



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Bristol Road
Portishead
North Somerset
BS20 6QB
☎ 01275 848367

Headteacher: Mrs E Jackson
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S McMahon
E-mail: stjosephs.pri@n-somerset.gov.uk
Website: www.st-josephs.org.uk



Friday 21st December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy term I wanted to say thank you to each and every one of you for all your support this year. We couldn't do this job without all your help, as I always say education is a partnership and here at St. Joseph's we are all part of the same family.

The Christmas plays this year show how important that family is, whether it be coming to watch, helping your children to learn their lines or contributing to our Christmas charity 'Missio'. **So far we have raised £556.71** this is a charity close to the Popes heart, it's about children helping children. The Christmas jumper day raised £190.00 for Save the Children-well done.

<https://missio.org.uk/>

PTFA

The School Christmas discos were a great success and the children enjoyed dancing along to some groovy tunes.



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



The PTFA have also organised cake of the week, slime work shop, Christmas hampers and bedtime stories since the beginning of the academic year.

I would like to say a **big thankyou** to the PTFA for helping us out with our budget, since September they have bought Bibles for the children in Year 4, donated £1750 to classes and school fund for resources. The kitchen and kitchen equipment are a fantastic addition to our school and this Christmas the Year 1 class have made mince pies and jam tarts, the Year 6 class have made Christmas biscuits and pin wheels for their Christmas Carol concert.

The exciting pantomime in January has been part funded by the PTFA and they are continuing to work hard to raise funds for our outdoor classroom.

The PTFA of St Joseph's are also part of the giving machine. If you shop on line you can go to www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk you will be able to join and then find the PTFA St Joseph's school, Portishead, you will be able to shop on line with most high street retailers. The giving machine will make donations to the PTFA as you shop.

The next meeting in school will be on Monday the 14th January at 7.30 in the Albion PH (opposite school) please come along to plan for 2019.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE PTFA THEY DO SO MUCH FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL

Admissions

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School have opened a public consultation on their school admissions arrangements for 2020-21. Comments should be submitted by letter or email to the school. Please mark your correspondence for the attention of 'the Chair of the Admissions Committee'. The closing date for responses is 11 January 2019. Details can be found on the school website at:

<https://www.st-josephs.org.uk/web/admissions/159675>

Community

Winter Fuel Grant 2018/19

Get help with winter fuel bills

Members living on a low income constantly struggle to make ends meet – and this can be particularly acute in the winter when the cost of heating homes rises as the outside temperature falls.

But it's not all bad news as help is available. The union's welfare charity There for You has once more set up a limited fund to help members on low incomes towards the cost of their winter fuel bill through a one-off payment of £60.

The process is very similar to previous years and an amount of money has been ring-fenced to support this initiative. However, once it's gone it's gone!

So please ensure you don't lose out. You can download the [application form](#) from the website or contact Unison Direct on 0800 0857 857 for a form to be sent to you.

Completed applications need to be sent by **Friday 15 February 2019** to:

There for You, (WFG) UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AY

Regards

Address: UNISON There for you, 130 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AY

'There for you' is the working name of UNISON Welfare a charity registered in England and Wales 1023552 and Scotland 38305

The Rock Project - Open In Portishead -

Book your space for next term

FREE TASTER SESSION

Guitar-Bass-Drums-Vocals

The Rock Project is a national school of rock and pop and teaches children aged 7-11 and 11-18 guitar, bass guitar, drums and vocals as well as the opportunity to play in a band. All abilities accepted and instruments can be provided. The two hour after-school sessions run from Portishead Youth Centre with a session for ages 7-11 (primary school age) followed by a session for ages 11-18 (secondary school age), and also we now run an ADULT session in Portishead, contact us for more info ! Book now for a free trial after Christmas. Each week (term time only) students will receive an hour of tuition in a maximum group of 5 per tutor, in separate rooms, learning some fantastic songs. Then the



other hour is spent as a group playing in bands and putting into practice what they have learned in their lesson. As the students build up a set list of songs over the year, each July they perform in The Rock Project annual gig on stage in front of friends and family. So why not come along and see if it's for you?

