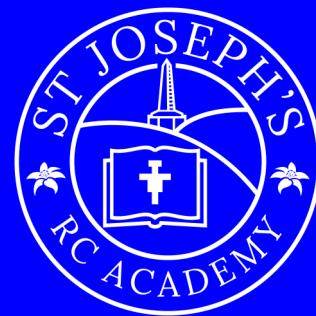


St Joseph's Journal

4TH SEPTEMBER 2020



Welcome back!

It has been fantastic to see our children back in school this week and welcome our new starters in many year groups across the school. Thank you to you, our parents, for keeping up to date with the plans we have in place to keep everyone safe and for adapting to these changes – with each of us playing our part, we will help to minimise the risk to ourselves and each other. Below are a couple of reminders and also some updates following on from our first few days:



In line with Government guidance we currently have staggered start and finish times to minimise the number of children and adults entering and leaving school at the same time. It is essential that you only enter the site at the correct time to avoid congestion and we get all our children to and from school safely without mixing with others.

Upper school: Years 4,5&6 8:50am – 3:30pm

Lower school: Years 1,2&3 9am – 3:20pm

Early Years: Nursery and Reception: 9:10am – 3:15pm

Please also follow the one way system in place, entering by Wellington Road but leaving on Hammerton Terrace. As you will notice, some of our staff are wearing face masks when meeting and greeting children on the door. Adults do not wear these in the classroom when working with children but it is another measure to protect them and you due to the number of parents they have conversations with, albeit brief, at this time. If you wish to speak to an adult at all as you drop your child off, please also wear a mask and keep the conversation as brief as possible to allow the one way system to flow. Lengthier conversations should currently be arranged by appointment only. Thank you for your understanding.

School Uniform:

It is an absolute delight to see our children in their new uniforms this September and so many people have already commented on how smart they look and how these uniforms stand out in Todmorden. Thank you for all the effort you have gone to, placing the orders in time, collecting the items during the holidays and helping to bring such a positive feeling about this change. From the very beginning, with the parental consultation, you have contributed to this change and I am so pleased to see the full effect this week.

PE Kits:

We still have many children in Years 1-6 who do not have a PE Kit in school. These items do not have to have the logo on them but are essential items for the children to be able to carry out this part of their curriculum. It is not acceptable for children to be trying to carry out this lesson whilst still wearing their uniform and so we ask for your support again by getting all kits into school by the end of next week please. Kits will stay in school each half term and will remain with your child's bubble only. The PE Kit is as follows:

Navy Shorts (available with logo option using order form)

Plain white TShirt (available with logo option using order form)

Optional: Navy Hoodie with school logo

Trainers (and socks) for outside



**SEASON OF
CREATION**
SEPTEMBER 1- OCTOBER 4

The Season of Creation

We have now entered the Season of Creation, which began on September 1 and continues until October 4. During this time, Christians from around the world celebrate the good gift of God's creation. The Pupil Chaplains are already planning an assembly on the Season of Creation and the theme for this year, which is Jubilee for the Earth. The Pupil Chaplains will be meeting to decide ways in which we can, as a school, become involved and show a greater concern for our common home.

Goodbye and Good Luck

It is with great sadness that this week we have had to say Goodbye and Good Luck to Miss Thorne, our kitchen assistant. Miss Thorne has made the brave decision to move into a new career and in order to do this she must first carry out some further qualifications. Her courage is an example to all our children that we should work hard and follow our dreams.

We wish her every success in this new chapter of her life.



British Values: Rule of Law



Today we are also having a British Values Day exploring 'The Rule of Law' where children have been learning about why rules are important in society and how they protect us. Children have worked together to understand the need for rules to make us happy, safe and how they can provide a secure environment for us to work and live in. We started with our school rules:

Be **ready** (to learn, share our faith and do our best to follow in the footsteps of Jesus)

Be **respectful**

Be **safe**

Children continued to explore this theme in more detail at an age appropriate level throughout the day

Sunday 6th September 2020

Celebrate National Read a Book Day as a family

On National Read a Book Day, celebrate books of all types with your child at home.

National Read a Book Day is a great opportunity to celebrate



books of all types with your child. So on Sunday 6th September, why not grab a book and read it to your child? Or you could make time for both of you to sit down at the end of the school day and enjoy some lovely reading time together.

Welcome Mass

Although we cannot attend Mass at this time in person, Father Peter has very kindly agreed to live stream Mass so that he can still welcome the children back to school at the start of the year. This will take place on Tuesday morning. Father Peter will say mass in church and the children will participate from their classrooms. We are really grateful that Father has made this possible for us all.

Swimming

This year our Year 4&5 pupils will be going swimming each Wednesday afternoon. Please make sure their kits are in school each week to ensure they can take part in this life-skill lesson.



Combining our Fundraising and our Fitness...

WORLD'S BIGGEST
**COFFEE
MORNING**
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Although we will be looking to do things a little differently this year, our annual fundraiser will still go ahead. So watch this space, we will send out more details in next week's newsletter.