

Newsletter



Our Lady + St Joseph Catholic Academy

'With grace and humility, glorify the Lord by your life'

20th April 2018

Dear Parents,

Our Catholic Mission

This term we pray for all our children that will be celebrating making the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please also see in the list of dates below, the class Masses for this term.

This half term, our virtues are being '**grateful**' and '**generous**'. The children are growing to be: grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people and for the blessings of each day. Also, generous with their gifts, now and in the future. We will be encouraging them to know and be grateful for all their gifts, developing them to the full so that they can be generous in the service of others.

During Lent the children raised money that will be shared between the Good Shepherd Appeal and Father John and for his Church in Africa. Thank you to all the families and children who have supported the cake sales (we will miss our Thursday cakes!) and sent in their loose change boxes back to school – every little helps!! We will let you know the final amount next week.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for April 2018

For those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters – That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

Daily Offering Prayer

God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with the Heart of Jesus, who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, Who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may be witness to your love. With Mary, the mother of our Lord and the Church, I pray for all Apostles of Prayer and for the prayer intentions proposed by the Holy Father this month.

Amen.

Parish Mass/Children's Liturgy

The parish newsletter or website www.ourladyoftheangels.co.uk contains information about masses and other church notices.

Mass Times: 6.00pm Saturday

9.15am Sunday (with children's liturgy)

11.00am Sunday

Welcome to the Summer Term!

WOW... what a great start to the summer term! The children have returned raring to go and have hit the ground running and have enjoyed a busy POWER WEEK! We have seen some fantastic learning this week and we can't wait to see what the children achieve in the weeks ahead!

This Week...

Home learning

We are currently planning some exciting improvements to make playtimes and lunchtimes an even more fun and exciting time for all children. To help us with our plans we would like to hear your fabulous ideas! This week, the home learning is for everyone to help with this. Discuss ideas with people at home and use books or websites to get ideas for your plans. Finally we want to see your ideas to improve playtimes and lunchtimes. This can be presented in any way you choose, for example, annotated drawings/maps of the school, mind-maps, as a letter, advertising posters- whatever you think would show off your ideas in the best way!

Parents Evening

Thank you to all those who attended parents' evening this week. It was a real celebration of how all the children are making progress. Thank you for your support and to those who completed the RE questionnaire. Please send this back, if you haven't already done so, and we will send out the feedback shortly. Arrangements to reschedule Miss Campbell's (Barlow class) appointments will be made next week. Apologies for any inconvenience and thanks for your understanding in this.

Next Week...

Monday 23rd April

To celebrate St George's Day there has been a change to our lunch menu on Monday 23rd April. Please see details below.

Independent Reception Children

REMINDER.... We continue to be absolutely delighted with all the children who are independently coming into school by themselves, without an adult accompanying them. We would ask all parents to hand their child to the adult on the Reception door, following kisses and hugs and we will be in the classroom, ready to congratulate the children on being independent! This becomes more important as the children prepare to move into Year 1. Huge thanks for your continued support.

Sporting News..

Hockey

Again, we are dominating the sporting scene in our area! This week our hockey team became Nuneaton Champions, winning the league and tournament.

Football

We have some of our children in a football tournament in Coventry today - we will let you know how they got on next week. They were very excited going in our new minibus!



Other Information

Year Six SATs

On Monday 14th May, the children in Year 6 will begin their SATs. We are so proud of the hard work and commitment they have demonstrated throughout Year 6 and we know that each and every child will give their very best during test week. In the lead up to test week, you can support your child by ensuring they get plenty of sleep, drink plenty of water and have breakfast each morning. Also, please encourage your child to relax and to look forward to demonstrating their learning. Whilst we understand that there is some unavoidable pressure on children up and down the country, we want the children in Year 6 to feel as relaxed as possible, knowing that we are all very proud of them regardless of a test result... this is the message we are sharing at school and you can help by reinforcing it at home.

Year Six Leavers Party

Each year, we plan a great send off for the children in Year 6. Last year, we took all the children out for a meal at lunchtime on the last day following a fabulous farewell from the rest of the school. We then returned to school where we had an inflatable assault course, penalty shootouts, nail bar etc. We are planning to give this year's Year 6 a similar send off and I am delighted to say that some parents have kindly offered to plan the evening party so a huge thank you to them. They will undoubtedly be in contact with you via the school as soon as plans are in place.

Year Two SATs

Throughout May, the children in Year 2 will also be doing their SATs. In contrast to the Year 6 SATs, we have the ability to ensure that the children in Year 2 are almost completely unaware they are being tested and therefore we can ensure they do not feel any undue pressure. SATs are just one form of assessment that enable us to know how well each child in Year 2 is achieving and we believe strongly that children at this very young age should never experience the pressure associated with formal testing. With this in mind, I would ask that you mirror this approach at home and if all goes to plan, SATs will come and go without your child fully realising and we will report the outcome to you on your child's school report which you will receive on 28th June 2018.

Reception Places for Sept 2018

Surprisingly this year, we have some school places available in our Reception classes for this September. If you know of any families that are looking for a place in Reception, please let them know and get them to speak to our school office or Warwickshire Admissions.

