



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Louise Bury B. Ed

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Archdiocese of
Birmingham

8th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers



As promised, I write to confirm the details for Christmas that have been agreed to date. There will be a newsletter out on Friday with our usual calendar and you were sent a Friends newsletter last week detailing the activities provided to support the school.

I can confirm that Pre School and Key Stage 1 will be performing Christmas Assemblies on the following days:

2nd December Pre-School

13th December Reception

15th December Year 1

16th December Year 2

You are invited to these assemblies, which will begin at 9.30am. This way will mean that we will not have large gatherings in the hall therefore maintaining health and safety in line with our risk assessment. It will be wonderful to welcome families from each year group. Members of our Friends Association will also be present at each assembly to share other important agreed dates.

Thank you to those parents who joined me on the regular Zoom call this week. The next meeting will be Friday 19th November at 10am. This is proving to be a really useful time to touch base with you and to share concerns, celebrate successes and make suggestions. I will be continuing with this and in the new year will move to every other meeting being face to face if restrictions allow, so watch this space!

The important issue of parking was raised. Even though the staggered times are helping this, there are still parents who park with no regard for safety. This is creating difficulties for many parents as many of you are parking over dropped curbs; this creates huge difficulty for those parents with buggies. We must work together to keep everyone safe and like I said in a previous email last week, we uphold the safety of your children as paramount in school. I urge you to maintain this priority within the community; think about where you park when dropping off your children.

Another concern is speed, please keep to a safe speed limit when driving along Chedworth Drive. We all have mornings where we are running late but better late than never! If this continues, it will only be a matter of time until someone gets hurt. I shall be getting on touch with the Highways





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Department with regard to speed restrictions outside of school and will also be liaising with the local Police again. The Parking Patrol is not yet up and running but will be back on duty in due course.

There was also a question raised regarding the school day and the staggered times. As explained in previous correspondence, we are keeping to the staggered times for the foreseeable future, this will be reviewed termly. I do want to assure you that even though the finishing times are before 3pm, the designated hours of required teaching time are accurate and the same as pre lockdown. Prior to lock down when we had a 9:00am – 3:15pm day the children did the same number of hours. We did let children in at 8:50am to start for 9:00am to help you but the teaching day in school started at 9:00am and was still 6 hours and 15 minutes, and there is no less time now. Break times have remained as 15mins with an hour for lunch. According to the DFE, as a school, we can set the school day as we see fit as long as the school has a morning and afternoon session split by a lunch break. We have hours of teaching set by the curriculum whereby there needs to be a set number of hours taught for each subject. This is all in place, you have my assurance on that. If any parent would like more information about this then please do email the school office or join me on the zoom meeting on 19th November. Everyone in our school has a voice and deserves to be listened to.

Thank you again for your ongoing support with all that we do for your children. I look forward to seeing many of you in school during December and on my next Zoom on 19th November 2021. I have left the registrations timings below as a reminder to you.

Morning and afternoon registration closure times are as follows:

Year Group(s)	Morning Registration closes at:	Afternoon registration closes at:
Years 5 and 6	8.45am	1.25pm
Years 3 & 4	8.50am	1.35pm
Year 2	8.55am	1.35pm
Year 1	9.00am	1.55pm
Reception	9.05am	1.45pm

Yours in faith and partnership

Mrs Louise Bury
Headteacher

