

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 1

5th September 2018



THIS WEEK'S UPDATES

Messages from Mrs Wood

Welcome back to you all! I do hope you have had the most amazing summer break and have enjoyed your time doing all sorts of lovely things. We extend a very warm welcome to all our new pupils throughout the school and we look forward to getting to know you and see you grow! We also welcome Miss Becky Just who will be teaching St Aldhelm class for the year.

Y6 are enjoying an action-packed week at Kilvrough Manor, so please look out for updates and photos on our Facebook page. The coach is due back on Friday at 5.15pm where you may meet your child at Cross Hayes. We will of course let you know via Facebook if this changes.

Please remember we have an INSET/TD day on Monday 10th September so children will not be in school. They can enjoy an extra-long weekend!

Consent Forms: Quite often when children reach Year 6, parents decide that they are happy for their child to walk to and from school without an adult. It is vital that we are aware of those children and will only be able to allow children to leave the premises for whom we have received written consent from parents. This also leads to many of them carrying mobile phones purely for emergency situations. A letter and consent form will be sent to parents soon, seeking permissions regarding walking to and from school and possessing a mobile phone.

Collection of children: For the safety and security of all our pupils, staff will only be able to release children at the end of the day to an approved adult. Therefore we will in due course be asking you to confirm who you are authorising to collect your child/children from school.

Meet the New Teacher - Miss Becky Just

Thank you all for the warm welcome to St Joseph's - I am so excited to work here and begin my teaching career! This is my first post in teaching after completing my teacher training this summer and I couldn't ask for a greater place to be. I am looking forward to working with St Aldhelm's and the rest of the school this year and cannot wait to get stuck in with the exciting new topics! I hope to meet you all soon.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We have a temporary part-time vacancy for a Teaching Assistant to work 21 hrs a week with a named pupil to start asap. Details are on the noticeboard. Please come into the office and talk to Mrs Wood or Mrs Pearce if you think you might be interested.

This Year's Newsletters

The weekly school newsletter is an important way of communication and we would be grateful if parents could read it and action information relevant to their children. The office aims to publish the newsletter every Monday. It can be found on the school website and there are also paper copies on the noticeboards and in the school office. The layout will feature 'This Week's Updates' on the front; 'General Information' on the back.

In Class this Week

St Anthony – English – writing about our summer holiday.

Maths – Number bonds and number sentences.

RE – Creation: God made us all unique.

St Aldhelm – English – Thinking about what we did in the holidays and writing a diary.

Maths – Looking at place value and exploring Maths.

RE – Thinking about who is special to us and writing prayers.

St Lawrence – English – Assessments

Maths – Place value, assessment, Roman numerals.

RE – Creation: Re-tell the story of Jonah and be able to sequence the story.

St Francis – English – Looking at the features of a non-fiction text and writing our own.

Maths – Looking at place value. **RE** – Creation.

Please could we also have donations of old newspapers!

St Scholastica – Kilvrough Manor Residential Trip.

Request for Help!

We have acquired a wooden playhouse for KS1 and are after a small group of parents who could kindly volunteer to paint and repair it. Some of the wood may need replacing and then reassembling. Would suit those who are adept with a drill! Please contact the school office.

Foundation Governor Vacancy

Applications are invited for the position of Foundation Governor on St Joseph's FGB. Application forms can be obtained from Nicki, the Clerk to Governors on clerk@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk Foundation Governors are required to be practising Catholics and on this occasion applications are welcomed from both parents and non-parents at the school. The Diocese has changed the selection process slightly and there is now a short informal interview with a panel of existing Governors who will recommend the most suitable candidate to the Bishop. Please do not hesitate to contact Nicki with any queries you have about this new procedure. The closing date for applications is noon on Monday 17th September.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Uniform Sales

As of 19th September, school uniform will only be sold on Wednesdays between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm. Please pay by cheque or cash (correct money if possible).

