



St Joseph's Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024

In this week's update:

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- School day consultation – one more week
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Attendance Winners

Congratulations to Cedar (Y3) and Wren (Y2) for best attendance last week.



Question of the Week

If you could be any book character, who would you be?



From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach half term, I am pleased to be able to get a newsletter to you! As I rapidly get to know the ways of St Joseph's, I am feeling increasingly confident in the direction we will be taking together in the months ahead to see our children flourish and our school community thrive. This will take time but I am excited to already see so much strong practice in the classrooms and to be able to celebrate successes such as author visits and a Year 6 residential already!

We have a great journey ahead of us and I can't wait to navigate it together. I also can't wait to actually live here rather than commute from our home in SW London each day – Mrs Chamberlin and I move next week...so you're stuck with us for a lot longer yet!

Have a lovely weekend, Mr Chamberlin

School Day Consultation – One Week Extension

I wrote to you previously to seek your opinion on a slight change in timing of the school day. I want to give one more week to respond as there have only been 31 responses so far. It takes just a few seconds but will help us to make the most informed decision.

One quick additional note – both options change the gate opening time to 8.30; this is to reduce the time waiting in the playground which will support all children to arrive in the classroom calm and ready to learn. This shouldn't impact parents as parents should wait with the children before the doors open in the mornings currently.

[Please click on this link to have your say on this proposed change](#)



Message from the SENDCo

As we head towards the end of the half term, I wanted to take the opportunity to write to you.

It has been an extremely busy start to my time as SENDCo at St Joseph's schools and I have enjoyed meeting and beginning to get to know lots of remarkable children. I am delighted to work with a lovely staff team and I have had the opportunity to meet with many external professionals from West Sussex to begin planning how we can best support all of our children moving forward.

I have also had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with many parents and I am aware that many more parents are eager to speak to me. If you have any concerns about your child's learning or needs, do speak to your class teacher in the first instance as they are the professionals who work with your children every day. I have already been able to join many of these meetings and look forward to continuing to work collaboratively in this way to support your child.

Chloe Fihl-Pearson
SENDCo

Dates for your Diary

Wed 23 Oct	Individual & Sibling Photos
Fri 25 Oct	Last day of the half term
Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov	School Closed – Half term break
Mon 4 Nov	School Closed – INSET Day
Mon 11 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Mon 11 Nov	Remembrance Day
Fri 15 Nov	Children in Need activities
Weeks beginning 11 & 18 Nov	Parents Evenings (Exact dates to be confirmed)
Tues 19 Nov	Tours for Reception 2025
Thurs 28 Nov	Tours for Reception 2025

December dates to follow soon including Reception Nativity, Christmas service and parties!

Who do I talk to?

With any new year, there are changes to get used to and in St Joseph's a new Head teacher, Deputy and SENDCo all at once is a lot to make sense of! We are working on a more complete visual to help signpost you to the right support, but for now:

Initial concerns Friendship and behaviour concerns General difficulties with learning	Your child's class teacher
Safeguarding or child protection concerns	Mrs Sheppard (our safeguarding lead)
Anything else!	School Office

If you have a complaint, we hope to work with you swiftly to address it, [you can read about our approach in our policy here.](#)



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PE Earrings

Just a reminder to remove earrings before school on PE days, or to tape them if they cannot be removed. Thank you.

Authors Visit St Joseph's

The children had a wonderful time meeting two visiting children's authors last week, all receiving signed copies of a book each and enjoying different activities and presentations by the authors. We have seen it act as an inspiration to read for many of the children across our schools so a great success! You'll hear me say it again and again over the years – reading is our great passion. We want every child to leave our schools confident and passionate about reading. We will look to hold a parent workshop next half term to support you to be part of Operation 'Every Child A Reader'!

READY

LEARN AND LET OTHERS LEARN

RESPECTFUL

KIND WORDS AND KIND ACTIONS

SAFE

BE HONEST AND SAFE



Chartwells Booking Support

Chartwells – our school caterers – have offered to help parents with the booking system if you are having difficulties with it. We will arrange a day for them to be in the playground after school soon.

Year 6 Residential Teaser

More Feedback
To Follow!

