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28th February

Dear Parents

Welcome back after half term and I hope you had an enjoyable break despite the weather conditions.

We are now in the season of Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday, 26th February. My thanks to Fr Anthony for leading services in both schools. Children in year 2 and 6 led the readings and Father commented on how reflective and respectful children were during the services. Please do make time to talk to your child about the importance of Lent and Easter and reinforce everything we do at school. At Assemblies, we have discussed what we can do during Lent, to prepare for Easter. Children felt that 'being a good friend and considerate to others' should be a focus and not just during Lent. It was an interesting discussion. It never ceases to amaze me the wisdom displayed by our children, I think they set an example to all of us.

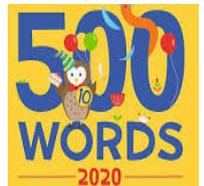
PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS – 18th & 19th March 2020

A letter will be going out on Monday, with information regarding booking an appointment to see your child's class teacher. It is an online booking system through Teachers2Parents. Should you have problems accessing it, please contact the school office or come in and use a school computer.

WRITING COMPETITION – The BBC's 500 Words competition -

Thank you to all of you who supported your child with the above writing competition.

We have some great pieces of work and I look forward to sharing the results with you, once we receive them.



CLUBS

Clubs, continue to be popular and most fully booked. Apologies if your child was not able to secure a place, but their name has been placed on the waiting list, should a place become available. Mr Lutchman from the Crystal Palace Foundation, started his sessions this week. He is delighted to be at St Joseph's and commented on our pupils' positive behaviour and enthusiasm.

PTA COFFEE MORNING - Every Friday 9.10 a.m. in the Garden Hall

I am delighted to announce that the PTA will be hosting a coffee morning, every Friday in March, starting on Friday, 6th March. Please sign in at the Junior Office to let us know you are attending. It is a great opportunity to exchange positive ideas on all aspects of school life, whilst enjoying a warm drink and biscuit.

Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA AGM on Tuesday. My thanks to Donna Durrie for co-ordinating the meeting and to others who have volunteered to support and lead on specific areas. Please do come forward if you are able to offer help and get involved.

St Joseph's Feast Day - 19th March 2020

This year, we will be celebrating St Joseph's day with a Mass at 10.00 a.m. at Virgo Fidelis Church. I do hope you will be able to join us. Further details about the celebrations for the day will be shared shortly.

Mrs Fernandes - Headteacher

ADVICE ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS

I am sure you will be keeping up to date with concerns regarding the Coronavirus. Public Health England and the Department of Health have begun a UK-wide public information campaign to help slow the spread of the virus and they have detailed some important steps we can all take to protect ourselves and others from viruses and germs:

- ◆ *Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.*
- ◆ *Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.*
- ◆ *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.*
- ◆ *Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.*
- ◆ *If you, friends, family , or children have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers. visit the gov.uk webpages.*
- ◆ *Following these steps will help slow the spread of almost any germs, including coronavirus.*
- ◆ *Coronavirus presents with flu-like symptoms including a fever, a cough or difficulty breathing. Anyone with any concerns is advised to follow NHS advice or call NHS 111.*
- ◆ *Calling NHS 111 as a first step reduces the risks of viruses spreading unnecessarily, particularly in public spaces like hospitals and GP surgeries*

Further information from the London Borough of Croydon can be found at

<https://intranet.croydon.gov.uk/news/help-prevent-spread-coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please do keep a look out on our school website for information regarding future events.

Thank you for your continued support.