St Joseph's Journal



30TH APRIL 2021



England does the daily mile!

Today, our school took part in The Daily Mile's first national event. Each child was able to run, jog or walk in the school grounds (one bubble at a time) and either individually or collectively clocked up the miles as a school. The aim was to get 1 million children moving throughout the day and we hope to be part of many more initiatives like this to stay active and healthy this term. Well done everyone – you were fantastic!

Summer uniform

To complement our smart uniform that we are so proud of, for the Summer term, there is also an option to wear navy gingham dresses with the school cardigans, instead of the shirt and tie that is worn for the rest of the year. Grey shorts are also an option during these warmer months and is already part of the agreed uniform.



If you have not yet returned your slip for a meeting with your child (s) class teacher these will need to be returned on Tuesday 30th April. Slots are being allocated on a

first come first serve basis but we will try to accommodate you in the best way possible.

These meetings will be done through our Google Classroom Meetings so that face to face discussions can still be held. By working together we can support your children in the best ways possible.



Monday 3rd May Bank Holiday School Closed Tues 4th May Parent Governor nominations deadline (12noon)

Tues 4th & Weds 5th May Parents' consultations
Wednesday 5th May Parent Governor ballot papers out (in the event of more than 2 nominations)

Thursday 6th May Polling Day - School Closed Friday 7th May Parent Governor voting deadline

Tuesday 11th May School Nursing Team in school

Friday 28th May break up for half term

Monday 7th June School reopens

Friday 16th July School closes for the end of term

Please avoid taking children out of school for holidays in term time—they have missed so much already and these absences will not be authorised. Thank you.

Parent Governor Elections

Every parent should now have received an email from school informing them that the Parent Governor places are now up for re-election. A parent governor is an essential role in Governing Body. As an academy, many of the decisions made for the school are done at Trust level, however the input from the Governing Body informs these decisions.

The role is voluntary, although no one will be excluded from consideration if it is the costs that may be incurred by being a governor that would prevent someone from standing. This role will appeal to parents who want to make a positive impact on their child's education and school life, albeit an indirect impact. There is a commitment of approximately 7 meetings per year associated with the role and papers for each meeting are sent out in advance for your consideration.

The deadline for applications is noon next Tuesday, 4th May and all nominations should be proposed and seconded by other parents of the school. Nominations should be emailed in and be accompanied on the correct paperwork with a short overview of information you would like to share about yourself with other parents.

In the event that more than two parents wish to be considered for the role, ballot papers will be sent out no later than Wednesday 5th May, to be returned by noon on Friday 7th May.

Thank you to any of you who are considering supporting school in this way.



Beech Autumn, Being a kind & thoughtful friend

Cedar Tamzin, For beautiful sitting & always listening

Elm Emily, Being such a good role model & always making the right choice

Larch Mavish, Developing confidence in English lessons

Oak Izzie, Super reading



Beech Jessica, Amazing creative work on the Holy Spirit

Cedar Patryk, Super description of a front cover

Elm Jayden, For changing his mindset towards his learning

Larch Fatimah, Fantastic natural skill in Music lessons

Oak Phoenix, Great work in Science

Proposed Changes for September

Being forced to change so much about our school day and how we learn, because of the national Covid guidance has taught us so much. There are aspects of our teaching and learning that we value now, more than ever and cannot wait to reinstate fully, such as our ability to mix more widely, our collective worship as a whole school and our school trips and visitors invited in to further enrich the curriculum. We have however, also discovered some significant benefits to some of the changes we have had to make and would love to be able to hold on to these aspects, making them a permanent aspect of our school day. Governors met last night and discussed the proposals for September and would now like to invite you give you to express your views. Please look out for the letter that will be available from next week detailing the proposed changes, with the benefits for these changes and the option for you to respond to this before 28th May.



Covid Home Testing Kits



We have been asked to share this information regarding home test kits with you by the DFE:

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

If you click on the blue link it will take you to the relevant pages for ordering. Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests. Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment.
- by ordering a home test kit online please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Find your nearest home test kit collection point.

Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most. Order rapid lateral flow home test kits