

# St Joseph's Journal



28TH MAY 2021

## Happy Half Term!

A huge well done to all our children for their constant effort in school. We are so proud of you and all you have achieved this half term! Have a good rest and we'll look forward to achieving so much more together before the Summer.



## Punctuality is Key!

We have noticed a number of pupils repeatedly turning up late for the start of their day. This is having a huge impact on their learning with some children missing the same lesson every day, meaning they have not attended that lesson in full for weeks at a time. Over a half term this amounts to hours of lost learning which can have devastating and long lasting effects. We will be monitoring attendance and punctuality very closely in our final half term and would ask parents to work with us to improve this situation for the benefit of the children. We will remain with our staggered starts for next half term and are as follows:

Larch and Oak (Years 4, 5 & 6) 8:40am

Cedar and Elm (Years 1, 2 & 3) 8:55am

Beech and Cedar (Nursery and Reception) 9:05am

Thank you to all our parents who have been sticking rigorously to these times to avoid congestion and support the measures we have in place to reduce the risk of Covid transmissions.

## Proposed Changes for September



We have had very few responses to the Proposed Changes for September sent through to the office. This could simply be because the general consensus is that these are good proposals, however we

want to make sure that all who want to, have had time to respond and are therefore extending the consultation period over the half term break. 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.

If you wish to respond to this you are invited to provide your feedback via email using :

admin@stjosephs.romerocat.com with 'Proposed changes to the school day' as the email subject. This will now be open up to and including Monday 7th June.

Comments will be collected and reviewed by Mrs Lloyd and our Governing Body on Thursday 10th June. 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.



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.





**Beech** Scarlett: Being a really good role model

**Cedar** Pippa: Always trying hard & improved reading

**Elm** Myles: For super homework & always completing it

**Larch** Nancy: For consistently producing fantastic, quality work at such a high standard

**Oak** Sasha: Super singing in Music 4 The Many



**Beech** Emily: For an amazing frog drawing

**Cedar** Ivy-Rose: Amazing problem solving in Maths

**Elm** Jack: For super Mnemonic homework

**Larch** Saahil: For producing a beautifully presented newspaper report

**Oak** Gabriel: Computing work, made a song on scratch



## Online safety

It can be hard to know how to talk to your child about online safety. From setting up parental controls to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, there is help available to understand the risks and keep your child safe.

This is an ever changing and complex area of safeguarding children, however we have put a link to a the recommended NSPCC site here for your use.

Please do not hesitate to ask school for support should you need any further guidance with this.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)

## Find out what's on during half term in Calderdale

There's even ideas for rainy days, like this one! The full list can be viewed at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/leisure-and-culture/whatson](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/leisure-and-culture/whatson)

[Free digital library via the Libby app](#)

**Dates:** 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (Other dates available)

Get Libby Library, the one-tap reading app available free from Calderdale Libraries.

**Category:** **Childrens** 📖



## Reduce the spread as restrictions ease



For advice and information visit: [www.calderdale.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Calderdale Council

## 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. Registers will be gathered in the first week—watch out for the letters on the first day back as It will be first come, first served!



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May** break up for half term

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June** School reopens

**Friday 11th June** Feast of the Sacred Heart

**Sunday 20th June** Fathers' Day

**Tuesday 22nd June** Sports Day tbc

**Tuesday 29th June** Feast of Ss Peter and Paul

**Wednesday 30th June** Father Peter's Silver Jubilee

**Friday 9th July** Reports out to parents with option to speak with teachers in the final week of term

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 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.