



Newsbite Friday 12th April 2024

Dear Parent's and Carers,

Thank you all for another successful week at St Joseph's and a great start to the summer term. I cannot believe that we are now two thirds into this year with only 12 teaching weeks left! This term I am sure will pass by as fast as the previous two and there are so many fabulous events to look forward to.

On Monday afternoon, Nicola Moore came into school and presented information to the children about the Colour Dash Event. You will have all now received the information and sponsorship form accompaniment. I am sure that you will all support the children, raising as much money as you can, for this wonderful charity that many of our students benefit from. I thank you all in advance.

Please also keep an eye on the 'Dates for the diary' and your emails too, as I know that there are many events which are happening throughout this term, which I wouldn't want anyone to miss. As a parent of three children, I know how hard it is to keep up with everything that is going on! Once again thank you for your support.

Lastly, I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

God Bless

Mrs Dedman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mrs Dedman'.

Prayer

Afternoon Prayer

Most glorious God,
As I pause in the midst of this day,
I invite You into this moment of prayer.
I ask Your pardon for any way that I have failed to
love today.
For my pride, envy, gluttony, greed, lust, sloth and
anger,
I beg for Your forgiveness.
Once again, I dedicate this day to You.
I pray for humility, kindness, temperance, charity,
chastity, diligence and patience.
Help me, Lord, to listen to Your gentle voice
And to trust in Your guidance and grace.
My life is Yours, dear Lord.
My life is Yours.
May I hold nothing back from You.
May I fulfill my duties this day in accord with Your
perfect will.
I love You, dear Lord.
I love You with all my heart.
Help me to love You and others with all my might.
Amen.



Dates for the Diary

| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| 17.04.24 | Year 3 Sports Festival |
| 18.04.24 | Spring Disco |
| 19.04.24 | Year 5 Parent Lunch |
| 03.05.24 | Whole School 'Colour Dash' Event |
| 10.05.24 | Year 6 Parent Lunch |
| 13.05.24 | KS2 SATS Week |
| 20.05.24 | Pentecost Mass |
| 24.05.24 | Emerald Centre Quiz Night |
| 04.07.24 | Summer Disco |
| 03.07.24 | Year 6 Transition |
| 08.07.24 | Leavers Mass |

Other Notices



Be a Chorister for a day!



Enjoy singing?

Join us for a day to see what it's
like to be in Leicester Cathedral Choir
For children in Key Stage 2

Saturday 27 April 2024

St Martins House, LE1 5PZ

Scan the code to book a free place

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cathedral.music@leicestercofe.org



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Father John

On Wednesday, 10th April and Thursday, 11th April, members of our school and I paid our final respects to our much loved School Priest. I know that he touched so many of your lives and he will be greatly missed. I feel very privileged to have known him.

A final Letter

Dear People,

God gave me a wonderful life. I am grateful. Happy home and loving family, Welsh homeland and Irish people, British citizenship and European awareness in the years in Rome and Italy, and then the completion of simply being one of the human family in the mission years in Canada and New Zealand.

Education was an extraordinary gift: primary and secondary schools in Cardiff, universities in Cambridge and Rome, the University of Life shared with family, friends, brethren, students, peoples in the parishes and in retreats and pilgrimages. My mind and heart teemed.

I learned the simplicity of faith in God – that love is greater than life and that God is love. God captured me young, surrounding me with family love and friendships, but I was always free. I don't know if I would have been good enough to be a husband and father, but I was satisfied to settle for being a priest and member of a religious congregation ~ life-styles easier than marriage and family, but inspiring in the way I saw many of my fellow priests and religious serve God and the people.

I was never poor. I was immensely rich and longed to share all God had given me, wanting to be open to the world and the sufferings and joys of people. I had no money to give but I gave myself as generously as I could, always aware of my limitations. I had no heroic talents to challenge or change the world but I wanted to be kind as I taught and served, inspired by their giftedness of others.

God gave me a universal mind – love, education, sport, music, literature and an appreciation of people's giftedness. I knew 'envy' ~ the 'holy envy' of wishing I could be and do more, but I was never jealous. I marvelled at God's blessings in others who had so much, glad for them that they could serve in many ways. I 'glimpsed' eternity in everyday life.

An eight-year-old boy in a Dublin classroom told the school inspector the story of Abraham and Isaac. He finished "an' just as he was going to stab Isaac God peeped over a cloud and said, 'Hold it, Abraham, that'll be all right.'"

God has peeped over the cloud for me and said "Thank you, Fr John, that'll be all right" (and I am gone . . .)

Fr. John

Attendance

| Class | Class attendance YTD End of Advent Term | Class Attendance YTD End of Lent Term | Class Attendance Today | Class Attendance Year to Date |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mrs Bailey | 93.4 | 93.1 ↓ | 100% | 93.5% |
| Mrs Abel | 95.1 | 94.3 ↓ | 91.7% | 94.6% |
| Mr Crewe | 94.6 | 94.2 ↓ | 90% | 94.1% |
| Mrs Spencer | 93.3 | 94.3 ↑ | 94.1% | 93.2% |
| Mr Challoner | 95.4 | 95.7 ↑ | 93.9% | 95.6% |
| Mrs Darby | 93.1 | 93.5 ↑ | 89.3% | 93.5% |
| Mrs Stack | 95.6 | 95.0 ↓ | 92% | 94.7% |
| Mrs Murray | 96.9 | 96.1 ↓ | 96.3% | 96.1% |
| Whole School (This year so far) | 93.7 | | 93.5% | 94% |
| National Average YTD (Year to Date) | 94.6 | | | 94.2% |

Persistent Absence at St Joseph's

A persistent absent student is defined as a student who has 10% or more absence and who is aged between 5-15 years old.

At Present there are currently **16.2%** of children at school who are classed as Persistently absent. This equates to **35** children out of 216. In comparison to National Persistent Absence data which is currently at 17.3%

Congratulations everyone - Keep up the hard work on attendance - we are now below the national percentage - Let's see if we can get it below 10%

To find out what your child's attendance is - Please have a look at your Arbor App or ask in the school office.

Uniform- This is a reminder about the importance of school uniform.

School uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the school community. These factors contribute to students' wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear and added stress of meeting the expectations of their peers.

SHOES and TIES

Please may I ask that **all** children wear the correct uniform; this includes **black Shoes** (No white/ coloured Logos or stripes or CROCS) and **school ties**. Our tie is the only piece of uniform that identifies us, and this item of uniform is extremely important. Ties can be purchased from the school office.



PE KIT

Another request is that children wear the correct PE Kit: This includes a plain white top and Navy blue or black shorts/ Tracksuit. PE Kit does not include branded items or Football kits.

COATS

Please also ensure that your child brings a coat to school. It's still a little chilly at Break and Lunch Time.



Water Bottles

As the weather improves the classrooms begin to get warm too. Please could I request that all children attend school with a water bottle which can be refilled. This needs to be easily identifiable (Labeled). School Water bottles can also be purchased from the school office.

Reminder: We also have a large selection of preloved items. Please let me know if you would like to come and take a look. cdedman@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk

