

Cherry Orchard, Lichfield, WS14 9AN Tel: 01543 263505 8 December 2017

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

**Our Catholic Mission**

The Carol Service at SS P&P church on Tuesday 12 December at 6.30pm, as always, promises to be a memorable and special family occasion hearing the beautiful message of Christmas and we are really looking forward to family and friends being there. Please note that although it is KS2 children taking part all other children and parents are most welcome to join us and share this lovely experience. Children will need to arrive promptly at 6.15 pm on Tuesday night to take their allocated seats/positions. They will need to come wearing full uniform, including jumpers (or costume if part of the nativity scene) and leave coats with parents as there will be nowhere to store them.

Family friends and members of the parish are all warmly invited to join us for our End of term Mass which will be at 9.30 am on Tuesday 19th December in the school hall.

**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: 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)

​​**Is Your Child 4 years old before 1 September 2018?**

The online application service for a school place in September 2018 opened on 1 November 2017 [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions) Please ensure applications are submitted by Monday 15 January 2018. For assistance please call the Customer Contact Centre on 0300 111 8007 or email: [admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk). Copies of baptismal certificates can be handed in to the school office. If you have a child starting school in September 2018 and would like to come and visit the school, we are holding another Open Day on Monday 27 November at 11.00am. Please phone the office on 01543 263505 with your preferred time-slot.



**Garrick (Whole School and Pre-School) – Wednesday 6 December**

AMAZING – what a brilliant performance! The whole school got totally involved, had a fun filled afternoon and the children were all impeccably behaved. Thank you so much to the Garrick for the wonderful experience.

**Violin lessons**

Please could children make sure they have their violins with them on Monday 18 December. Thank you.

**Online Safety**

We have recently had some concerns that some children may be accessing online content at home that is unsuitable.  Are you aware of what types of online content your children can access at home? Please read the attached leaflet which is a very helpful checklist regarding dangers for children online.  There are also some very good websites with latest information and helpful tips for how to help your children stay safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/about-us/partners/nspcc-o2-online-safety-partnership/>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

**Snacks**

There will be no snacks on Monday 18 December (christmas dinner) and Tuesday 19 December (last day).

**Spring Term Dates**

The dates for the Spring term are at the foot of the newsletter.

**Provision of Break-time Snack and School Meals**

Can we please remind parents of the school Debt Policy (on the school website) regarding  break-time snack and school meals.  Should your Parentpay account fall in to deficit we may not provide snacks or a school meal until the account is brought back into credit, this is to help prevent the build-up of a substantial debt. Parentpay accounts are checked each morning and those accounts in deficit will not receive snack that day (children will be offered fruit instead and advised to speak to their parent). If a school meal is requested (Y3-Y6) parents will receive a text message requesting that the account is credited immediately or a packed lunch is provided. Parents are requested to check their account regularly to ensure that services are not refused however, should you have any difficulties please speak to the School Office as soon as possible and we will endeavour to assist.

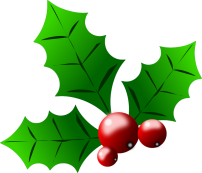
**Sent on behalf of Public Health England**

* All children aged 2 and 3 years old (i.e. children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2015) will be given their free flu vaccination at their general practice, usually given by the practice nurse.  Parents should contact their GP to make an appointment.
* All children in reception class and school years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be offered their free flu vaccine in school, via the school-based immunisation programme.  If a child in this age group, also has health condition that puts them at increased risk from flu, parents can ask their GP surgery to provide the vaccine, if they don’t want to wait until the school vaccination session or if this is what they prefer.

The contact details for the school aged immunisation service in Staffordshire are: SSOTP School Age Immunisation Service: Phone: 0300 124 0366

Email: [school.immunisation@ssotp.nhs.uk](mailto:school.immunisation@ssotp.nhs.uk) (South Staffordshire); [schoolimmunisation.north@ssotp.nhs.uk](mailto:schoolimmunisation.north@ssotp.nhs.uk) (North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent)

* Children aged 2 to 17 years old with a long-term health condition which puts them at greater risk of flu who are not offered their free flu vaccine as part of the school based programme, should be given their flu vaccine at their General Practice. Parents should contact their GP to make an appointment.



**Christmas Fayre – Friday 8 December**

Preparations are being finalised for the Christmas Fayre after school tomorrow - doors open at 4.30pm. Remember tomorrow is a non uniform day and children are asked to bring in cakes as well as bottles, chocolates and jars Promises to be a great evening.

**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>

**Christmas Plays – Polite Reminder**

We are excited to welcome you to our Christmas plays next week – Pre-School and Reception on Wedneday 13 at 9.30am and Y1 and Y2 on 13 December at 2pm. Please note that whilst we still allow people to take photographs of these special performances, it is always on the understanding that photographs which include other children must not be put on social media ie facebook or Whatsapp as permission will not have been given from all other parents involved. It would be unfortunate if this were to happen as we would have to say no photos allowed at any event.

***And Finally…***

You may have seen the weather forecast for tomorrow is improving but we still may get some snow. School WILL be open unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please ensure your child has appropriate, labelled footwear for playing outside.

May God be with you.





