



Newsletter



Monday 25th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week has gone by and we have survived a number of wet playtimes!

Thank you to those parents who came into school to meet the teachers. You will also have an opportunity to come into school for parents' evening in October to discuss how your child has settled into their new class – more details will come in an email next week.

In the meantime, don't forget to put a note in your child's journal if you have any questions.

School News & Updates

Harvest Festival – Friday 29th September

You are very welcome to join us for our annual harvest celebration. The autumn term would not be the same without a rendition of Big Red Combine Harvester and Cauliflowers Fluffy!



This year we will be collecting for the local foodbank. As well as food items, they are asking for house cleaning and personal hygiene products; some families suffer from 'hygiene poverty' where that cannot afford the products

having spent their available money on food for their family.

The current list of items needed by the foodbank is as follows:

- All cleaning products
- Men' toiletries including deodorants
- Toilet rolls
- Fruit juice
- Tinned Vegetables
- Rice pudding
- Custard
- Steamed puddings
- Coffee
- Tinned potatoes and instant mash

Any other non-perishable or tinned items would also be appreciated.

We understand that there are families in school who may be finding the financial situation challenging so ask those who can afford to do so to be as generous as possible.

Thank you!

After-School Club (ASC)

Term 1 fees are now on ParentPay and need settling by 29th September (2 weeks' time), these will include the £25 annual registration fee. This is all in line with our T&Cs.

Thank you to those that have settled theirs already.

ASC Spaces

Currently we have spaces on Mondays and Fridays only. If you would like to put your child

on the waiting list for any other day, please contact Mrs Fenton-Stretton on after.school@st-josephs.org.uk

Shoebboxes for Christmas



We will be launching our shoebox appeal at the beginning of October for collection after half term. More details will be attached to next week's newsletter.

In the meantime, if you are out shopping, here is a simple list of what can be included:

- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Hat, scarf, gloves
- Soap
- Underwear/ Socks/Tights
- Small toys/gifts as cars, dolls, balls etc.

Please only include new shop-bought toys. Sweets are great but no chocolate or any other food items. No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags (best before date no earlier than 31st March next year please).

Volunteers in School

Following a discussion with governors and our leadership team, we feel the new school year is a great time to ask parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school if they would like to volunteer.

We are looking for people to help with:

- Library at lunchtimes
- 1:1 Reading with children
- Helping Year 3 and Year 4 with their times tables

- Afternoon support in the KS1 classes
- Admin support
- Trips and events – one off when needed

All volunteers will be required to complete an online information form and, once we have identified a role or area you can help in, we will start a security check (Enhanced DBS).

Please use this form to register your interest: <https://forms.gle/yTmM7NaxgveYV6yV9>

Nasal Flu Vaccinations - Mon 6th Nov

Children in Reception to Year 11 are being offered flu vaccinations this winter to help protect them from flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Vaccinating your child will also help protect you, your family and friends. The flu vaccine is administered using a nasal spray, this vaccine is free and painless, please ensure you complete your consent form at

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2023/consent?v=1.23>

This link will close on Thursday 2nd Nov at 9am.

If your child is unable to receive the nasal flu vaccine, community catch-up clinics will be available, please contact sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net or 0300 1245515 for more information.

Music Lessons

Lessons for those who have booked have all been sorted. If you have any queries, please contact music@wema.org.uk.

If your child would like to start a new instrument, please use this link:

www.wema.org.uk/register

School Reminders

ParentPay

Please take a look at your ParentPay accounts and ensure that they are up to date.

Open Days



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (3-11)

Pupils enjoy coming to this school which is described as a 'happy family'.
The Leaders and staff have created a positive environment where everybody feels valued and want the best for pupils.
Ofsted Dec 2021

There is a strong sense of community and inclusivity within the school amongst parents, staff and pupils.
Catholic Schools Inspectorate June 2023

**Looking for a school place for your child?
You are warmly welcome to visit St Josephs!**
Single form entry (210 Children)
A small, welcoming, inclusive, family-friendly primary school serving the families and communities of Portishead & Pill for over 100 years.
For Catholic and non-Catholic families.
Confirmed as a "Good School" by Ofsted (Dec 2021) and "Good" by the Catholic Schools Inspectorate (June 2023)

Open Days
Please call the school office to book a place for an open day visit:
Saturday 23rd September 2023 – 10am to 12noon
Monday 2nd October 1.30pm and Monday 9th October – 9.30am

Or any Wednesday morning for a personal visit.
Please call to arrange a convenient time to have a tour of the school with the Headteacher.

Please telephone the school office on 01275 848367 or email us at office@st-josephs.org.uk to book a visit.



If you have any friends or neighbours who have preschool or school aged children, please recommend our school. Word of mouth is so important when choosing a school for your child.

Thank you.

Car Parking – Staff Spaces

If you arrive in school before 2.50pm (2.30pm on Fridays) **do not park in staff spaces**. Once all of the staff are onsite, the caretaker or another member of staff will indicate where you can park

Car Parking – One Way System

Please **keep left** as you come into the car park and remember the **5mph speed limit!**

It is a one-way system and the gates at the end of the school by Gordano are for exiting the site only and is not an entrance.

Car Parking and Dropping off

Only park in marked bays – do not double park or park on double yellow lines.

Dropping off – please use the drop off zone by the Keystage 2 gate and not stop in a random position in the middle of the car park. We have seen some near misses already this term with children crossing the flow of traffic and the view of pedestrians and driver obscured by stopped cars.

Despite previous requests, there are still parents allowing their children to walk across the car park. This is dangerous and put them at risk of being hit by another car driving, reversing or parking.

WANTED!

Spare PE Kit

We are trying to restock our supply of emergency clothes. If a child falls over, gets wet or has an accident, we use spare PE kit to get them clean and warm. If you have any spare items, please send into the school office:

- Yellow PE tops
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Leggings
- Navy Joggers

Play Sand – Buy a bag or donate please!

The PTFA have bought a lovely covered sand pit for the children to use. However, it doesn't have any sand yet! If you would like to make a donation either as a bag or two of sand (**play sand**) or send in a cash donation to school in an envelope marked "PTFA Sand Donation" that would be great!

PTFA News

Teddy Bear Picnic – Sunny Day Plan

If the weather is good next week, you are welcome to join the children in Preschool, Reception and Year 1 on the field for a teddy bear picnic. There will be refreshments for adults and children provided by the PTFA.

Please bring your teddy bears and a picnic blanket! Please arrive between 1.30pm and 1.45pm.

Parents can have the chance to meet and have a chat too.

Teddy Bear Picnic – Backup Plan!

If it is raining, there will still be a social moment for the parents. Please join us in the school hall for a cup of tea or coffee from 2.00pm. Get an early parking place and a hot drink while you wait for the end of the day.

Thank you to the PTFA for their continued support to the school.

Church News

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

https://www.josephfrancis.org/files/ugd/f6caaf_202ab70518dc405a983a91ac468c1fc2.pdf

Local News, Events & Services

Signature Sports

Just a quick note to inform you bookings for October Half Term Fundays are now open!

For more information and for a full list of available After School Clubs and October Half Term Fundays please visit:

<http://www.signaturesportscoaching.co.uk>

For any queries, please email:

signaturesportsclubs@outlook.com

Many thanks,

Ben and The Signature Sports team

And Finally...



Have a great week!

Mr Bath

Headteacher