*Senior students wanted! Do you know of an 11-18 year old that might be interested? Please pass on the info!

To book in for a FREE taster session and to enquire for more info, please contact Andy on bristol@therockproject.com or visit www.therockproject.com/sessions for further info.

Sessions also available in Clevedon, Nailsea and Ashton.

Uniform

Many members of the public comment on how smart our children look and I want to thank all parents who help with that.

However I can still see some girls wearing blouses rather than shirts which are not compatible with school ties. If your child has lost their tie please buy a new one and like all uniform it should be named. If your child has borrowed a tie from the office please bring it back.

Children should be wearing black or navy coats and black or navy school shoes. Boots are not part of the uniform. However, if it is very wet or snowy then your child can come to school wearing boots and change into shoes.

From January Year 5 and 6 girls can wear a skirt if they wish this should be a navy box pleat skirt example below:

<https://tuclothing.sainsburys.co.uk/p/Navy-Permanent-Pleat-Skirt-2-Pack-%283-16-years%29/128838259-Navy>
www.marksandspencer.com/l/kids/school-uniform/girls/skirts-n-c0y4x

https://www.johnlewis.com/browse/baby-child/school-uniform-shop/view-all-girls-school-uniform/skirts/_/N-7c5nZ1z13zpu

E Safety

Unfortunately the Fortnite saga rumbles on. In school we have had reports of children logging on at very odd times during the night. Young children (6, 7 and 8 years old), talking about communicating with their boyfriends who live in London! Children using the group to Cyber Bully other children.

The gaming industry has a PEGI rating of 12 that means it is not suitable for children under that age. I realise that many of our children are playing the game but I would urge you to PLEASE limit the time your child plays -be vigilant with whom they are communicating with- watch what they are doing. I would strongly advise parents not to let young children play the game as there are images of violence.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale>

Reading with your child

Research tells us that reading every evening with your child makes a huge difference to their reading progress particularly in Reception and KS1. What we do in school is important but we cannot do it alone. I have noticed that in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 there are quite a few children that have not had signatures in their reading record books for some time. I know we are all really busy but please make time to read with your child at least 3x per week, 10 minutes makes all the difference.

House Keeping

- Please be considerate when using the car park, when the gate is locked it means the car park is full and you must park elsewhere, you cannot block the gates at either end of the car park. At the moment the car park is causing so many problems that I do fear someone may be seriously hurt or injured-we are currently liaising with road traffic management to try and come up with a solution that will prevent this from happening.
- PARENTPAY – please take a look at PARENTPAY as the following items are now awaiting payments – Music Tuition, After School Club, Pantomime, Yr4 Egyptology. Please can you also consider topping-up your child's meal account so that it remains in credit. Thank you!



Curtain cleaning and Christmas tree decorating

Thank you so much to Mrs Peiris, who cleaned our hall curtains they look (and smell) wonderful, thank you to all the parents who helped take them down and put them back up. Thankyou as well to those who stayed behind and help decorate the Christmas tree, much appreciated

School choir

We are so very fortunate to have such a fantastic music teacher at St Joseph's. I accompanied the school choir and Mrs. Page to St Peters lodge where they sang a selection of carols and sing along songs for the residents. Everyone had a lovely time and I was very proud of the children as they mingled with the residents afterwards. We had a really lovely letter from the manager welcoming us back any time.



On behalf of all the staff I would like to say thank you for all your gifts and kind messages and wish you and all your families a restful, peaceful and joyous Christmas. We are looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday the 8th of January 2019.

God bless

Mrs Jackson

Luke 2:11 'Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord'.

Please see the website for the full calendar of events

Term dates

- term 3: Monday 7 January 2019 to Friday 15 February 2019
- term 4: Monday 25 February 2019 to Friday 5 April 2019
- term 5: Tuesday 23 April 2019 to Friday 24 May 2019
- term 6: Monday 3 June 2019 to Tuesday 23 July 2019

INSET dates

Monday 7th January 2019

Monday 22nd July 2019

Tuesday 23rd July 2019