

St. Joseph's Convent School

REGISTERED CHARITY

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Headteacher: Mrs S. Birtles

5th November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

It was lovely to welcome you all back last Tuesday. The girls have returned refreshed and full of enthusiasm for the term ahead. It was also good to be able to speak with many of you on our Parent Consultation evenings and to receive such positive feedback. Thank you also to all who have emailed in with messages of delight and support regarding the work we are doing. It is greatly appreciated. Sr. Joan has asked me to forward her thanks to you all and share how much she too enjoyed meeting and speaking with you all.

Parent Consultations/Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire. I will be collating them and feeding back the outcomes. It is important that you as parents/carers have a voice.

Pumpkin Competition

I am delighted to announce the winners of the Pumpkin Growing Competition are as follows:-

1st Place:	Josie	Prep 3	Weight 2.7kg
2nd Place:	Rachel	Prep 3	Weight 872g
3 rd Place:	Mia	Prep 2	Weight 720g
Good effort:	Felicity	Prep 3	Weight 180g

Prizes will be awarded at our first Merit Assembly on Friday. Parents are warmly invited.

I would also like to thank Mrs Morris, mother of Charlotte in Infant 2 who kindly donated a giant pumpkin which we raffled amongst the children, and the lucky winner was Eva Hennigan in Infants 1. We look forward to tasting the pumpkin pie shortly!



Website

We can all look forward to a new and improved website, which is currently under development and will be live within a couple of weeks. Please note our current website is now no longer available.

Earrings

Thank you to those parents who have already ensured that their children do not wear earrings for school. Please keep this up.

Packed lunches

It has been decided that to ensure Parents know what their daughter/s has been eating at lunchtime, they will bring home anything left or unfinished. We have had a few hiccoughs with unfinished cartons of juice and a few unfinished yoghurts returning to you – apologies for this. This strategy is also taken to give you, as parents, an idea of what is being eaten and therefore, if required, you may feel it necessary to adjust the amount of food in the lunchboxes.

Historic Swimming



Today was a monumental day for both St Joseph's School and Prep 3 & 4 - we went swimming! Unfortunately, the weather was not good but we all waited for the W14 bus and had a great trip to the pool. Prep 3 decided to entertain the other passengers with hymns we had sung in church that morning. At the pool we were very excited. Ava and Allegra were a little anxious about getting in the pool, but after a bit they became used to it and loved it!! Everyone was given a swim test and then put into groups. We had 3 swimming teachers, Brooke, Monty and Sylvia. They told us about the rules of the pool and what we would be learning. The lesson went very quickly and we were all disappointed that the session had ended. Getting changed was interesting as some people 'lost' clothes, but they found them when they actually checked their bags!!! Back on the bus was a lot quieter than when we went, must have been because we were tired, but happy. We cannot wait until next week when we go swimming again.

Prep 3 girls

Former pupil of St Joseph's

This morning, Prep 4 welcomed a former pupil of St Joseph's into their classroom. Finula, current Head Girl of St Edmunds, spoke honestly to the girls about her experience of secondary school, her university aspirations and her time at St Joseph's. The girls were truly inspired. This is what Isabella (Prep 4) wrote for the newsletter:

When I found out someone from St Edmunds was coming to our school, to talk about secondary life I was really excited. I was keen to find out about how secondary school works. She told us not to worry about exam preparation and to stop stressing. It's not as hard as you think, it is just a test. When it comes to interviews, just be yourself however silly you feel about doing something. Everyone will feel anxious but they just want the real you and not a pretend you. When you go to secondary everyone will feel the same as you; lost, worried if you don't get to class on time. If you are organised, life will be easier and you won't need to be worried at all.



Christmas Lunch

A gentle reminder for parents to visit SchoolMoney to pay for the Christmas lunch please.

Remembrance Assembly

Parents are warmly invited to attend Prep 4 assembly on Thursday 8th November at 9.15am.

Jazz Band

Please note there will be no Jazz Band on Friday 9th November.

Lateness

Since the start of term, we have been monitoring lateness. Any girl showing persistent lateness will be receiving a letter regarding this. It is lovely to see the girls in their winter uniforms come skipping and running into school each day ready for the day ahead. School is a very happy and vibrant place with lots of learning, fun and laughter.

Achievement Assembly

Every Friday morning, commencing Friday 9th November, at 9.15am, we will be having an Achievement Assembly. Two girls from each class will receive certificates. Parents are warmly invited to attend these Assemblies.

Infant Nativity – Friday 7th December at 2pm

Please be advised that Nursery and Infants 1 will also be participating in the Infant Nativity and all parents are warmly invited into school from 1.30pm for refreshments.

Mass:

We all attended Mass for the feast of All Saints on Thursday. It was lovely to see several parents there too. The girls behaved and sang beautifully. We received several compliments and were told how lovely it is for parishioners to see us so regularly in the community.

No one will be attending Mass on Thursday morning because we have a school Assembly being led by Prep 4.

Attendance this week:

Nursery	99%	Prep 1	99%
Infants 1	95%	Prep 2	98%
Infants 2	97%	Prep 3	98%
Infants 3	96%	Prep 4	97%

Carol Singing at OLOL on Sunday 16th December

All Preps are invited to sing in church at 7.30pm on Sunday 16th December.

Preparations are full steam ahead with regard to the Bazaar on Saturday 10th November. I am really looking forward to this and hope to see many of you there.

God Bless you all and your Families



**Mrs S Birtles
Headteacher**