

October 2016

The autumn term is well underway now and we are all beginning to get into our stride! So much so that it is nearly half term already! We were delighted to see many of you at the curriculum meetings and the maths workshops. The maths workshops were particularly well attended and those who did attend found it very beneficial. Thank you to Mrs McGrath for her leadership in maths and for planning the activities across the school. This years' McMillan Big Coffee morning was a great success and raised £570 in total. Thank you to all who supported this worthwhile charity and to Mrs. Dejesus for her coordination of the event. It has become a St Joseph's tradition, this being the 3rd year we have hosted it. Each year more people attend and more money is raised.

The harvest celebrations have been wonderful this year and we have been blown away by the generosity of our school community. The food donations received have been collected by the Norwood Food Bank Project and will most definitely benefit local families and people. Thank you to Fr Anthony for joining us to celebrate mass in the junior school and the harvest assembly with the infants.

Parent Governor Elections

I am pleased to report on the outcome. It was necessary to hold a ballot, as three candidates were nominated. 129 votes in total were cast by parents; 29 votes for Christopher McKeating, 37 votes for Denise Graham and 63 votes for Miranda Hutton. We therefore extend a warm welcome to Miranda Hutton, who joins the governing body board as the newly elected Parent Governor. Can I thank all the parents for their support of the election and those who expressed an interest in serving on the board.

PTA

The PTA will be hosting their Monster Ball on Thursday 20th October from 6.30pm in the junior hall. I hope that you will take the opportunity to join in the fun particularly as it's just before half term. The PTA is also raising funds with SADs UK to purchase and install a defibrillator for the school community. The defibrillator is an essential piece of equipment in the event of a person suffering a cardiac arrest. We hope to never have to use it but nevertheless it is important to try and be prepared for all eventualities. Last Friday, we were able to give away boxes of breakfast cereal that had been donated to the school by Crystal Palace FC and 'His Church'. Thank you to Mrs Mangan and Stephanie from the Afterschool Club for ensuring that we benefited from the scheme.

Reporting an absence

When you are reporting a child's absence from school please make sure you report your own child's absence and not on behalf of another parent. This is for safeguarding reasons - we need all absences to be confirmed by a parent. It is also very important to give a specific reason and not just say my child is unwell; this is very important as different codes are used and checked by the Education Welfare Officer. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Admissions for Reception, Nursery and Year 3 September 2017

Parents who wish for their child to start in Reception class September 2017 or Nursery Class September 2017 can now collect a form from the infant office. Children born between 1/9/2012 and 31/8/2013 must apply for a reception school place by 15th January 2017.

You are required to make an application for a reception place by the 15th January 2017. All applications for St Joseph's need to include a CAF (Common Application form - completed on line) and supplementary information form (available from the infant school office).

We will be holding an open day in school on Wednesday 2nd November 2016, there will be tours of the school available and information on how to apply will be included in my talk at 9.30am and then again at 7pm.

For those of you who are familiar and confident with the process please go to the infant office and collect a form

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

from Anne. Application forms for nursery are also available; the closing date is the 15th January 2017 for Reception, Nursery and Year 3.

CAF forms are local authority forms - they are completed online e.g. if you live in Croydon, you complete a Croydon form- if you live in Lambeth, you complete a Lambeth form.

Supplementary forms are the forms you obtain from our school office and return to our office. They require additional information that the governors use when allocating places as per our admissions policy.

Parents evenings

Our next round of parents meetings will be on the Tuesday 15th November and Thursday 17th November 2016. These meetings will be an opportunity to talk to teachers about their children's progress as well as look through the books. More information will be made available before half term.

INSET day

Please note Friday 25th November is an INSET day and the school will be closed.

Easter Holiday 2017

Please note the school closes on Friday 7th April 2017 and reopens on Monday 24th April 2017. This is slightly different to some other local schools. The Easter break is the week before and week after the Easter bank holiday.

School website

Thank you to all of those who have subscribed to the website. We are keen to be able to communicate with you via the website and email. Once you have subscribed, all news posts will come to you via email. In an event of an emergency, we have been informed that communication via the school website is the most effective. Please do take the time to subscribe on line.

International week

The week beginning 17th October 2016 will be our international celebration. There are various activities arranged over the week including Restart a Heart Day on Tuesday 18th October. All children will receive instruction on how to save a life. We will be joined by the London Ambulance service, junior doctors and nurses from local NHS trusts. It should be a very informative day and fits in with our We 'heart' St Joseph's campaign.

Wishing you all a happy and restful half term break. School closes on Friday 21st October 2016 and reopens on Monday 31st October 2016.

Tammy Lawlor and staff

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