Mrs D McLeary

L**ooking Ahead…**

**School Dates –**

**Changes in red**

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|  | Autumn term |

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| Monday 11th December | 9.10 am Mission Assembly |
| Tuesday 12th December | Homework due  6.30pm KS2 Carol Service at Ss P& P |
| Wednesday 13th December | Christmas Plays:  Pre- School & Reception- 9.30am  Year 1 & 2- 2.00pm |
| Friday 15th December | Party & Toy Day |
| Monday 18th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Tuesday 19th December | Whole School Advent Mass 9.30 am  No homework set  Finish @ 2.30pm |
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| Wednesday 3rd January | **INSET** Day |
| Thursday 4th January | Children Return to School |

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|  | Spring term |

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| Wednesday 3rd January | INSET DAY |
| Thursday 4th January | Children return  Mission assembly 9.10am |
| Friday 5th January | No assembly |
| Monday 8th January | 9.10 am - Mission assembly  12.30 Coach leaves for Young Voices |
| Thursday 11th January | 9.30 am Final tour for prospective parents |
| Friday 12th January | PTFA coffee morning  Set homework |
| Monday 15th January | 9.10 am - Mission assembly |
| Thursday 18th January | Family lunch – Family surnames A-C |
| Friday 19th January | Y6 celebration assembly - All parents welcome |
| Monday 22nd January | 9.10 am - Mission assembly |
| Tuesday 23rd January | Return homework |
| Wednesday 24th January | 1.00pm Y6 Vocations workshop |
| Thursday 25th January | House Assembly 9.10am  Family lunch – Family surnames D-F  Set homework |
| Friday 26th January | INSET day – children not in school |
| Monday 29th January | 9.10 am – Mission assembly  TOPIC WEEK |
| Wednesday 31st January | 1st Holy Communion Parent’s meeting 6.00 pm – School hall |
| Thursday 1st February | Family lunch – surnames G-J |
| Friday 2nd February | Y5 celebration assembly - All parents welcome |
| Sunday 4th February | First Holy Communion and Confirmation Enrolment Mass 11am  SS Peter & Paul’s Church – All families welcome |
| Monday 5th February | 9.10 am – Mission assembly |
| Tuesday 6th February | Internet Safety Day  Return homework |
| Wednesday 7th February | Superstars |
| Thursday 8th February | Superstars |
| Friday 9th February | Y4 celebration assembly - All parents welcome  Set homework |
| Monday 12th February | 9.10 am Mission assembly |
| Wednesday 14th February | Ash Wednesday |
| Thursday 15th February | Family Lunch K- N  Spring Disco |
| Friday 16th February | Y3 celebration assembly - All parents welcome  Break up – half term |
| Monday 26th February | Return to school  9.10 am - Mission assembly |
| Tuesday 27th February | Return homework |
| Thursday 1st March | World Book Day |
| Friday 2nd March | 9.10am Lenten assembly  PTFA coffee morning  Homework set |
| Monday 5th March | 9.10am Mission Assembly |
| Wednesday 7th March | 9.10 am – House assemblies |
| Thursday 8th March | House assembly 9.10am  Family lunch – surnames O-R |
| Friday 9th March | Y2 celebration assembly - All parents welcome  Mother’s Day Craft Day |
| Monday 12th March | 9.10 am - Mission assembly  Science week |
| Tuesday 13th March | Return homework |
| Thursday 15th March | Family lunch – surnames S-T |
| Friday 16th March | Y1 celebration assembly- All parents welcome  Homework set  St Patrick’s Day dance |
| Monday 19th March | Feast of St. Joseph - Mission assembly 9.10am  Parent’s Evening 4.00-6.30pm |
| Thursday 22nd March | Family lunch – surnames U-Z  Parent’s Evening 4.30-7.00pm |
| Friday 23rd March | YR celebration assembly- All parents welcome  Non uniform day – Easter egg donation  Easter Bingo - PTFA |
| Monday 26th March | 9.10am Mission Assembly |
| Tuesday 27th March | Return homework |
| Wednesday 28th March | Y3/4 Easter play 6.00pm |
| Thursday 29th March | 9.30am - Stations of the Cross  am - Easter Egg Treasure Hunt  Break up 2.30pm |
|  | A few extras! |
| Thursday 12th April | Return to school |
| Monday 14th May | SATs week |
| Friday 25th May | Sports Day  Break up for half term |
| Monday 4th June | Children return to school |
| Monday 18th June | Y6 residential week – Chasewater |
| Monday 25th June | INSET Day |
| Friday 6th July | Summer Fayre |
| Friday 20th July | Break up for summer 2.30pm |
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| **Autumn Term - 2017** | |  |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Monday 4 September*** |
|  | School Opens | Tuesday 5 September |
| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 20 October |
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|  | ***Inset Day***  School Opens | ***Monday 30 October***  Tuesday 31 October |
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| 2.30pm | School Closes (Christmas) | Tuesday 19 December |
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| **Spring Term 2018** | |  |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Wednesday 3 January*** |
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|  | School Opens | Thursday 4 January |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Friday 26 January*** |
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| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 16 February |
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|  | School Opens | Monday 26 February |
| 2.30pm | School Closes (Easter) | Thursday 29 March |
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| **Summer Term 2018** | |  |
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|  | School Opens | Thursday 12 April |
|  | **Bank Holiday** | **Monday 7 May** |
| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 25 May |
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|  | School Opens  ***Inset Day*** | Monday 4 June  ***Monday 25 June*** |
| 2.30pm | School Closes (Summer) | Friday 20 July |
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