The New Schools App

I am pleased to inform you that we are part of a trial for a new in app messaging service. This aims to make our communication with you easier, quicker and more efficient. The app, (called 'OurSchoolsApp') is personalised to our school and will allow us to keep you updated with the latest news, calendar events, school documents and links to other school information (e.g. our website and other social media channels).

If you have a smartphone (Android or iPhone) you can download OurSchoolsApp from Google Play Android or the Apple Store for FREE.

When we update OurSchoolsApp with new information or news about the school, a push notification will be sent to your device to inform you of this update.

You will have received instructions this week at Parents Evening; please speak to the school office if you need more information. We welcome your feedback.

Nursery News

A warm welcome to the new families that have joined us this week. The children have settled in beautifully. This week the children have been learning about road safety and the Green Cross Code and they have been talking about where they live.

Scooters

It is lovely to see the children enjoying the sunny weather and coming to school on their bikes and scooters. Please be mindful that scooters should not be ridden within the school grounds as there have been a few 'near misses' with children nearly being knocked over this week. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

Attendance:

Please see the attached reminder for Leave of Absence during term time.

Dates List

Please find the dates for this term below. There are lots opportunities for you to get involved so please put any relevant dates in your diary!

Thought for the week

No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world. Robin Williams

Sara Chapman
Principal

Summer Term Dates

Date	What's Happening?
Monday 16 th April	Children return to school POWER WEEK
Tuesday 17 th April	Parents Eve
Wednesday 18 th April	Parents Eve
Thursday 19 th April	Parents Eve (Houghton)
Friday 20 th April	Home Learning Project....
Friday 27 th April	Y1 & Y2 Educational Visit – Think Tank
Friday 4 th May	Retreat Day Y3 – Children making First Holy Communion – Led by One Life
Monday 7 th May	MAY DAY – Children not in School
Wednesday 9 th May	Mass at Church led by Year 5 – 11.00am
Friday 11 th May	Celebration Assembly led by: Arrowsmith @ 9.20am Lawrence@ 2.45pm
Saturday 12 th May	First Holy Communion 10.00am – 12.00pm –
Monday 14 th May – 17 th May	SATs Week – Year 6 children MUST be in school
Friday 18 th May	Royal Wedding – British Values Day Red/white & Blue or King/Queen (More details to follow)
Monday 21 st May	Auditions begin for 'We've got Talent...' Y5 Educational visit – Water world
Wednesday 23 rd May	Mass at Church led by Year 4– 11.00am Y6 Confirmation Meeting in Church 6pm – TBC
Friday 25 th May	MAC Marion Prayer Chain Break up
Monday 28 th – 1 st June	Half Term
Monday 4 th June	Children back to school POWER Week
Wednesday 6 th June	Cornwall Meeting for parents – Y6
Thursday 7 th June	We've got Talent – 6pm
Friday 8 th June	WW1 Showcase (More details to follow)
Monday 11 th June	Mass at St Chad for Good Shepherd Appeal – House Captains
Wednesday 13 th June	Mass at Church led by Year 3– 11.00am Induction evening for new Nursery & Reception parents
Friday 15 th June	Fathers' Day (More details to follow)
Tuesday 19 th -22 nd June	Cornwall Trip Meeting – Y6
Monday 25 th June	Confirmation retreat Day Y6 – Led by One Life
Wednesday 27 th June	Confirmation 7pm
Thursday 28 th June	Reports Out
Friday 29 th June	Summer fayre 2pm-4pm
Wednesday 4 th July	Mass at Church led by Year 2– 11.00am Parents Eve 3.45-5.00pm
Thursday 5 th July	Induction Day

	Induction Evening – Y6 – STM
Monday 9 th July	MAC Sports Day
Tuesday 10 th July	School Disco
Thursday 12 th July	School Sports Day – KS2 am – KS1pm
Friday 13 th July	Whole School Awards & Prize Keeping
Tuesday 17 th July	French Day
Wednesday 18 th July	Leavers Mass at Church Year 6– 11.00am Home School Learning Reward
Friday 20 th July	Y6 Awards and celebration Assembly
	Summer Holidays
Monday & Tuesday ... September	Teacher training Days
Wednesday September	Children Return to School

PE DAYS

Your child will need their PE kit on the following days...

Class	PE Days
Morse	Tuesday
Campion	Friday
Plessington	Friday
Arrowsmith	Friday
Briant	Monday / Thursday
Mayne	Thursday/Friday
Clitherow	Tuesday / Wednesday
Garnet	Tuesday / Wednesday
Kemble	Monday / Wednesday
Lawrence	Monday / Thursday
Barlow	Monday/ Thursday
Rigby	Thursday /Friday
Houghton	Tuesday / Friday
Howard	Monday / Thursday
Ward	Monday / Wednesday
Southwell	Monday / Tuesday
Walpole	Tuesday / Friday

Guidance from the DfE on Leave during Term Time

Reminder for Parents – Leave Of Absence during Term Time

As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the head teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.