



# St Joseph's Catholic Academy

## NEWSLETTER



www.stjosephsnorton.bhcet.org.uk

*'Christ be our Light'*

September 2022

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

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

### Welcome Back!

We have had a very busy, yet very smooth start to our Autumn term. It has been wonderful to see all of children back in school, and to welcome all of our new pupils and their parents to our St. Joseph's school family. We are also delighted to welcome some excellent new members of staff to our school this term. Miss Houghton is our Class 11 teacher, Mrs Watson is our Class 8 teacher, and we have Mrs Pilling and Miss Walker as teaching assistants in Class 3 and Class 2. Please come and chat to them on the playground. All have been very strong appointments and we are excited to welcome them to our fabulous team.

As always, if you have any worries, queries or questions please speak to a member of staff, or call the office. Our door is always open.

*Mrs Dowson*

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



### September

Lydia C	Thomas T
Luna K	Millie P
Jocelyn D	Charlie A
Alexander O	Albie McD
Isabelle C-H	Emily R
Cole W	Farli C
Ruby S	Elsie R
Marshall F	Lacey H
Madison T	Alice A-R
Romeo McN	Louie A-R
Oscar K	Lucy W
Harriette MM	Josie J
Francesca K	Rowan B
Samuel E	Violet M
Matthew B	Nancy J
Pheobe J	Alfie E
Cleo W	

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Our Pupil Chaplains and Mini Vinnies will host a Coffee Morning in the school hall on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September.



Parents, families and parishioners are invited to join us for cake and refreshments from 9.15am – 10.30am.

All cake donations are welcome. Please send into school on Thursday or Friday at the latest. Thank you!

### Premises and Grounds Update

We have exciting plans to improve our Early Years outdoor provision and work will start very soon, with the site being set up this week ready for work to start next week.

An outdoor classroom which will extend from our current nursery and reception buildings, will be a welcome addition and will allow our pupils to access the outdoors more easily with open access to the playground. The Early Years playground and garden is also going to have a complete overhaul. The site and all work will be fenced off from the school, we have had many Health and Safety meetings to ensure the safeguarding of our children. All work should be completed by the end of the Autumn Term when we break up for Christmas.

We are extremely grateful to have secured funding from the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust, to be able to carry out this exciting project.

### Numbers Club



Roll up, Roll up!

We are taking new members for our numbers club. Parents, relatives, staff and friends can join, please spread the word and contact the school office for more details.

Cash prizes to be won with every draw!

### Joe's Zone - After School Wraparound Care

Our after-school care hours have been extended to 5.30pm each weekday evening.

Sessions are as follows –

**3:15pm – 4:00pm (£3)**

**3:15pm – 4:45pm (£6)**

**3:15pm – 5:30pm (£9)**

All sessions can be booked via our online payment system ScoPay. Places are limited.

### Mass - Reminders

It was brilliant to see so many of you at our whole school mass at St. Joseph's. Please can we politely remind you on behalf of the church, that there should be no eating or drinking in church. Please do not bring takeaway coffee cups or food into church. Please make sure all mobile phones are switched off or silent. Thank you.

### Family Learning

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a FREE parents arts and crafts course run by the Stockton & Billingham Learning and Skills Centre. The course will run for 3 weeks, starting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 9:15am – 11am in our school hall. The craft sessions will involve Autumn family journaling, Autumn wreath making, and creating clay ornaments. Numbers are limited and places booked on a first come first served basis. Please contact the school office for more information or to book a place.



### Harvest Appeal – Food Bank

Each year, during Harvest time, our school collects your generous donations of tinned food, cereals, pasta, rice, toiletries etc which the Mini Vinnie's deliver to the local foodbank.

We are always astounded by your kindness and generosity and although we understand that the cost of living crisis might make it difficult for some of our families to support this appeal, we also realise that those who can donate, will be helping so many people this year who are finding it difficult to make ends meet. Thank you.

### Allergies - Important Reminder

In school we have a number of children and adults with allergies and intolerances, such as nuts, eggs and peas, so it is important we remain vigilant and supportive. In particular we ask you to please avoid nuts and nut products for snacks in lunchboxes.

We know which children need support, but we also need you to be supportive with what you put in children's lunchboxes. As we are a 'Healthy School', a reminder please to provide a healthy snack in lunchboxes such as fruit or cheese, and not chocolate or biscuits.



### Pupil & Parent Information

We are obliged by law to keep all pupil and parent information up to date on our school system.

We appreciate that life is busy and can get in the way and we are sometimes not informed of changes. Please contact the school office to let us know about any personal changes such as contact numbers, addresses, or allergy/medical information.

Thank you.

### Dates for the Diary (Please check MyEd for reminders)

**26<sup>th</sup> Sept** - First Holy Communion preparation session 3:15pm

**27<sup>th</sup> Sept** - Whole School Photograph (Full school uniform)

**28<sup>th</sup> Sept** - KS2 Cross Country

**29<sup>th</sup> Sept** - KS1 Mass 9:30am

**30<sup>th</sup> Sept** - Macmillan Coffee Morning 9:15am (School Hall)

**5<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Y5/6 Tag Rugby

**6<sup>th</sup> Oct** - LKS2 Mass 9:30am

**7<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Class 9 Worship Assembly 9:15am (Parents/Carers welcome)

**12<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Y5/6 Girls Football

**13<sup>th</sup> Oct** - St Wilfrid House Mass 9:30am

**20<sup>th</sup> Oct** - KS1 Mass 9:30am

### Good for the Sole Appeal

Along side our Harvest appeal, we will once again run our 'Good for the Sole' appeal. We ask for donations of any shoes that your children may have grown out of over the summer holidays, that are in good condition. These will be passed onto the local foodbank.



### School Connect – Clothing bank

A reminder that our Stewards of Creation are still taking part in the recycling and fundraising project, 'School Connect'. Please bring any of your unwanted clothing (in bags) and place them in the recycling bin located on the main playground. Your donations raise money for school funds. We have already earned £40 which the SoC's will use to buy a plant for each classroom. They aim to raise enough money to buy a new tree for our school grounds.

### School Support

As we are heading into financially tougher times, we wanted to make you aware of support that is out there that we can help you with, including free school meals, food banks, our community cupboard etc.

Please contact Miss Harrison our Parent Support Advisor in the school office for more information and discreet, confidential support.

### Attendance

Our weekly school attendance target is **96%** - in the weeks since we have been back, on average our attendance has been **94%**.

*The government have been very clear that term time holidays are NOT permitted and if you choose to go on an unapproved holiday this will be unauthorised and you may be fined.*

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.

Authorised absence may be granted for exceptional circumstances.

You are required to let us know if your child will not be in school. Please telephone or message via MyEd by 8.30am each day.

Look on our Facebook page for our class attendance winners and to see if we can beat our weekly school target!

