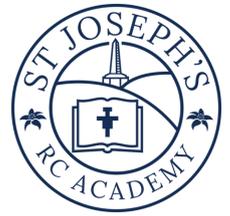


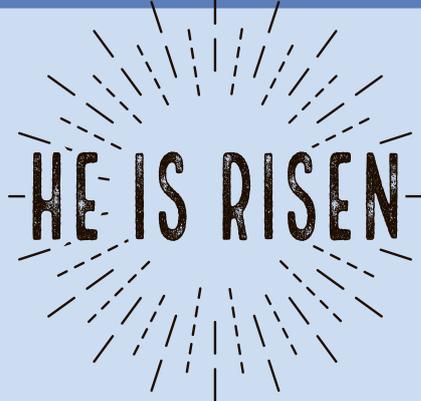
ST JOSEPH'S JOURNAL

Issue 26



WEEK ENDING 28TH MARCH 2024

HOLY WEEK MASSES



May we wish each family a very happy and holy Easter. Fr Allan sends his blessings to you all and invites us all to join him for as much of the Triduum as we can manage in these coming days. Masses and services over the remainder of Holy Week and into the Season of Easter are as follows:

Maunder Thursday (tonight, 28th March): 7pm followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose: 8pm - 10pm

Good Friday (29th March): Stations of the Cross 10:30am Churches Together Procession of Witness: leaving St Joseph's at 11:15am. Please see poster below.

Good Friday (29th March): 3pm Liturgy of the Passion and Holy Communion

Holy Saturday (30th March): Easter Vigil Mass 7pm

Easter Sunday (31st March): Mass 10am. Father has promised a little Easter Treat for anyone who is able to attend on Easter Sunday!

Surrexit Christus, alleluia!



PARENTAL SURVEY

Thank you to all parents who completed our parental survey regarding the need for wrap around care from September 2024. Your views were greatly appreciated and we want to support parents to ensure our school can be a preferred choice both with existing and new parents. If you have not yet had chance to complete this, please check your emails and respond to the 6 short questions before the 12th April. Many thanks for your support with this.

Once all results are in we will of course then consider the level of interest that has been shown and later confirm whether or not the proposal to open an after school club will be viable in this next academic year.

SPRING FAIR FUN

Thank you to all who supported our Spring Fair this week in any way at all. In just under 2 hours, with your support, we managed to raise a total in the region of £600! (Final count will be completed but unfortunately not before this has to be sent out)!

The children had many compliments for their competition entries and it was excellent to see the hall and the games room alive with energy and excitement.

Well done to all our winners and huge thanks to the many volunteers, staff and parents alike, whom without, these events would not be possible. A special mention of thanks to both Mrs Whitehead and Mr Carr for taking the lead in organising this event.



ATTENDANCE

Whilst it is not our intention to cause any upset, we do not apologise for placing great importance on strong attendance at St Joseph's. This week you will have received a personalised letter that is colour coded to help raise your awareness of how well your child has been attending school and the impact this has on their learning, both for this year, and over their time in education.

Please feel free to discuss any unmet needs you feel we can support with and let us know where we can support you further to improve overall attendance.

95%	=	40 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	80 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	120 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	160 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential.

Going to school is directly linked to improved performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop: friendships, social skills, team values, life skills, cultural awareness and career pathways.

Tonight, each child should have received an envelope containing their own personal attendance to date for this year. Please work with us to ensure your child is in school at for a minimum of 96% of the year. The numbers at the top of this paragraph show how much learning is lost, even when your child receives 90% and 95% attendance. These may sound like high numbers but the reality is children will not be reaching their potential if they do not achieve in the region of 96% attendance.

YEAR 6 STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We are so proud of all our Year 6 pupils who today led the rest of the school through the stations of the cross. We were joined by Father Allan who spoke about how maturely and solemnly the children had shared the reflections on each station and also added the fifteenth station of the resurrection before giving us all a blessing for the end of term.



'Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom'

FOREST SCHOOL WITH OUR FAMILIES!

It was fantastic to see a great turn out of parents and carers from Beech Class this morning, joining in with our Forest School session led by Mrs Murty from Oak Apples Forest School.

The children showed their grown ups how they work safely in forest school and enjoyed some food and drink around the camp fire.

We are really proud of this special part of our curriculum where children learn about and learn how to care for our common home and adults today saw how much the children thrive in this environment.



THANK YOU MRS AMES

Children in Y5 today have received a separate letter explaining that Mrs Ames, who was with us through a supply agency on long term supply, sadly can no longer continue her work with us after the Easter break. We are very grateful for the work Mrs Ames has carried out, in partnership with Mr Carr for Oak Class and Mrs Ames has also added how welcome she has always felt to be part of St Joseph's family. We wish Mrs Ames well for and hope she is able to return to St Joseph's in the future.

After Easter, we will be welcoming Mrs Bowes into St Joseph's, again working alongside Mr Carr in Oak Class, predominantly focusing on the year 5 pupils and their progress.

GIVE, ACT, PRAY

Throughout Lent, our pupils have been working hard to follow our three simple actions to enhance their faith life and draw themselves closer to God as we journey towards Easter together.

Huge thanks for all the support you have provided for the children in sustaining their Lenten pledges, in raising money to support St Joseph's Penny and supporting our Mini Vinnies through the Easter Egg Raffle.

We are so proud of our children and know that without your support, they would not be nearly as determined to achieve all they have done. Thank you.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Trips, Visits, Theme Days and More

Thursday 28th March Close for Easter

Maundy Thursday Mass, tonight at 7pm.

Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 7pm

Easter Sunday Mass 10am

Monday 8th April Start of the Summer Term

Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th April Y6 Class Anne Frank (voices for equality programme) Workshop both days

Tuesday 16th April Freddie Fit in school working with all classes, please have your PE kits in school today!

Wednesday 17th April KS2 trip to Shrek the Musical (pre purchased tickets only)

Tuesday 16th April Cricket Coaching for Y1, 2, 3 and 4.

Thursday 2nd May KS2 Inter School Cricket Competition

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday Monday

Please note we break up on Friday 24th May and are not back in school until Monday 10th June. Governors have made this decision to support parents in being able to take less expensive holidays. Please make use of this should you wish to and avoid term time holidays.

Thank you

