

**April 2016**

Welcome back to the summer term and what always seems to be the busiest time of the academic year.

I was happy to see the vast majority of the children returning in their summer uniform, the sunny weather has indeed helped! I do expect to see girls in dresses and boys in shorts. Year 6 girls may wear a blouse and skirt and Year 6 boys can continue to wear long trousers. Please ensure children wear school shoes and not sandals. Please note the summer dress is a pink stripe and not checks.

### **The Governing Body Of St Joseph's**

As you know St Joseph's is lucky to have a committed governing body. The role of the governing body is to have a strategic view of the schools' overall performance. Since September 2004 Mrs Elaine Jones has been the chair of the governing body and has shown dedication and commitment to the pupils and the community of St Joseph's. Mrs Jones lost her father at Christmas and as result took some time away from the governing body. After much deliberation she has decided to resign her position from the governing body and wishes to communicate the following to parents

*With the passing of my father just before Christmas and my son leaving full time education in July – I feel the time is right to stand down as a governor at St Joseph's. I leave the school in the very safe hands of Mrs Lawlor and her extremely committed, hard-working and wonderful staff team and a skilled committed Governing Body that for the last term has had Kate Guest in the Chair. I will be forever grateful for the support and prayers that the school community has given to me over the years and the last term in particular. Your children have been working extremely hard this year, producing wonderful work, making progress and importantly enjoying their learning in a Catholic Primary – All this combined, together with your support, makes the great school that is St Joseph's.*

**I cannot express enough my gratitude to her for all the time Mrs Jones has given to the school and to me personally.**

**The Governing body of St Joseph's goes from strength to strength with Mrs Guest as our newly elected chair and an additional experienced governor joining us since January 2016 we feel that the school has a clear development plan on how to move forward and make continued improvements. We will be recruiting soon for a new parent governor to join the governing body and I would urge you to consider how your skills could contribute to the governance and leadership of the school.**

### **Funding for schools**

School budgets are always tight and this year as result of new funding formulas for schools they remain even tighter. As a school we are funded separately for pupils who are in receipt of the pupil premium funding the amount of funding we receive is based on the confidential information we provide the DFE. Any family in receipt of income support is eligible for the grant. In school we use the grant to provide free school meals for junior pupils, offer subsidy for afterschool clubs and trips, extra tuition and boosters (Saturday, before and after school) as well and employing additional staff and other agencies. We have a clear statement on our website which itemises how the money is spent and the impact it has on pupil achievement and outcomes. Please could we ask that if you feel that you qualify for pupil premium you contact the school offices. All information is handled sensitively and confidentially. Please also look at the information on the website.

### **Polling day**

Please note the school will be closed on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 as the school is used as a polling station. Year 6 will be coming into school for the morning only from 9am until 12.15pm.

### **School Games Day (Sports day)**

Please note the date in your dairy **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016**. As in previous years there will be morning and afternoon events and an opportunity to join your children for a picnic lunch on the field. Please note the following in order to accommodate all the activities we will be extending the school day to 3.30pm. Infant children will need to remain in school for the whole day and not go home at lunchtime. A separate letter nearer the time will be issued so that information and arrangements are clear. Children will be expected to wear a coloured T- shirt representing their team colour on the day. Please could you ensure the children have a clean T-shirt with no logos.

#### **Infants & Nursery**

Crown Dale, London SE19 3NX  
T: 020 8670 2385 F: 020 8670 0420  
E: amcleary@st-josephs-inf.croydon.sch.uk

#### **Juniors**

Woodend, London SE19 3NU  
T: 020 8653 7195 F: 020 8653 0807  
E: office@stjosephsjun.co.uk

## Welcome.

At the beginning of this term we welcomed Mrs Diane Miscia - Mrs Miscia is covering Mrs Flegg ( Class 5 year 1) who has now gone on maternity leave until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017. I hope you will make Mrs Miscia very welcome and that she enjoys her time at St Joseph's.

## Academy update

It has been a year since we consulted officially on becoming an academy. As you know as part of the recent Government white paper for education all schools will eventually become an academy and it remains our intention to change to academy status. We are a signed up member to the Croydon Umbrella Trust and have already began working collaboratively with the trust schools.

## PTA

Thank you to the PTA for organising the Easter raffle which was very successful. We are planning to have a summer fair on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and will need help with refreshments on the School Games Day. Please talk to Lucy Slayford (nursery parent) and make yourself know to her she is keen to get a group of volunteers together to help with the summer fair. We will be holding a meeting shortly to get the plans off the ground.

## Holidays and Absences from school

Please note by way of a reminder we are no longer able to authorise any holidays during term time. We could use some sort of discretion in the past, this is no longer the case. Any holidays will be marked down as unauthorised and you could be subject to a fine. Please do not ask because you will be offended when your request is turned down. Prolonged illness and regular illness will need to be supported by a doctor's note/letter.

Finally... Please keep Year 6 in your prayers as they prepare for their fast approaching SATs!

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> May - May Bank Holiday - School Closed

5<sup>th</sup> May - Polling Day School closed

6<sup>th</sup> May - May Procession 9.30am (Infants and Y3)

7<sup>th</sup> May - Catholic Football and Netball tournament

9<sup>th</sup> May - 13<sup>th</sup> May - Year 6 SATs

19<sup>th</sup> May - meeting with Y5 parents - preparing for Year 6

20<sup>th</sup> May - Swimming Gala (juniors)

26<sup>th</sup> May - Y6 PGL meeting @ 6:30pm

27<sup>th</sup> May - School Games Day (all day) Infants am and juniors pm

27<sup>th</sup> May - break up for half term at normal time

6<sup>th</sup> June - INSET day - school closed

School back -Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

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