

St. Joseph's Convent School

REGISTERED CHARITY

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21st September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

I cannot believe how quickly the weeks are going. School is a hive of activity with everyone working hard and the girls enjoying their learning.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support. I would also like to thank the staff who are being flexible and extremely committed to ensuring that St Joseph's is a positive and aspirational learning environment.

Healthy Snack

Following conversations with your girls (pupil voice) and then with staff we have decided to introduce Healthy Snack at playtime each morning. This can be provided in the form of fruit or appropriate raw vegetables. Please remember no nuts are allowed in school.

Golden Mile

The girls and staff are continuing to enjoy the daily 15minute Golden Mile initiative. It is an opportunity for them to walk or run the allocated circuit. It contributes to being healthy and happy, especially driving and supporting their mental health and wellbeing. This is an area we read about so frequently in the news. It is imperative we factor in and actively support measures to combat it. Several parents have reported how enthusiastically their daughters have spoken about it.

Mass

We have celebrated a whole school Mass on Wednesday 12th September with Father Pat Sammon presiding. He thoroughly enjoyed the singing and actions and the girls were wonderful.

Prep 4 went to Mass yesterday at Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 9am. Father Sammon and myself believe it is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the community each week. We led the singing and were unexpectedly given a round of applause after the final hymn. I have received several compliments from Parishioners following this. Next week on Thursday Prep 3 will be attending.

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 11th October, Infants 2 & 3 will be celebrating with a Harvest Assembly at 9.15am. Parents are warmly invited. Could parents kindly make donations for our assembly; all donations will then be donated to a local women's refuge. Nursery and Infants 1 are asked to donate biscuits; Infants 2 tins; Infants 3 dried foods (pasta/rice); Prep 1 tea/coffee/sugar/hot chocolate; Prep 2 toiletries (toothpaste/brushes/shampoos/nappies) Prep 3 washing powders/conditioners and Prep 4 Jars (jams/marmalade/marmite). Please make all your donations before **Tuesday 2nd October**. Thank you for your support.

Punctuality

I would like to bring to your attention that some children are persistently arriving late to school. It is important that every effort is made to arrive in school on time every day. The gate opens at 8.45am and school begins at 8.55am. The registers are taken and have to be back in the school office by 9.05am. Anyone arriving after 9am, when the gate is closed, will receive a Late mark. Having an excellent attendance and punctuality record in school is reported when transferring to secondary schools.

Holiday requests

Please be reminded that holiday requests will not be permitted during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. This would involve having a conversation with the Headteacher.

Clubs

Next week, new club terms and conditions will be circulated. All requests for attendance at after-school club on the day need to be made to the office by 2.30pm.

Uniform

Thank you for the high standard of uniform and for the many donations to the uniform sale held today. Girls will transfer into winter uniform after the October half term and return to school on **Tuesday 30th October**. As the weather has been so mild the girls will be more comfortable until then in their summer dresses. Please could I request that you send in a spare pair of knickers and socks for your child/ren to be kept in their PE bag in the event of an accident, I am aware that some of you have already done so. Thank you.

PA

Thank you to the PA for their support. There was great excitement at the opportunity to buy a cake after school from staff and children alike. What better way to end the week than with

a delicious cake and cup of tea! Thank you to all who donated cakes, it has been hard going to resist the temptation before the end of the day. (Please also see PA newsletter for further details and times of events.)

I would like to bring to your attention to, and raise awareness that, as a school we are supporting 100% a Nut free environment. We have some children and staff with allergies and we need to ensure their safety. Please adhere to this and give due consideration with regard to your daughters' packed lunch. Thank you.

INSET DAY

I would like to inform you that Monday 29th October 2018 will now be a staff INSET DAY and therefore closed. I appreciate this was not on the calendar you received before the start of the year. Thank you for your understanding.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely weekend. We as a school look forward to seeing you in school next week at one or even both of the meetings. Some Governors will also be present.

God Bless you and your Families

SPREAD LOVE
EVERYWHERE YOU GO
LET NO ONE EVER COME
TO YOU WITHOUT
LEAVING HAPPIER
- MOTHER TERESA



Mrs S Birtles
Headteacher