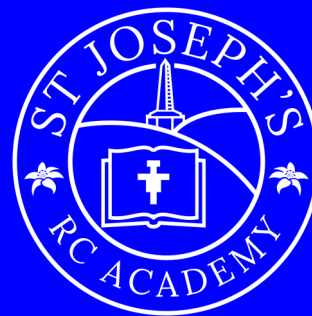


St Joseph's Journal



20TH NOVEMBER 2020

Drop off and Collection Times

Please can I take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of arriving only at the allocated time for your child(ren). Arriving too early in the morning or afternoon is having an impact on the number of adults and children mixing, particularly in the Early Years Yard at the end of the day. I appreciate staff also have a responsibility to be punctual and together we can continue to keep the risk to ourselves and each other as low as possible.

Drop off: 9:10am for Early Years, 9am for Years 1,2&3, 8:50am for Years 4,5&6

Collection: 3:15pm for Early Years, 3:20pm for Years 1,2&3, 3:30pm for Years 4,5&6

Please drop off and collect only once at the earliest time required for each family.

Please can I also remind adults that if any urgent conversations are required, a face mask should be worn to approach a member of staff and only brief information should be passed on. Any detailed conversations should take place on the phone during the pandemic. Communication is still essential and we ask this is done in a way that also keeps everyone safe. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint whilst Making Improvements to Our School

In our commitment to tackle climate change, many of you who are also local residents may already be aware that over the Summer our school was fitted with a brand new central heating system, which not only will be far easier to service but will be far more efficient too, meaning more of our money can be spent on the children. In addition to this work, over the Christmas period, additional work is taking place in our children's toilets, updating both the appearance and the efficiency of these areas. These huge projects have only been possible thanks to a successful bid being granted by the Government. Despite the enormity of the cost of the works being carried out, this has not been at the detriment to children's learning. As a school we have also personally committed to gradually upgrading to LED lighting, which is being done in phases over several years as our budget allows. As our children know, 'No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference'.



An important message about COVID-19 in Calderdale

Calderdale communities need your help. We have reached a critical point in the Covid-19 pandemic.

Firstly, thank you for all that you are doing to keep yourself and our community safe. We know how difficult the period of local

restrictions and national lockdown has been, but these sacrifices are a really important part of what is needed to reduce Covid-19 in Calderdale. However, it is important that we are honest about the situation. The rates of infection have increased in recent weeks. Calderdale is ranked 19th in England for Covid-19, with an infection rate of 488 cases per 100,000. This is the highest the rate has ever been in Calderdale and it is expected that it will continue to rise in the coming days.

Sadly, there is a large increase in the number of people in hospital with Covid-19 including many under the age of 60, and this is putting significant pressure on the NHS locally. At least 24 Calderdale residents have died from Covid-19 so far in the second wave.

The situation is urgent and we all need to act now if the national lockdown is to have the impact that is needed. We must do everything we can to follow the lockdown rules if we are going to save lives, protect our NHS and social care services and avoid severe restrictions over the Christmas period.

We all need to play our part in reducing the spread of the virus. There are 3 big things that we can all do to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our communities - **Limit contact with other people to the absolute minimum** - **Wear a face covering if we have to go indoors where there are other people we don't live with, such as when shopping** - **Stay at home without visitors and complete the full isolation period if we have symptoms of Covid-19 or a positive test result, or if we have been in contact with someone who has**

If you need more information or support to isolate, please visit www.calderdale.gov.uk/coronavirus. You will be inspired by the kindness and resilience offered by so many to those who need it.



- Beech** Lillie, singling beautifully for nursery rhyme week
- Cedar** Alex, working hard all week in Phonics & Maths
- Elm** Damian, for his super Maths work
- Larch** Nancy, for always setting a great example and being a great friend
- Oak** Alfie L, for his character work in English



- Beech** Isabel, showing kindness & friendship
- Cedar** Ella-Mai, beautiful writing & trying hard all week
- Elm** Jack, Super neat presentation in his work
- Larch** Jayden, for making huge improvements in his spellings and times tables
- Oak** Alicia, for trying really hard in Maths this week

Dan's PE Award

**This weeks
winner is:
Gabriel**



Through our reverse advent calendar, we are collecting items for our local food bank. Food banks typically see a significant increase in referrals for emergency food parcels in the two weeks before Christmas.

Watch this space for more details...

PTA Quiz

Thank you to those families who signed up to take part in our quiz this Friday night. Sadly, due to the low numbers, we have had to make the decision to change the format for the quiz. With so few families, it was not right to ask for all the preparation to be done and so we have made the decision to convert it into a written family quiz that can be completed any time up to Monday 7th December. If parents who entered the online quiz no longer wish to take part, please contact the office and you will be refunded, otherwise a paper quiz will be sent to you as soon as it has been quarantined. We hope this way, more families may feel comfortable taking part and our winner will be announced in the final week of term. Good luck everyone!



This week Elm discussed odd socks day for anti-bullying week and children were encouraged to wear odd socks, a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique. They talked about what it is to be a good friend, how to spot a bully and what we can do to help stop bullying. They also watched a video and sang songs to 'Andy and the odd socks gang'



Early Years have been taking part in Nursery Rhyme week this week. The rhymes we have been working on are: The wheels on the bus, five little speckle frogs, Hickory Dickory Dock, Old McDonald had a farm and Miss Polly has a Dolly'

Today the children each received a certificate for taking part and doing a super job.



RAFFLE TICKETS Thank you to the 18 children returning raffle tickets and money your names have been entered into the extra raffle. If you are struggling selling tickets please return so we can ask others to sell. THANK YOU



SHOE BOX APPEAL - This is the last week for shoe box donations, thank you to all those who have donated



ATTENDANCE

This week's attendance: 96.3%

This week's top class: Acorns 98.8%

Attendance YTD: 94.6%