



Head-lines

Welcome to the Summer 1 edition of our half termly newsletter. As ever, it's been an action packed, albeit short, half term, so our newsletter gives a little taste of what's been taking place, and looks ahead to some of the events and activities happening when we return for our final half term of the year! Hopefully the sun will continue to shine, and wishing you all a lovely half term. Best wishes, Mr Turner.

Coming up....

The second half of the Summer term is always a bit of a whirlwind! So we just wanted to give a few reminders about some of the key dates, events and activities.

Rehearsals are underway for our annual KS2 Production. This year's is called 'Spring Chicken' and is a musical eggs-travagansa! We have two performances - **Wednesday 18th June at 1.30**, and **Thursday 19th June at 7.00**. Letters regarding ticket arrangements will be sent out.

Thursday 3rd July and **Friday 4th July** are our KS1 and KS2 Sports Days respectively. Parents are warmly invited to watch during the mornings. End of year reports are also due to be sent home on **4th July**. As you will be aware, our Year 6 children have just completed their SATs tests, and when we return our Year 1 children participate in the Phonics Screening Check, and our Year 4 children participate in the Multiplication Test Check. SATs results will be available from **8th July**, so we will share all test results then. Following the reports, if you wish to meet the teacher to discuss anything, appointments can be made.

Wednesday 2nd July is Transition Day, when the Year 6 children spend the day their new High Schools. We use that day for our own 'mini' transition, and have each class visit their new room and teacher for a few hours. We will let you know who your child's next teacher is using our 'Meet the Teacher' letters which will be sent out that same week.

And finally, we finish for the year on **Friday 18th July**. A separate letter will go out to Year 6 parents, giving the details of the Leaver's arrangements for the day, but Y6 parents are invited into school for mass at 1.30pm, followed by refreshments, then back in the hall for our joyous but emotional traditional Year 6 Leavers Assembly! There are more things taking place as well, but we just wanted to give a reminder of some of the key items. What a busy term it will be!

A big congratulations to our Year 3 children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 17th May. It was a beautiful, sunny day and the children looked fantastic all dressed up! It was a really special mass, and marked the next step in their journey of faith. Thank you, children, for being so well behaved and I hope you enjoyed the service, and no doubt the parties afterwards!



Also a big well done to our Year 6 children who worked so hard in the build up, and during, SATs week. The KS2 SATs test the knowledge and understanding of grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading, comprehension and mathematics they have acquired over Year 6 and throughout their primary education. They worked so hard and we couldn't be prouder of them. At time of writing this newsletter, they are on their residential in Anglesey, so I hope they are having lots of fun, making lots of memories, and don't stay up too late!

Here comes the sun.....



As we return to (hopefully!) nicer weather after the half term, please may we remind you about a few sun precautions. Please ensure your child has a water bottle and you may wish to also provide a sun hat. We suggest applying sun cream first thing in the morning. Children may bring sun cream in to 'top up' however they will need to apply this to themselves, and we also ask that you check the ingredients. As you are aware we have several children with nut allergies and some lotions (including Nivea) may contain nut traces so please can we ask that you check. And finally, Summer is the season of 'lost property' as items are removed as the weather hots up and get left and lost. Please can you ensure that all items are labelled so they can be easily traced and returned. Many thanks

We always try to live by our Mission Statement, based on the instruction Jesus left us with - to 'Love One Another.' We are so proud as we often see occasions where our school community put this in action through their deeds. As mentioned in the last newsletter, Mrs Lester recently ran the London Marathon, raising money for Claire House. Mrs Lester ran in an amazing time (3 hours 49 minutes!) and raised a huge amount for a very special charity. Then Daisy from Year 4 undertook some wonderful charity work, making her own jewellery range to raise money for another really worthwhile organisation - St John's Hospice. Daisy's care and drive raised a substantial amount and she was presented with a certificate and medal from the charity to thank her for her efforts. Well done, Daisy! Amazing work and truly demonstrating our Mission to show love for others.

Attendance and punctuality

Our whole school year to date attendance figure stands at 94.5% Whilst this is still below our target of at least 96% it is moving in the right direction, so thank you for engaging with us and ensuring your child has good attendance.

We are aware, however, that during the Summer term we do get a spike in requests for absences for holidays. Please may we remind you that in line with Wirral policy, we cannot authorise requests for holidays in term time, so these will be recorded as 'Unauthorised' and may result in fines being issued by the LA.

School Social Media



Just a reminder that as well as our X (Twitter) account, @stjosephsbh, you can follow us on Instagram @stjosephsbirkenhead



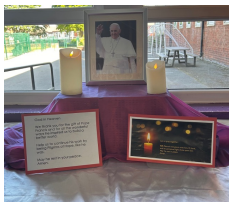
Both of these platforms allow us to share pictures and videos of some of the exciting things taking place in school.

VE Day celebrations

We had a very special day celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE day. As well as games and picnics, the children and staff brought in pictures and stories of relatives who fought or served in the war. We give thanks for all their sacrifices and pray there is no more war.



Prayer for the term



Following the news of the death of Pope Francis, we have been offering prayers of thanksgiving for his work, example and inspiring words. We have had a book of remembrance for the children to write their prayers and thanks. May he rest in peace.

We have also been praying for our new Pope, Pope Leo XIV, and have been learning all about his life and journey. We pray that Pope Leo continues to lead the church with wisdom and compassion and be a sign of God's mercy and love for all.

Almighty God, we give thanks for the gift of Pope Leo. May he witness faithfully to the Gospel, leading with humility and compassion, and inspiring all people to be Pilgrims of Hope. Amen



