

St Joseph's Journal



21ST MAY 2021

The Council has updated its advice to provide clear and concise guidance about the best ways everyone can support a reduction in cases in the borough. By following the 'five big things' it will help to keep people safe and reduce the opportunity for new variants to develop and spread. **1.** Keep our distance and limit mixing with people we don't live with. **2.** Wear a face covering where necessary, unless medically exempt. **3.** Self-isolate if we test positive or are a contact of someone who has tested positive. **4.** Meet others outside where possible, and if not then let the fresh air in. **5.** Book our vaccine when we are invited by the NHS.



Proposed Changes for September

Please check the 'Latest News' column of our school website if you have not already seen the letter regarding the proposed changes to the school day from September 2021.

You are invited to provide your feedback regarding the changes by 28th May via email using :

admin@stjosephs.romerocat.com with 'Proposed changes to the school day' as the email subject. Any comments will be collected and reviewed by Mrs Lloyd and our Governing Body. Thank you.

Benefits:

Greater emphasis of learning taking place in the morning, before lunch when pupils have proved to be better focused and able to concentrate

Each Key Stage is benefitting from a slightly larger amount of learning.

No loss of learning - lessons are punctuated with clear start and finish times across the school and children are able to access the full breadth of the curriculum

Duration and frequency of breaks altered based on findings during pandemic, resulting in safer playtimes with a reduction in accidents and 'fallings out'.

Calmer lunchtimes, especially in KS2, with greater focus in the lesson immediately following lunch.

Teachers in a better position to be able to offer after school clubs due to the earlier finish as well as being able to complete the expected daily marking and preparation for the following day.

No change to levels of support provided to pupils during their lessons

Drawbacks:

Earlier finish which may be an issue for some parents.

During this week's RE lesson Beech class have been learning all about Pentacost.

They have listened to a variety of songs and gifts from the Holy Spirit. They shared their best singing voices and sang the songs so beautifully.



Larch class have been learning all about the effect sugary drinks have on our teeth.

They have had a week long eggsperiment looking at the effects of apple juice, orange juice, coca cola, milk and water to see what happens to the outer shell of an egg.



More outdoor learning!



On Monday Cedar class were able to take their music lessons outside, with the expertise of our visiting musician, Mr David Insua-Cao. The workshops took place in small groups and our Year 1 and 2 children experienced many natural objects, comparing the sounds they made and the instruments they were most similar to.



Beech Easton, Always being a kind and caring friend
Cedar Harry, Always happy & polite setting a good example
Elm Cole, Superb behaviour
Larch Sasha, Always ready to learn & setting a great example in class
Oak Natalia, Exceptional behaviour & times table work



Beech Isabel, Really trying hard in Phonics
Cedar Musa, For amazing answers during carpet time
Elm Jasmine, Really good contributions during English
Larch Lola L, Fantastic newspaper report
Oak Gabriel, Remarkable behaviour & superb work in PE



Please can we remind all families that unless your child is wearing a gingham dress during the Summer term they should still be coming to school wearing their shirt and tie. We are so proud of how smart our school family looks and many people have commented on our uniform when they have been seen in published photographs and video clips.



Did you know?

At Morrisons they have now introduced a children's little library. This is located at the front of the store.

The idea is to get children reading and exploring their imaginations and allow children that may not have access to books at home gain that access. You can swap out books or simply take one of the donated books.

You can also donate books too!

If you would like any more information on this please contact champion.todmorden@morrisonsplc.co.uk or follow community champion todmorden morrisons on facebook and direct message them from there.

We love working in partnership with our community. Together let's surround our children with a love for books and a love for reading!



Thank you to Shiv, our Community Champion in Morrisons Todmorden for bringing this to our attention.

Extra curricular Activities

When we return to school after our May half-term holiday, we will be reintroducing after school activities.

We will still need to minimize mixing between children, so this will be achieved by continuing to keep children in consistent groups with a size limit and then only these pupils will be admitted for the duration of those sessions. To make this as fair as possible, they will be run on a 6 week rota.

More details to follow next week.



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.