



# Newsletter



19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Dear Parents and Carers,

The spring term has begun and the children are busy getting back to normal routines. Our Year 3 and Year 4 children are enjoying their annual swimming lessons as part of our PE curriculum with great excitement as they board the coach on a Friday afternoon.



Year 6 led a beautiful and reflective prayer service on Friday afternoon. Well done to all the children and thank you to the parents who came and supported this afternoon.

It looks like the weather is on the change with wind and rain forecast – please make sure your child always has a suitable coat in school; uniform colours for coats are plain navy or black please.

## School News & Updates

### Reception Class

We are really thrilled that Mrs Luck is able to share her news of a new little one on the way.

While it is still some months until it's arrival in the world, I would like to reassure parents that we are already planning for cover for the summer terms and into the next academic year. We are exploring a number of different options and you may see adverts on our school website for the maternity cover over the next couple of weeks. We will keep parents, children and families up to date as the plans are finalised.

### Parents' Evenings

Our parent evenings are scheduled for the Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of February. This time they will be in the school hall with staff spread out and a waiting area in the centre of the room. This will help parents moving from class teacher to class teacher and help everyone keep to time.

Time slots for each evening are limited so we would really appreciate it if you can make sure you only book one appointment; if your family has separated parents, it would be really helpful if you could coordinate for both parents to attend the same appointment if possible.

Mrs Luck is spreading her appointments over four days for obvious reasons.

The appointment links are listed below for each class. Please make sure you click the correct link and check the class and teacher before you submit your preference.

Preschool

<https://forms.gle/pKSZtPbBz3Dbj9ar6>

Reception

<https://forms.gle/8LFozYZbSmUAEHP58>

Year 1

<https://forms.gle/HduQ7stibbNEt2n16>

Year 2

<https://forms.gle/6Gkz3UbyqKVJirt88>

Year 3

<https://forms.gle/C4vJebrAJK85kpgx8>

Year 4

<https://forms.gle/6Ap9dq71DgvmKbKt5>

Year 5

<https://forms.gle/pabzKg9addKjVTU6>

Year 6

<https://forms.gle/wU2N7qusSde6ffND7>

### School Led Mass – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January

If you are available to join the school at St Joseph's Church at 9.00am for Mass you would be very welcome.

If your child would like to read a prayer or bible reading, please email [mass@st-josephs.org.uk](mailto:mass@st-josephs.org.uk) to let us know and we will contact you next week.

### House Mufti Days



Winners of Term 1 and Term 2 were St David's and St George's Houses.

The house captains have requested a mufti day for each house:

- **St David – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January**
- **St George – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

These are rewards not fundraising so children can just enjoy having a day without uniform.

### Newman Partnership



In the next few months, the school will be engaging with the Newman Catholic Trust to begin the process of joining the trust.

The Newman Catholic Trust was formed by Clifton Diocese and will eventually include up to seventeen schools including St Joseph's and St Francis' in Nailsea (who were one of the first schools to join).

The CEO, Danny Doyle, and a member of the trust board will be visiting school next week on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm** to meet with parents and answer any questions arising from a short presentation.

Staff are also meeting with the trust as part of this initial consultation period.

St Joseph's School was founded in 1905 as a private school, because a state-maintained school in 1968 and will soon become an academy as part of the trust's expansion with the support of the Department for Education, the Regional Schools Commissioner and Clifton Diocese.

I would encourage parents who are available to come into school for the meeting and have a cup of tea while you wait to collect your child at the end of the day.

### Behaviour Policy Consultation

We review our behaviour policy each year but this year we have created a new document rather than reviewing and editing the existing one. We feel that this is then an opportunity to listen to comments for parents before the document is agreed by governors.

<https://www.st-josephs.org.uk/web/consultations>

## People Who Help Us – Come and visit our Reception class!

Mrs Luck and the reception class are doing their "People who help us" topic. If you do a job where you help people and would like to talk to the reception children please talk to Mrs Luck or send her a message via the school office.

If you have any cool equipment like a helicopter or fire engine that would be amazing! We have had nurses and pretend poo today!

## Social Media – Please Help Us – Please Help Your Child!



We regularly have to pick up the emotional pieces in school for something said, typed, recorded or shared on social media.

Many of the apps available on Android or Apple IOS are not designed for children to use and are often rated 13+ by their publishers.

Many of our Y5 and Y6 children will have had new mobile phones over the Christmas period and, as parents, you have to make the decision on how to keep your child safe online.

A couple of simple pointers:

- **Check your child's phone!** Please don't wait until your child is upset or you have a concern; we would advise all parents to regularly monitor their child's use of social media. Ask what app they are using and share how they use it. If items are deleted from a chat, you might want to ask why! Perhaps they have typed or shared something unsuitable.

- **Set Up Parental Controls!** Visit the really helpful site – [internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org)



They have really helpful guides for using all kinds of devices and platforms. Specific advice for smartphones can be found on <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>

## Swimathon



The next Rotary Swimathon will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March – please keep the date free!

It would be great to have as many children take part but also ex-pupils and parents are very welcome to join in too. We had a fantastic team last year – the largest number from any single school in Portishead and the only one to fill the session while other schools share the pool!

