

Cherry Orchard, Lichfield, WS14 9AN Tel: 01543 263505 15 December 2017

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

**Our Catholic Mission**

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. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible.

Remember that the KS2 Carol Service that had to be postponed this week will now take place on Tuesday 19th December at 1.00 pm in the school hall. You are all very welcome.

On Friday 5th January, we will be holding a school led Prayer Service for the vigil of the feast of the Epiphany at 9.30 am. You are all very welcome.

**Holy Communion**

The Sacrament of the Eucharist - First Holy Communion – will be celebrated on Sunday 20th May 2018 at SS Peter and Paul’s Church at 11.00 am.

**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.

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Y4 with the highest attendance this week with 98.3% well done.

**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) or Tuesday 19 December (last day).

**Spring Term Dates**

The dates for the Spring term are at the foot of the newsletter. Dates from Fr Anthony in red.

**Y4 Request for Shoe Boxes**

Could Y4 children bring in shoeboxes after Christman for a class Science Project. Many thanks.

**St Patrick’s Day**

Please keep free the evening of Friday 16 March 2018 for a St Patrick’s Day dance. The Governing Board will be putting on an event at school and will keep you posted nearer the time. The evening is for adults only.



**Superstars**

We will be sending out sponsorship forms in the New Year for our 2018 Superstars fundraising to be held on 7 and 8 February 2018 – watch this space.

**Battery Recycling Champions**

The whole school (apart from pre school) are completing a battery recycling challenge. The children will be sent home with boxes to collect old and used batteries over Christmas. They will then need to bring them back into school when full before 5 January 2018.

The battery collection is a competition wiith lots of prizes on offer for the school who collects the most.

**After School Clubs**

Start week commencing 8 January 2018

Monday Netball Y5 and Y6 Mrs Bates

Hockey Y3 and Y4 Mr Bennett – new letters on the website

Tuesday French Mrs Burke

Art Mrs Credali

Basketball Y1 and Y2 Mr Bennett – new letters on the website

Football with Paul Agnew (starting date to be advised)

Wednesday Film Club

Funky Times Tables Mrs Ray

Young Leaders Y5 and Y6 Mr Bennett – new letters on the website

Thursday Football Aston Villa Lunchtime – new letters on the website

Art Mrs Credali

Friday Tennis Y4, Y5 and Y6

Football Aston Villa shared with St Michaels – new letters on the website

**Art Club**

will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays next term,  Due to the considerable waiting list for the Thursday club, if you already attend and would like to continue, please pay fees to the office  (£27) no later than Friday 5th January in order to secure the place. After this time, places will be offered to those on the waiting list. We have places available at present for the Tuesday club. Contact [mariacredali@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mariacredali@yahoo.co.uk).

**Message from the Governing Board**

At the first Governing Board meeting of the year the election of Chair and Vice Chair is carried out.  At the meeting on 29 November Mrs Rowe was re-elected as Chair for the 10th year. Mrs Lewis and Mr O’Brien were elected as joint Vice Chair.  The Governing Board look forward to serving our children, parents, staff and wider school community for a further 12 months.

In January our Clerk to the Governing Board will be starting the election process for a parent elect governor as Mr. Hall’s term of office comes to an end this month.  If you feel you have the time, drive and commitment to give to St Joseph’s please look for the information from Mrs Burke in the newsletter in January.

On behalf of the governing Board, we wish everyone a peaceful and Happy Christmas.

***And Finally…***

As always, it was lovely to welcome so many families and friends to our Christmas Plays. A big thank you to the PTFA for providing refreshments, however a special thank you must go to Pre-School, Reception, Y1 and Y2 for their delightful and magical Nativity plays. I cannot tell you how proud I was of each and every one of them.



May I wish you and your families, wherever you will be, a happy and holy Christmas.

Today a saviour has been born to us.

He is Christ the Lord

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 18th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Tuesday 19th December | Whole School Advent Mass 9.30 am – all invited  KS2 Carol Service 1.00 pm School hall  No homework set  Finish @ 2.30pm |

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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 | Epiphany Prayer Service – School hall – Parents invited |
| 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 |
| Tuesday 30th January | Whole school Mass – 9.30am – Hall – all invited |
| Thursday 1st February | Family lunch – surnames G-J  1st Holy Communion Parent’s meeting 6.00 pm – School hall |
| Friday 2nd February | Y5 celebration assembly - All parents welcome |
| Sunday 4th February | First Holy Communion ( only) 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 service with ashes – 11.15 am – school hall |
| 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 | Whole school Mass – 9.30am – Hall – all invited  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 | Whole school Mass – 9.30am – Hall – all invited  Return homework  Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.00pm – SS Peter & Paul’s Church |
| 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 |
| Sunday 20th May | First Holy Communion 11.00am SS Peter& Paul’s Church |
| 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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