Old School Uniform

We are always grateful for old uniform in good condition which your children have grown out of, so please bring in to the office. We are particularly short of PE kit and swimsuits/trunks. This is free to parents and also available on Wednesdays from the school office.

Safety of Our Pupils

For the safety of all our pupils and other road users, please DO NOT PARK or PULL IN outside the school entrance. Police have been monitoring the road and will take action if needed. Please note that parking charges in Cross Hayes short-stay car park do not apply before 9am.

School Gates

In the mornings we request that parents/carers wait with children until there is a member of staff on the gates when they are opened at 8.35am. Children should be on the playground by 8.45am ready for the start of school. Children need to be punctual as once the gates are closed, office staff have other tasks around the school and are not always at the desk to answer the buzzer to latecomers. In the afternoons, the gates are opened at 3.10pm. If parents are later than 3.25pm picking up, children will be taken to K&S After School Club where a charge will be made for childcare.

Trips & Workshops

Class trips and workshops are an important part of the introduction of the class topic for the term. To ensure these go ahead, we need to keep to tight deadlines for payments and return of medical forms by parents. Should you have any questions or problems at all, please talk to the class teacher or office staff as soon as possible. *IT IS IMPORTANT TO LOOK IN YOUR CHILD'S BOOKBAG EVERY DAY AND ALSO TO READ THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER TO FIND OUT WHAT TRIPS/WORKSHOPS ARE HAPPENING. TRIP DETAILS ARE ALSO ON THE WEBSITE.*

We need parents to respond ahead of the deadline given, as staff do not have time to continually chase. Outside organisations impose a deadline to us, by which time we need to have firm numbers and payment in order to go ahead and therefore avoid cancellations.

School trip/workshop letters are sent home with the children but can be downloaded from the website under the Parents tab. Thank you for your understanding.

Absences

May we request that when parents contact the school to report that a child is 'ill', we also require an explanation of what the illness is, ie. Tonsillitis.

After School Sports Clubs

We will be running a wide variety of FREE after-school sports clubs, starting late September. A letter will go out soon with a list of clubs and how to book your child's place. We look forward to seeing as many children as possible taking up these amazing sporting opportunities.

Art & Minecraft Clubs

These two after-school clubs run by Isaac Owen will start w/c 10th September. An email with more details about these fun clubs will be going out to parents very soon.

Reception Starting Details

If your child is starting at St Joseph's in Reception, the following gives you a summary of the procedure:

Tuesday 11th September: Arrive 9.30am

Collect your child at 1pm after they have had their lunch.

Wednesday 12th September - Friday 14th September:

Bring your child into school at 8.50am. Collect your child at 1pm after they have had their lunch.

Monday 17th September: Your child will start full-time at school. The school day for reception children is from 8.50am to 3.10pm. We do ask all children to arrive at school between 8.40 and 8.50am. The school gate is closed at 8.50am.

We look forward to welcoming everyone!

Swimming - St Lawrence

Swimming this term is for St Lawrence Class starting Tuesday 11th September for 13 weeks until Tuesday 11th December. Letters to parents have been sent out and to avoid cancellation of lessons, we require full payment of £52 by first thing on 11th September. Thank you.

Diary Dates

September 2018

Monday 3 September - Y1 - Y5 = First day back

Tuesday 11 September - Reception children start

3 Sept - 7 Sept - Yr6 Residential, Kilvrough Manor

5 Sept - St Lawrence Class Trip to Longleat

St Aldhelm Trip to Westonbirt (date to be advised)

TD/Inset Days: (children not required in school)

Monday 10th September 2018

Monday 15th October 2018

Monday 7th January 2019

Monday 25th February 2019

Monday 24th June 2019

Half Term Break:

Thursday 24th October - Friday 2nd November 2018

Christmas Holiday:

**Monday 24th December - Friday 4th January 2019
(plus Monday 7th January TD day)**