



Newsletter - 20 November 2020

[Please remember to view the school calendar/website for further information](#)

Our Catholic Mission

The parish newsletter and website www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk contains information about masses and other church notices. During this time we are encouraged to make a Spiritual Communion when we desire to be in union with Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. A full list of parishes live-streaming Mass can be found here:
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parisheswith-live-streams

Attendance

Congratulations to YR and Y1 the classes with the highest attendance this week of 100%.

Star Workers

Congratulations to our Star Workers this week! Unfortunately, we cannot invite parents into school to celebrate with us at this time, however the children will be bringing their certificates home to share with you.

Reception: Joshua & Mia

Y1: Sophia & Beau

Y2: Daniel & Nadia

Y3: Isaac & Thomas S

Y4: Ria & Rebekah

Y5: Tess & Charlie

Y6: Erin & Lucas

Headteacher's Award: Maxwell R & Holly Hatton



Teacher Update

Mrs Dunwoody will be leaving St Joseph's at end of this term for pastures new. Plans for Y2 from January are currently being reviewed and you will be informed as soon as these plans are finalised. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Dunwoody all the best for the future.

TT Rockstars Competition

Huge congratulations to Y4 who came 2nd overall in the Maths Week England Rock Out Competition. Out of 31,039 classes, we came 1st in the Primary Schools category! Special thank you to Maxwell who was a huge help in helping us to maintain this 1st position; school will be rewarded with an Amazon voucher for this success.

Y2 Phonics Screening

Details about this have been emailed to you this week about the National Phonics Screening Check taking place during week beginning 30th November. These checks would normally have taken place at the end of Y1. Government guidance now states that these assessments need to take place this term.

Colder weather

As you are aware, in line with our Covid-19 school risk assessment, classes have to be kept well ventilated at all times and, as the weather has turned colder, the children are welcome to wear fleeces/layers if they are feeling cold.

Christmas Lunch – 15th & 16th December

In light of the current restrictions, this year's Christmas lunch will be taking place over two days and each bubble has been allocated a set day:

- Tuesday 15th Pre School/YR/Y3/Y4
- Wednesday 16th Y1/Y2/Y5/Y6

If it is not your child's Christmas lunch day, they will be able to order a Christmas Party Box.

Please pre-book your child's Christmas meal on ParentPay by **Friday, 27th November** to ensure they are able to join in this lovely festive event. **Even if your child receives Universal Free School Meals, we still need you to book their place so we can ensure numbers are correct.**

Christmas Jumper Day – 18th December

The children can come to school dressed in a Christmas/silly jumper for a £1 donation towards the PTFA.

Christmas Performances

We have been carefully considering how we can still provide Christmas performances with the Covid-19 restrictions. This year will be different as we are unable to invite you in to watch the performances and the bubbles are unable to mix. Instead, we will be recording the performances within the class bubbles and sending a link home of this recording.

- Pre School – A Christmas Movie
- YR – The Nativity
- Y1/Y2 – Not Such a Silent Night
- Y3-Y6 – Christmas Carol Service

L1/L2 Bikeability

The children had a wonderful time participating in bikeability and were a credit to the school judging on the positive feedback we received from the trainers.

Pre School

- Pre School have some places available for January starts. 15 and 30 hours funding accepted. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please ask them to call the school office or email pre-school@stjosephslichfield.org.uk for further information.
- We would be most grateful for donations of: Boys/girls pants and trousers/leggings (**urgent**)
- If you have any rhyming books suitable for Pre School, we would be pleased to receive them
- We would be grateful for donations of angel costumes!

Getin2it Fitness Sessions (Y5/Y6)

We have received information from the Active Lichfield Team regarding Fitness classes for children aged 9 years and over that they can take part in at home. **Getin2it** are delivering online sessions on a weekly basis up to Christmas.

Click on the following link to find out more about the sessions on offer to the children as well as guidance for each session and the online consent form.

<https://www.activelichfield.co.uk/getin2ithomepage/getin2it-online-sessions/>

Headlice

Please regularly check your child's hair for unwanted visitors and treat accordingly. For more information

<http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com>

Class Pupil Numbers

If you know anyone who is looking for a school place for their child/ren we have a limited number of spaces throughout school.

Reception Class Admissions - September 2021

On-line applications for primary school has now opened. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2020. The best way to apply is online at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Admissions>. If your child's 5th birthday is between 1st September 2021

and 31st August 2022 then you will need to apply for a place at First, Infant or Primary School.

As we are unable to accommodate school tours for potential Pre School and Reception parents, please spread the word and direct to our school website where they will find the school tour video and, coming soon, the EYFS video tour.

PTFA Christmas Lights Trail & Competition

This year, the PTFA want to make Christmas as special and magical as possible, whilst still being safe. So, we are setting a Christmas lights trail around Lichfield. During December, we're hoping to have a trail round Lichfield showing houses with amazing festive lights that you can follow and enjoy. First things first, we need some displays! If you, or someone you know, loves to go to town on their Christmas lights, please get in touch by emailing ptfa@stjosephslichfield.org.uk to be put on the Christmas lights trail. We won't include any names. Once we've drawn up the list and have a map, we'll share the details so you know how you can get your hands on it. We'd love to make it a community event so please spread the word and let's get in the Christmas spirit 🎄🎄🎄🎄

Governing Board News

I wish to inform you that Mrs Tina Rowe has been re-elected as Chair and Mr Peter O'Brien as Vice Chair.

And Finally

A huge thank you to Wade Street Church for their gift of appreciation given to staff this week.



Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for our sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

May God be with you

Mrs Thomas

Acting Deputy Head