



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Dr N Fernandes Viana  
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mr K Bowles



*Jesus said: 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**

Dear Children, Parents, Staff and Governors

**On Tuesday we held a Food Design Technology Morning** where all the children from Y1 to Y6 prepared their own butternut squash and pumpkin inspired lunch which I must say, was delicious. **A huge thank you to Mr. Lambot** and his chefs for their culinary expertise and patience. Children across the school were delighted with preparing the roast pumpkin with sage, honey and bay leaf as well as crafting their own pumpkin gnocchi. It was wonderful to see children preparing their own lunch, understanding ingredients and cooking methods – all of which are valuable life skills. The organisation and preparation was lengthy but, after seeing the children in action, a worthwhile day. Thank you to Miss Ward and Mr Bowles for a hugely successful event.

**Readathon Update-** this has been so successful that we have extended so the finish date is now this weekend. Prizes will be given out next week in assembly, when I will be able to let you know the final figures. One final push this weekend please!

**Thank you to Fr. Kevin for celebrating All Saints Day** with a beautiful mass on Wednesday. Children across the school sang beautifully, Edouard and Oliver in Y5 were exemplary altar servers and our Y6 pupils led the mass through their reverential readings and bidding prayers. It was also wonderful to see so many parents sharing in the mass with us.

**Our Open Afternoons on Wednesday and Thursday** were gratefully received, I know that the children were so proud to share their work in the books and that parents enjoyed seeing how much they have learnt. A huge thank you also to all parents and pupils for their overwhelmingly positive surveys. The children comment favourably on PE and the range of activities. Children have said they would like us to improve school lunches. I have asked Harrisons to address these issues and hope this will mean a more positive experience for the children. Parental comments were also very positive, some comments were made around After School Club provision, and we will look at and amend our offer, where we can, in time for the next round in January.

**Congratulations to James, Miguel, Hendrik, Malena and Julia** and more for securing their places at the London Youth Games in Cross Country. This is fantastic and really shows the dedication of our children, as well as the efforts by Coach Grant. **We wish you good luck and look forward to hearing how you get on.**

One of the most special things about this school is the constant commitment to the wider good and helping others. I attach a letter from MacMillan **highlighting the amazing figure of £20,000** that our school community has raised for this invaluable cause over the last 8 years. This is no mean feat- from baking cakes, serving coffee, making banners, donating prizes every element has contributed to this figure.

**Additionally, we will be launching our annual Coat Drive next week. We rely on your generosity and kindness to donate coats to help those in need, including the homeless at this cold time of year. Please drop adult coats to the office area from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Again, thank you for helping us to help others. I have also attached the poster from Chestertons, for your information.**

I would like to draw attention to the calendar on the newsletter. It is always a busy time, as we approach Christmas and dates of nativities and carol concerts are there.

May God bless you and keep you safe,

Dr N Viana

Mr K Bowles

MERITS AND AWARDS		
NAME	MERIT	AWARDS
REC1 Miss Chani	-	-
REC2 Miss Diriye	-	-
PINK1 Miss (Dorota)Wegrzynowicz	Nancy	Leonardo
PINK2 Mr Starbuck	Sebastien	Daria
PINK3 Miss S Ward	Micaela	Viggo
BLUE1 Miss Donnellan	Eita	Michael
BLUE3 Miss Armstrong	Blanche	Agustin
VIOLET 1 Miss Lawson	Jacob	Oliver
VIOLET 3 Miss A Ward	Reyann	Lola

#### ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

YEAR GROUP	Percentage Attendance (target >97%)	Late %
Nursery	90.7	0.5
RECEPTION 1	94.7	0.8
RECEPTION 2	93.0	0.4
Y1 PINK 1	96.2	2.3
Y1/2 PINK 2	95.3	0.7
Y2 PINK 3	97.3	1.1
Y3 BLUE 1	96.0	1.5
Y4 BLUE 3	95.3	0.9
Y5 VIOLET 1	93.9	1.5
Y6 VIOLET 3	96.2	1.2
Totals	95.2	1.1

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023**

### **November**

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

Y6 Violet 3 Remembrance Assembly 10:55am

#### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Open morning for prospective parents 10am – 12:30pm

#### **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Audio & Visual checks for Reception children

#### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Pink 3 Year 2 visiting Forest School

#### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Year 5 Violet 1 visiting the Tower of London

Blue 1 Year 3 visiting Forest School am

Blue 3 Year 4 visiting Forest School pm

Dress Down Day for Readathon winners

#### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Library visiting EYFS

#### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Spirituality Day KS1 & KS2

#### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Feast of St. Cecilia

#### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Pink 1 Year 1 visiting Forest School am

Pink 2 Year 1/2 visiting Forest School pm

#### **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>**

Pink 1 Year 1 Library visit

### **December**

#### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup>**

Rec 1 visiting Forest School am

Rec 2 visiting Forest School pm

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**SJSA WINTER GALA**

#### **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>**

EYFS & KS1 Advent Assembly with Fr Alex (pupils only)

Advent Mass – Y3 Blue 1 & Y4 Blue 3 10am @Church of Our Lady

#### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

Advent Mass – Y5 Violet 1 & Year 6 Violet 3 10am @Church of Our Lady

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>**

EYFS Nativity @ 9:30am

KS2 Carol Service 6pm @ Church of Our Lady's

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**

KS1 Nativity @ 9:30am

KS1 Nativity @ 2pm

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

School Christmas Dinner

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Class Christmas parties

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**

School ends 1:30pm