**Newsletter - 13 September 2019**

**Our Catholic Mission**

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

As members of the St Joseph’s family of Faith you are very warmly invited to any Mass which we celebrate here in school.

**Dates for your diary**

I am delighted to inform you that the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 10th May 2020. Bishop McGough has also confirmed that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Tuesday 9th June 2010.

**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**: Bella T & Henry

**Y1**: Isla & Conor

**Y2:** Polly & Joseph McK

**Y3:** Aoife & Charlie

**Y4**: Connie & Dolly

**Y5:** Erin & Thomas R

**Y6**: Katherine & Liam

**Headteacher’s Award**: Katie & Jedidiah

**Attendance**

Congratulations to YR, Y2 and Y3 the classes with the highest attendance this week with 100% attendance.

**Y5 Alton Castle Parents Meeting – 19 September**

Reminder for our Y5 parents that there will be a meeting in the school hall at 5pm regarding their upcoming residential visit.

**Y4 Celebration Assembly – 27 September**

The Reception Class will be introduced to the rest of the school by Y4 at Y4’s Celebration Assembly on Friday, 27 September (9.10 am). Reception parents, you are very welcome to come along!

**Admissions**

On-line applications for secondary schools has now opened. The closing date for applications is 31 October 2019. The best way to apply is online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

**After School Clubs**

Information on our After School Clubs can be found on the school website – all After School Clubs started this week.

**Arrival at school**

Please be reminded that children should not be arriving at school before 8.45am unattended by a parent or carer. There is no school supervision before this time. School opens for registration at 8.50am and gates and doors are shut at 9am. Arrivals after 9am will need to register at through the school office.

**NSPCC**

Next week, the NSPCC will be leading assembly for all children on how to keep safe. This will be followed by workshops for Y5 and Y6. Parents are invited to an NSPCC parent workshop about use of mobile phones on Wednseday 25th June at 9.00 am. I look forward to a good turnout for this important workshop.



**Summer Reading Challenge**

Well done to all our Summer Readers! We have achieved 3rd place this year increasing our completion rate from 38% to 44%. The winning school ahd 51%. Keep up the good work.

**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.

**Golden Time- Good to be Green Reward**

Could you spare half an hour on Fridays? Could you help the children play chess? Sew? Or play board games? We are in need of parents to help with running our Golden Time sessions on Fridays from 3pm to 3.30pm. These sessions are a much looked forward to reward after being so well behaved all week. If you could help out please contact the school office.

**Family Lunch - Friday 20 September
SURNAMES C (WEEK 1 MENU)**

**MENU CHOICE TO BE IN BY 12 NOON ON 17 SEPTEMBER**

Come and enjoy a school meal with your children on Friday 20 September 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 Tuesday 17 September.

**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.

**Y6 Residential**

If you have not already done so, please remember to pay the deposit on ParentPay to secure your child’s place on the Y6 residential.

**Whole School Panto Visit**

Due to popularity and reduced school dates we have needed to have two Panto dates at the Garrick this year. The full details can been seen on Parentpay. As tickets are in short supply, we will need to have bought the tickets by 11th October to secure our booking. Can you please pay for your child/ren’s ticket on Parentpay as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Rainbows**

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

**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.

**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.

To apply online, please click [here](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx)

**PTFA - A sad goodbye and warm welcome**

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Mrs Coustumer, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Massey who have done a fantastic job of heading the school PTFA for the last few years. Their hard work and your support has resulted in lots of great new resources to benefit all our children.

We welcome Mrs Strong, Mrs Humpage and Mrs Pattinson as the new Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and know that you will continue to help and support their efforts for the benefit of our children.

**School Improvements**

During the Summer holiday, new flooring was put down in Y3 and Y4 classrooms, the heating system was upgraded and the speakers and sound system for the hall was also upgraded. Please continue with you contrbutions to the building fund which help us to continue with our programme of improvement.

**New School Year Housekeeping**

Just a couple of polite reminders as we start the new school year:

* Please name all belongings
* Please do not enter the school car park 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.

***And finally***

A very warm welcome to all our new reception children and their families. All of the other children have helped them settle in very quickly.



May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary