



St Joseph's Journal

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 17

24TH JANUARY 2020



This Sunday will be the first Sunday of the Word of God. It is a special Sunday to celebrate the Bible. You could go to Church and hear the Bible read, or you could read a story from the Bible.

Pope Francis has written a letter to the Church to remind us all of the importance of the Bible. To remind us that the Bible speaks of God and God's love for each of us.

To help us as school to get to know the Bible a little bit better we are going to be creating a Bible bag for each class, which you will be allowed to take home at some point. This will give you a chance to read a story from the Bible with your family at home and say a prayer.

Gifts for a Baby

Next week will be our final week for making collections for Gifts for a Baby - as a reminder we are collecting new items such as baby clothing, nappies, wipes and other small baby items. They will be taken to the Cathedral for the mother and baby refuge or a member of the Caritas team will come to school to collect them. These gifts will be gratefully received by someone who desperately needs them. Our gifts will be presented and blessed in our Celebration assembly on Friday 24th January.



Wearing our uniform with Pride

Working together, children, families and staff have so much to be proud of about St Joseph's Academy. We have been speaking a lot recently with the children about this and about our reputation both with visitors who come for one single visit and more widely across the town. Our sense of pride is shown in many ways, but one of the more obvious ones is through the uniform that we wear. Please can we ask that parents support school to ensure that our children are dressed in our school uniform every day, including wearing black shoes and not trainers. Our identity as a school family is special. We want to look smart and show that school is important to us. We have respect for our school rules and as part of the home school agreement that every family has signed up to by being part of our school, we wear our uniform with pride. In a similar way, please can we remind parents that full PE Kits should be in school all week. This consists of royal blue shorts, a plain white T-Shirt and pumps/trainers. Thank you.

Attendance Target 97.0%

Beech	95.8%	Elm	98.3%	Oak	91.8%
Cedar	93.8%	Larch	99.1%	Acorns	95.7%

Whole School Attendance this week 95.9%

Whole School Attendance YTD 95.9%

Date for your diary - Tuesday 11th Feb

Uniform consultation evening

WE HAVE A VACANCY FOR A MID-DAY SUPERVISOR

To obtain an application pack or for more information, please speak to the school office



Beech Pippa - Being a fantastic reading partner

Cedar Melissa - Super role model in learning & behaviour

Elm Jack - Changing his mindset

Larch Troy - Being a writing superstar

Oak Kieran - Great effort in Sats club



Beech Oliver - Fantastic effort this week in power Maths

Cedar Harry - Super independent writing

Elm Olivia J - Making links during Maths

Larch Whole class - For their amazing art work

Oak Lola, Phoenix, Evie-Leigh, Alicia, Alfie, Gracjan
Drama work, English

Chinese New Year - Year of the Rat

Early Years have had a fun and enjoyable start to their celebrations for the Chinese New Year, with Acorns making their own masks and Beech Class making dancing dragons.



Oak class have had a great start to Sats Club this week, thanks go to all who have attended and those who have given up their time to help out. As a reminder this is running until the end of term, every Monday & Thursday, 3:30 to 4:30pm.

Healthy Snack choices



We would like to add a little clarity to the types of snacks we are advising Key Stage 2 children to bring for their morning breaks. We are wanting to avoid high sugar and high fat snacks and instead replacing these choices with fruits, vegetables, bread based or rice based snacks. We are asking for no crisps or chocolate/chocolate covered snacks to come into school either for break times or lunches made at home. These guidelines come from the policy that is in place at our school and we hope you can support us in helping the children by giving them the best healthy starts we can provide.

Reading with your child

Twenty minutes a day is all it takes to build key reading skills. Here are seven ways to build a better reader from birth to age five!

1. Create reading rituals and read together every day
2. Snuggle up close with a book
3. Talk about the pictures and ask questions
4. Share different kinds of books
5. Read with expression
6. Read favourite books again and again
7. Record yourself reading and play it on car trips or as an alternative to television



'good readers are made on the lap of a parent'