



Newsletter

6th February 2019

St Joseph's School a Catholic Voluntary Academy



ATTENDANCE FOR W/B 28/01/19

Reception Class	97.00 %	Year 1	90.34%
Year 2	99.20%	Year 3	99.31%
Year 4	98.33%	Year 5	95.16%
Year 6	94.48%		

Congratulations to **Year 3** for the best attendance!

ATTENDANCE NEWS

The Attendance and Pupil Welfare Service works with schools, parents and carers, pupils and other agencies to reduce unnecessary absences from school. The Education Welfare Officer, Mrs Vaughan, who attended the parents' coffee morning and parents' evening, will be in school for half a day every week. Mrs Vaughan will be working with pupils and parents to support them with attendance difficulties. She will also be working with groups of children to help them understand the importance of regular attendance. If you would like an appointment with the Education Welfare Officer please see Mrs Black in the school office.

Termly Attendance Prize

At the Parent coffee morning, some parents raised the question about whether a prize could be given termly for children who have 100% attendance for a term. Although we do have the pizza hut trip for 100% attendance over the year, we agree that achieving 100% attendance for a term should also be celebrated. We are therefore introducing a new attendance prize for if a child has 100% attendance each term. During the first week of a new term, any children with 100% from the previous term will have a non uniform day, and will receive a prize in the afternoon. This prize may take different forms on a termly basis to keep the children motivated to achieve this prize. Ideas might be that they have a celebration/Disco together with party food and games, games time where they can bring in games from home to play or a DVD and popcorn session in the hall together. We will be discussing ideas at the parent ambassador meeting on the 15th February, so feel free to pass any suggestions onto your class parent ambassadors. As we are almost through the first half of the spring term; for next half term only, we will awarding the 100% attendance prize to any child with 100% attendance from after half term to the Easter holiday. (Spring 2). Thank you for your continued support.

SPRING TERM - IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 7th February

SEND Coffee Morning 8.45am
Friends of St Joseph's Meeting 3.00pm

Friday 8th February

Governors/Senior Leaders and Parents' Coffee Morning
9.00am

Tuesday 12th February

Y3 to Y6 Games Evening 3.30pm - 4.45pm

Friday 15th February

Y3 Trip Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Parent Ambassador Meeting 2.45pm
School closes for half term holiday

Monday 25th February

School opens for spring term 2

Thursday 28th February

Jeff Rich Drum Master Class 1.30pm

Friday 1st March

Y4 Cake Sale
Reception Parent Writing Workshop 2.45pm

Wednesday 6th March

Ash Wednesday Mass 2.15pm

Thursday 7th March

World Book Day (dress up day)

Friday 15th March

Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
Y4 Trip The Deep

Please see the St Joseph's website for term dates for the academic year 2018/2019.

FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH'S GAMES EVENING

Friends of St Joseph's will be holding a games evening for Year 3 to Year 6 on **Tuesday 12th February 2019** from 3.30pm to 4.45pm. Please return your child's consent slip and payment to school by **Friday 8th February**.

GOVERNORS/SENIOR LEADERS AND PARENTS' COFFEE MORNING Friday 8th February 9.00am

During the meeting this week, we will be sharing further information about holiday patterns for 2019/2020, E-Safety tips for parents, updates for the school library and attendance information updates

RECEPTION PARENT WRITING WORKSHOP

Did you know that writing is the weakest area nationally for reception children? This is a real focus for the children, not just in our school, but across all schools nationally. In order to support the children to achieve expected levels in writing, it is vital that they are supported from home. Mrs Robinson will be holding a workshop in class to give advice and guidance on what is expected for reception children at the end of the year, and how to support your child to achieve this. There will also be resources available to support your child at home, and a chance to look at your child's literacy books, and ask any questions about writing in EYFS. Reception parents are invited to attend this workshop on Friday 1st March at 2.45pm. Refreshments will be provided.

Please let Mrs Robinson know if you are able to attend this. If we do not have enough parents wishing to attend, then we may have to cancel.

Thank you for your continued support.

Y1 PHONICS SCREENING WORKSHOP

All children in Y1 nationally will sit the phonics screening check. This is a reading test which tests their phonics skills. Our phonics screening results have always been, at least, in line with National figures and we hope to maintain this trend. We are holding a parent workshop on phonics screening showing what this will look like for the Y1 children, and also giving practical advice and support for parents to support their children at home further. Throughout this term, we will be completing a mock phonics test to give us a clear indication on where our children are currently, and whether they are on track to pass this. We ask that all Y1 parents please attend this workshop in order to gain further understanding. However, if we feel your child is 'at risk' of not passing then we will send a letter out to individual parents to ask them to attend. This will be held on March 22nd at 2.45pm. Refreshments will be provided

Although it is Y1 children who take the phonics screening test, the workshop is also open to Reception parents who wish to know more about the expectations on their children next year.

Please let Mrs Robinson, or Miss Rodgers know if you are able to attend this. If we do not have enough parents wishing to attend, then we may have to cancel.



Bug Club

Based on feedback from the Autumn parents questionnaire and from discussions with children, we will not be investing in Bug Club for Key Stage 2 (Y3-Y6 pupils). Bug Club **will** still be purchased for Reception and Key Stage 1 (Y1+2).

The grammar section of Bug Club was also not being used effectively, so we will look for other resources to invest in to support the children. KS2 Bug Club and the Grammar Section will both be unavailable from 6th February.