## PE Days

Although the teachers will have reminded you about PE days on their google classrooms, here is a list of the current PE days in school for Term 3 and Term 4:

R – Wednesday

1 – Monday, Tuesday

2 – Tuesday, Friday

3 – Monday, Friday

4 - Monday, Friday

5 – Tuesday, Friday

6 – Tuesday, Thursday

Please can you make sure your child has a badged jumper or hoodie on PE days – we still have some random additions to our PE uniform.

## Clubs

Signature sports will be continuing with their after-school activities in Term 3

Mondays Years 1 & 2 – Multisport

Thursdays Years 3-6 – Football

Please book directly with them:

<https://www.signaturesportscoaching.co.uk/school/st-josephs-catholic-primary-school>

Chess Club for KS2 on Thursdays (in Year3)

Crochet Club for Year 6 on Mondays (in the library)

Both free of charge with Mrs Faram!

## School Reminders

### ParentPay Charges on the System

- Yr3/4 swimming contribution
- Yr6 Evacuee workshop (deadline 18.3.24)
- Yr2 Noah's Ark Trip (deadline 19.2.24)
- Yrs 4/5 Noah's Ark to visit school (deadline 4.2.24)

## Spare Shoes in School

Now that the weather has improved and there has been less rain, we will hopefully be allowing the children to use the field for lunch playtimes.

**Your child must have an old pair of trainers or welly-boots in school to go one the field in the winter. Please make sure they have a named bag to hang on their peg in the school corridor.**

## PTFA

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Mr Bath's Runaround Quiz

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – St Joseph's Got Talent

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Summer Fete

## Safeguarding

In addition to Internet Matters, here are some other useful sites for staying safe online:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

All of the above sites provide up-to-date advice for parents – please access them to see what is available.

## Church News

Here is the link for this weekend's church newsletter:

<https://cdn.filestackcontent.com/oJde4uhRRB2p5yTo4WC7>

## Local News, Events & Services

We are asked by local groups and organisations to share events and activities which might be of interest – we include this for your information if you are interested.



# GREENE KING

I am sure lots of families will still be eating chocolates left over from the Christmas period and here is a great recycling initiative for those empty boxes 😊.

Portishead has 2 Greene King pubs, **The Albion** and **The Royal** and they will accept the boxes for recycling 1 January - 11 February 2024. Any money raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

If you want to find out more visit:

<https://www.tub2pub.co.uk/tub2pub/>



WE'RE BACK AT NAILSEA SCHOOL FOR A WEEK OF FOOTBALL CAMPS!

DATES:  
MONDAY 12TH FEB - FRIDAY 16TH FEB.



9am - 3:30pm - Early drop-offs available  
£21 per day | Discounted multi-day tickets

Book online: [www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps](http://www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps)  
Pete@priorityfootball.co.uk | 01275 261 004



## MINECRAFT CLUB

Inspiring the next generation of coders and makers



For more information and to register:  
[codingbug.co.uk/coding-in-minecraft/](http://codingbug.co.uk/coding-in-minecraft/)

### Coding in Minecraft

This is fun monthly club where children learn how to make mini-games, automate builds, and change gameplay behaviour in Minecraft with code.

Suitable for children aged 8 - 12.

#### WHERE

Yatton Library  
BS49 4HJ

#### WHEN

Saturday 27th January 2024  
From 9:45am - 12:45pm

[codingbug.co.uk](http://codingbug.co.uk)

Email: [info@codingbug.co.uk](mailto:info@codingbug.co.uk) or call 07909226520



[facebook.com/codingbug/](https://www.facebook.com/codingbug/)

# FEBRUARY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCHOOL YEAR 6+



**STREET DANCE MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP WITH ANNE-MARIE**

- Monday 12th February
- 3pm-5pm
- £15
- Perfect for those who love dance or drama - musical theatre with a modern twist!!

**WESTON GLOW FESTIVAL**

- Wednesday 14th February
- 5pm-9pm
- £20 including minibus transport and fast food dinner
- An interactive and immersive light show over 25 spectacular light exhibitions at Grove Park, WSM followed by fast food dinner

**DIGITAL MUSIC WORKSHOP**

- Thursday 15th February
- 11am-1pm
- £15
- Create your own digital music track using Logic Pro with tuition and guidance from our Studio Manager, Nick to share with your family and friends!

**FULLY FUNDED SPACES FOR CHILDREN IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS!**

# FEBRUARY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

FOR CHILDREN AGED 8-12



**WAKE THE TIGER AMAZEMENT PARK & BOWLING TRIP**

- Tuesday 13th February
- 10am-4pm
- £45 including minibus transport

**IN-HOUSE COOKING, SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS AND TEAM GAME ACTIVITY DAY**

- Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th February
- 8.30am-5.30pm (or 8.30am-1pm including lunch, or 1pm-5.30pm)
- £34 including cooked lunch and snacks (£19 AM session/£15 PM session)

**FULLY FUNDED SPACES FOR CHILDREN IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS!**

Email [mail@portisheadyouthcentre.co.uk](mailto:mail@portisheadyouthcentre.co.uk) for a booking form or more information

## And Finally...



Have a great week.

Mr Bath

Headteacher