

March 2016

We are now in the season of Lent and the children have been encouraged to be reflective and active during this time. Fr Anthony led an Ash Wednesday service with the children and started us off on our journey through Lent. The junior children will be given opportunities to see either Father James or Father Anthony for reconciliation. The Infant children will engage with Lenten activities and prayer in their respective classes.

We have had a wonderful book week in the Infant and Junior schools; the children were able to access a range of activities including a drama workshop, a teacher dash, a book swap as well as class based activities around the story of Charlie Cook's Favourite Book. The costumes of World Book Day were colourful and inventive. I would like to record my thanks to Miss Madigan, Miss Thomas and Mrs Stylianou all of whom have put a lot of work into the organisation and smooth running of the week. Thank you to parents for supporting the events and the generous support of the book fair.

Staffing and announcements

At the end of the summer term 2016, Miss Frost will be retiring from her position of Deputy Headteacher. Miss Sheila Frost has given many years (over 30) of loyal service to St Joseph's Infants and in the last five years as RE lead across the two schools. She has carried out many roles within the school including acting headteacher for eighteen months from 2005 - 2008. Miss Frost has been a loyal and committed member of our school staff she is always there for everyone and has been a personal source of strength and support to me. Miss Frost will be sorely missed by, children, staff, parents and governors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her sincerely for her commitment to catholic education and wish her happiness and fulfilment for a long and happy retirement. Congratulations Miss Frost.

Catholic Ethos

On Tuesday 1st March 2016 we had a catholic ethos visit carried out by the schools' commission. The day consisted of RE lesson observations, a tour of the school and a look at RE books. The visit was very positive and it was felt that the catholic ethos of the school was strong across both schools. As a follow on from this visit we would like to gauge parents' views and we would request that you fill in a questionnaire during parents' evening. The questionnaire is about the catholic life of the school. Many thanks in advance.

Attendance

Our overall attendance percentage has been very good all year and it is currently at 96%. It was slightly higher last month at 97%. Please work with us to make sure that our attendance figures remain high. Please note that the doors are open from 8:45am and the registers are taken at 8:55am. If you arrive after 9am you will be recorded as being late. Please note the statistics below.

Effects of Late Arrival at School

Minutes late per Day - Equates to Days of Teaching Lost in one Year - Which means this number of lessons missed

5 mins	10 Days	17 Lessons
10 mins	7 Days	35 Lessons
15 mins	10.5 Days	52 Lessons
20 mins	14 Days	70 Lessons
25 mins	21 Days	104 Lessons

Croydon Schools Festival of Dance

The Infant and Junior dance clubs will be participating in this annual event on Monday 14th March. Thank you to Miss Nicole Lacy-Thompson for her teaching of the children this term and preparing them for the festival. My

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

thanks as always to Mrs Laura Willis for overseeing the festival this year as she is currently on maternity leave! We will be looking forward to the performances. Congratulations children I am sure we will be very proud on the night.

Parents' evenings

You should have received information about the forthcoming parents' evenings on the 15th and 17th March. Please ensure you book an appointment slot with the class teacher. We hope you will see in the children's books the huge improvements that have been made in writing as well as the progress evident from the beginning of the year.

We would request that parents bring their child to their parents' evening appointment so that progress and behaviour for learning can be discussed together.

Please remember that the children are no longer 'levelled'. We will be looking to see that children are meeting age related expectations by the end of the school year. That they are currently on track (making sufficient progress) to be meeting Age Related Expectations (ARE) for their year group. The new curriculum is assessed differently which is why there has been the removal of levels.

Martial Arts



EVERY WEDNESDAY

Martial Arts & Kickboxing Classes

4.30 pm Lil Dragons (4-6 Year olds)

5.30 pm Kids (7-12 year olds)

Benefits include:

CONFIDENCE BUILDING

STRENGTH & FITNESS

DISCIPLINE & RESPECT

TEAMWORK

BOOK A FREE TRIAL CLASS NOW

CALL: 020 8686 5420 EMAIL: rachel@thecroydonacademy.com

Classes held at St Joseph's Junior School Main Hall

Woodend, Upper Norwood, SE19 3NU

St Joseph's Day

We will be celebrating our feast day on Monday 21st March this year.

Website

Please do sign up for events and new items! The website has a lot of curriculum information available which will be useful for parents particularly for parents with children in year 2 and year 6.

Uniform

After Easter children should be in their summer uniform. I am aware that the weather is usually still a little unseasonal so will allow some flexibility. Girls are to wear summer dresses - they must be pink and white striped and must be worn with socks. School shoes need to be worn, no open toed sandals. Boys in year YR - Y5 should be wearing grey shorts during the summer months.

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Holidays and Absences from school

Please note that 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.

Forthcoming events

15 th March and 17 th March	Parents' evenings (YR-Y6)
17 th March	KS2 Stations of the Cross: 2pm Junior Hall (parents welcome)
18 th March	Year 4 Roman Day
21 st March	St Joseph's Day - Choir concert PM: TBC
22 nd March	Class E assembly - 9:15am Infant Hall - Easter assembly - all parents welcome
23 rd and 24 th March	Year 4 away on residential: Hindleap Warren
24 th March	School closes for Easter Holiday at 2pm

Mission Prayer:
May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship and live
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever
Amen

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