assembly 9:10am  Topic Week |
| Tuesday 29th November | | Homework due |
| Wednesday 30th November | | Y5 Bikeability in daytime |
| Thursday 1st December | | Y6 Bikeability in daytime  PTFA Film Night |
| Friday 2nd December | | Advent assembly  Y6 Bikeability in daytime  Homework set  Family lunch U-Z |
| Monday 5th December | | Mission Assembly  YR - 2.45pm Parents to help decorate Christmas cards and baubles. |
| Tuesday 6 December | | Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 immunisation Flu jab |
| Thursday 8th December | | Christmas Fayre |
| Friday 9th December | | Christmas Plays:  Pre- School & Reception- 9.30am  Year 4 Library visit Tolkien Exhibition – 9.30-11.30am  Year 1 & 2- 2.00pm |
| Monday 12th December | | Mission Assembly  Christmas Lunch |
| Tuesday 13th December | | Homework due  Whole School End of term Mass 9.30 am  6.30pm KS2 Carol Service at SS P& P |
| Wednesday 14th December | | 1.30pm Sleeping Beauty at The Garrick Theatre |
| Thursday 15th December | | Party & Toy Day |
| Friday 16th December | | No homework set for Christmas holiday  Finish @ 2.30pm |
| Tuesday 3rd January | | INSET Day |
| Wednesday 4th January | | Children Return to School |
| Tuesday 3rd January | INSET DAY | |
| Wednesday 4th January | Children return  Mission assembly 9.10am | |
| Friday 6th January | No assembly  PTFA coffee morning  Set Homework | |
| Monday 9th January | 9.10 am - Mission assembly – Grateful and generous | |
| Tuesday 10th January | 2.30pm Start of Term Mass – Father Gerry Lennon | |
| Friday 13th January | Y6 Celebration assembly - All parents welcome | |
| Monday 16th January | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 17th January | Homework returned | |
| Wednesday 18th January | Family lunch – Family surnames A-B | |
| Friday 20th January | Homework set  Y5 celebration assembly - All parents welcome | |
| Sunday 22nd January | First Holy Communion and Confirmation Enrolment Mass 11am  SS Peter & Paul’s Church – All families welcome TBC | |
| Monday 23rd January | TOPIC WEEK THIS WEEK  9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Wednesday 25th January | House Assembly 9.10am  Family lunch – surnames C-D  First Holy Communion Parents meeting 6.00 pm – School hall | |
| Friday 27thJanuary | INSET day | |
| Monday 30th January | One Life music – ‘We will go out retreat’ day – all parents welcome to take part in the Liturgy at end of day | |
| Tuesday 31st Jan | Homework due | |
| Wednesday 1st Feb | Family lunch – surnames E-G | |
| Friday 3rd February | Homework set  Y4 Celebration assembly – all parents welcome | |
| Monday 6th February | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 7th February | Safer Internet day | |
| Wednesday 8th Feb | Family Lunch – surnames H-J | |
| Friday 10th February | Y3 celebration assembly – all parents welcome | |
| Monday 13th February | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 14th February | Homework due | |
| Wednesday 15th Feb | Family lunch – surnames K-L | |
| Thursday 16th February | Y5 and Y6 school council 10am @Ss P and Ps | |
| Friday 17th February | No assembly  Homework set  Break up for half term | |
| Monday 27th February | Return to school  9.10 am - Mission assembly – Attentive and discerning | |
| Tuesday 28th February | Homework due | |
| Wednesday 1st March | Ash Wednesday Mass – 2.30pm TBC | |
| Thursday 2ndMarch | World Book Day | |
| Friday 3rd March | PTFA coffee morning  Homework set | |
| Monday 6th March | No Assembly | |
| Wednesday 8th March | House assembly 9.10am  Family lunch – surnames M-O | |
| Friday 10th March | Y2 celebration assembly – all parents welcome | |
| Monday 13th March | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 14th March | Homework due | |
| Wednesday 15th March | Family lunch – surnames P-R  Parents Evening 4 – 6.30pm | |
| Thursday 16th March | Parents Evening 5 – 7.30pm | |
| Friday 17th March | Y1 celebration assembly – all parents welcome  Homework set | |
| Sunday 19th March | Feast of St. Joseph (19th) Family Mass TBC | |
| Monday 20th March | TOPIC WEEK THIS WEEK  Mission assembly 9.10am | |
| Wednesday 22nd March | Family lunch – surnames S-T | |
| Friday 24th March | YR celebration assembly – all parents welcome | |
| Monday 27th March | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 28th March | Homework due | |
| Wednesday 29th March | Family lunch – surnames W-Z | |
| Friday 31st March | Set homework | |
| Monday 3rd April | 9.10 am - Mission assembly | |
| Tuesday 4th April | 1.30pm - Y3 and Y4 Dress Rehearsal | |
| Wednesday 5th April | 6.00pm - Y3 and 4 Easter Play | |
| Thursday 6th April | 2.30pm - Stations of the Cross | |
| Friday 7th April | Am - Easter Egg Treasure Hunt  2.30pm Breakup | |
|  | A few extras! | |
| Monday 24th April | Return to school | |
| Sunday 7th May | First Holy Communion – SS Peter and Paul’s – 1.00pm | |
| Monday 15th May | SATs week | |
| Friday 26th May | Sports Day  Break up for half term | |
| Monday 5th June | INSET Day | |
| Tuesday 6th June | Children return to school | |
| Monday 3rd July | Y6 residential week – Standon Bowers | |
| Tuesday 25th July | Break up for summer 2.30pm | |
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