



St Joseph's Catholic Academy

NEWSLETTER



www.stjosephsnorton.bhcet.org.uk

'Christ be our Light'

January 2023

Click on the link to view our school curriculum and see what your children are learning.

[St. Joseph's Catholic Academy Curriculum](#)

Happy New Year and Welcome back!

After being back in school for three weeks, the Christmas holidays seem so long ago now, but we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with family and friends. It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school, they have settled back into school life beautifully and are working extremely hard. Class newsletters have been sent out to keep you informed about what your children are learning this term. Please check the blue link above to look at our curriculum, which not only provides our pupils with exciting and challenging learning opportunities, but also many extra-curricular experiences. We are proud of our evidence-based curriculum at St. Joseph's, designed to ensure pupils are able to know more and remember more. Many thanks for your responses to our recent surveys, we pride ourselves on working in partnership with you to ensure that our children receive the best deal possible at St. Joseph's. Our vision is that all of our pupils 'Aspire to achieve', 'Understand their place as global citizens', and 'Write the chapters of their life story' and are prepared for life outside of the school gates when they leave our school. We will send out a whole school parents survey in February – we look forward to your support.

Premises and Grounds Update

As you will have seen, our EYFS outdoor classroom is taking shape. The roof has been completed and the sky lights are in place. Today the scaffold will be removed and the windows, shutters and floor screeding are planned for this week. The next stage is the groundworks for the ramp. The building works are due to finish on February 6th, weather permitting.



Fundraising

Many thanks to everyone for supporting our fundraising efforts over the Christmas period. We are excited to inform you that together we raised £1900 For the Ellen Timney Foundation, and £1212 for our school funds which will help us to provide resources and educational visits for our

Storytelling Week

This year, we will be celebrating National Storytelling Week during the last week in January. There will be lots of events and activities taking place throughout the week including visit to Norton Library, Reading Buddies where older children partner up with our younger children, and our KS2 children will be accessing an online webinar with author Wendy Shearer. We are pleased to announce that local author *Amy Comerford* will be visiting many of our classes with her book 'Lulu and the Feather.' Our 'Starbooks' reading and coffee mornings will be relaunched this week, following their success in the Autumn Term. More information will follow.

Numbers Club

1234567890

Should you be interested in paying into our monthly numbers club draw, please contact the school office for details. Congratulations to our winners this month!

Congratulations

To Mrs Butterworth on the birth of her new baby – Norah Elizabeth, weighing 7lbs 4oz. Both mother and baby are doing very well.

Welcome

To Miss Brown and Mr Carr-Riley, who are teaching in Class 7 and 8 until the summer term. Welcome also to Mrs McIntosh our new TA in Nursery.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
January

Abigail C
Charlotte C
Sienna H
Heath D
Noah B
Reece S
Tiberius G
Belle G
Emily W
Lily C
Jacob G
Thea C
Jacob L
Dylan S
Harry S
Sophie B
Emily P
Pearl C
Harry G
Aoife R

Blue Monday

Today we took part in Blue Monday, a campaign ran by The Headlight Project. Children were invited to begin their week by coming into school wearing orange or other bright colours. Our learning will stem from the film 'Trolls' and children's learning and discussions will be centred on how to make their day HAPPY. We hosted a coffee morning for parents and it was wonderful to see many of our families joining us for this campaign.

London Visit - We are excited to announce that another group of our Y6 pupils will be representing St Joseph's in London this month. Our children will have the opportunity to travel over and underground to visit the Houses of Parliament. Our previous visits to the capital have been successful with children being exemplary ambassadors for our school and we are sure this visit will be the same.

Alliance Partnership

We are extremely pleased with the positive response we have received about alliance working with St Joseph's. The children have enjoyed meeting the team, taking part in assemblies and discussing mental health and well-being. Emotional health & well-being difficulties such as anxiety, low mood, worry, and stress are experienced by some of our children. Painful life experiences such as bereavement, loss and trauma could impact on mental health. Children will begin their work with Emma from Alliance in Mid-February. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss this further please contact Miss Harrison.



Holocaust Memorial Day

The Holocaust Memorial Day is soon approaching on Friday 27th January. The theme this year is 'Ordinary People' and focuses on the involvement of ordinary people during many historical genocides. As always, we will approach this historical event in a sensitive manner in school with our children.

Dates for the Diary (please check MyEd for reminders)

12th January – LKS2 Mass at 9.30am
16th January – Turn Blue Monday Bright
17th January – EYFS Sports Festival
19th January - UKS2 Mass at 9.30am
23-25th January – Year 5 YMT Retreat
24th January – Year 3 Netball Event
26th January – Year 6 visit to Parliament
27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day
27th January – Class 5 Assembly
30th January – Online Safety Meeting with Parents 9.05am & 3.30pm
30th January – KS1 Fairytale Ball

Class Assemblies

During the Autumn Term, it was been lovely to see so many of our families returning into school post the pandemic. This month, Class 5 we will be inviting their families into school to share their class assembly with you. Thank you for continuing to support your child's Catholic Education which is central to the life of our school. We look forward to welcoming the rest of our families into school throughout the academic year.

Enrichment Clubs

We are happy to announce that our club enrichment offer will be open to pupils again this term. After feedback and recommendations from our Parent's Questionnaire, we have made some changes to our Enrichment Club offer. We will continue to run clubs in 4 week blocks during each half term, but will continue the clubs across the full Spring term, rather than change clubs after the half term break. Our children always enjoy our extra-curricular clubs, which are designed to enrich their opportunities.

Community Cupboard

A friendly reminder that our community cupboard is open to support our families who are finding our cost of living crisis difficult. If you would like to request a food parcel then please ring Miss Harrison or email wellbeing@stjosephsnorton.bhcet.org.uk or message our MyEd App.

Attendance

Your children attend school for 190 days out of 365 in the year. This leaves 175 days a year for holidays. Please book your holidays during these 175 days – all holiday requests will be unauthorised and may result in a fine from the local authority.

Class	Overall attendance % last term
2	89.3%
3	96.3%
4	95.6%
5	93.9%
6	95.8%
7	95.4%
8	96.8%
9	94.6%
10	95.3%
11	94.2%
Total	95.3%

Well done to class 8 with an amazing 96.8%
Let's see if we can reach our school target of 97% this term.