



SEPTEMBER 2021

NEWSLETTER



Dear Families,

Welcome back. A special welcome to children new to our school. We wish them a happy and successful school career at St. Joseph's.

For the past 18 months we have been operating under a number of restrictions and control measures. While some restrictions are no longer in place several control measures remain (in line with Schools COVID-19 operational guidance).

- ◆ We will continue to promote good hygiene, encouraging children to wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly. The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach will continue to be important.
- ◆ Enhanced cleaning will be maintained around school before, during and at the end of the school day.
- ◆ All areas around school will be well ventilated, with windows and doors kept open as much as possible.

PE

Following the success of children coming to school in their PE kits on the days they have their PE lessons we are continuing with this arrangement. This means that, on the days your child has PE they need to wear **plain dark shorts/jogging pants and plain white t-shirt / school sweatshirt.**

As they will be doing PE outside (weather permitting) please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear for PE (sandshoes / trainers)

Reminder of PE days

Year 1	Thursday / Friday
Year 2	Tuesday / Friday
Year 3	Tuesday / Thursday
Year 4	Monday / Tuesday
Year 5	Monday / Tuesday
Year 6	Monday / Tuesday



- ◆ Visitors onto site will continue to be by appointment and only if essential.
- ◆ Pupils and staff will continue to follow Public Health advice on when to self-isolate.
- ◆ We provide all equipment and stationery that children need so children should not bring items from home into school.
- ◆ Children will not remain exclusively in their 'bubbles' but, to begin with, mixing will be limited.
- ◆ If a child is unwell for any reason they should not attend school. A 'think COVID-19 first' approach should be maintained and anyone with symptoms should get a PCR test as soon as possible.

Please be considerate, cautious and kind - we all want to minimise disruption and protect time in school.

Thank you.

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SWIMMING - AUTUMN TERM

Plans are in place for all classes from Yr 1 to Yr 6 to attend swimming lessons for 1 full term during the year 2021-2022.

Year 1, 2 & 3 will attend Northumbria University Pool on a Monday afternoon and Year 4, 5 & 6 will attend Northumbria University Pool on a Friday afternoon.

The timetable for the year will be:

Autumn Term	Monday - Year 3
	Friday - Year 4
Spring Term	Monday - Year 2
	Friday - Year 6
Summer Term	Monday - Year 1
	Friday - Year 5

START / FINISH TIMES

Doors open at 8.45 am. School starts at 8.55 am. Please ensure children are in school by **8.55 am** so as to allow a prompt start to the school day.

School ends at **3.00 pm** for Early Years (Nursery and Reception) and for Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2).

School ends at **3.05 pm** for Key Stage 2 (Year 3 - 6).

HEALTH AND SAFETY

A few reminders..

Nut Allergies

We have some children in school with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that **no** snack or packed lunch containing nuts is brought into school. Thank you in advance for your support.



Collecting children at the end of the day

Please ensure the school office/class teacher is aware of any change of arrangement for collecting children at the end of the day.

Unless there is a pre-arranged agreement, parents are asked **not** to collect other children as we have had, on occasion, children thought to be 'missing' because they have been collected by another family but without the parent's agreement. This can happen when, for example, parents are delayed and arrive to school to find their child is no longer in school. This causes a great deal of anxiety both for the family and school. Please reinforce the message given in school to all children that if the adult they are expecting to take them home is not on the yard at the end of the day, they **must** return to their class teacher.



No Smoking

We are a **no-smoking zone**. Smoking (including the use of e-cigarettes) is not permitted anywhere within the school grounds.



Litter

We work hard to keep our school environment clean and safe and free from litter. Please ensure that any litter goes into the bin on the yard and is not dropped onto the ground.



No Dogs

Families are advised that dogs **must not** be brought onto the school premises at any time. Whilst they may be friendly and loving pets, I am sure you will appreciate that not all children are comfortable or confident with dogs. We ask parents/carers to be vigilant in this and alert school staff as necessary.

Birthday treats

Due to the increasing number of children with known food allergies, please be aware that we are no longer able to accept birthday cakes/sweets into school to be shared out. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.



Road Safety

Please be aware that the school mini buses are used throughout the week for a variety of visits and activities.

The entrance to school **must be kept clear** with the **yellow school markings** clear of **ALL** traffic to allow access for the mini buses in order to return children safely to school at the end of the school day.



READING BOOKS

If you have any school books at home please return them to school. Please look under the beds, behind the sofa, in the cupboards and return any you find!

Please remember to bring book bags to school every day.

Please note, the only school bag that children need is their book bag. Children are asked not to bring any other bags (or belongings) to school as these cause cloakroom areas to become congested with children then struggling to hang up their coats.



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School Meals

A reminder that the cost of school meals for Nursery and Key Stage 2 children is £11.00 per week (£2.20 per day).

Free School Meals

Please can all families who think they may qualify for Free School Meals complete an application form, (available from the school office or online. **This includes families whose children receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2**)

If you are entitled to Free School Meals, they are granted until a child's 18th birthday, unless your circumstances change. For a child in Reception and Year 1 and Year 2, completing the form now means that, if you are eligible, your child will continue to receive Free School Meals as they move into Year 3 without the need for you to complete

further forms. It also means that you won't have to pay for meals while you wait for the form to be processed by the Local Authority.

It is very important that all the children eligible for Free School Meals are known to school as this affects other funding that school receives, in particular Pupil Premium where school receives additional funding to improve educational outcomes and provide a wide range of enrichment activities for children in school. **Please help us not to miss out on this funding.**

If you have any questions or queries, then please do not hesitate to contact the school office or Mrs Hepple, our Parent Support Adviser. We are more than happy to help!

FREE FULL TIME NURSERY PLACES

Nursery Class Monday to Friday, 8.55am - 3pm

Full-time Nursery places are available for September 2021 for children who are 3 years old before 1 September, 2021.

Ofsted November 2016 rated our Early Years provision as GOOD

'Children are eager to learn and explore. They thoroughly enjoy the opportunities given to investigate and learn happily together. Children's play is lively, creative and imaginative'.

'Children behave well, take turns, share resources and listen attentively. They are able to sustain concentration for a considerable time because they enjoy, and are relaxed in, their play'.

'Judging by the confidence with which children play and learn, they clearly feel safe and secure'.

Please contact the school office on 0191 2739063

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INCLUSION IQM Spirituality, Formation and Education Service in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle NEWCASTLE Learning in children



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Breakfast Club (Reception to Year 6)

Breakfast Club is open to all children in school from Reception to Year 6 at no charge.

Doors open at 8.10am and close at 8.30am

Children will **not** be admitted into Breakfast Club after 8.30am. Children must be into breakfast club by 8.30am so as to allow time for them to enjoy their breakfast.

Children are not expected to be left unsupervised on the school yard before 8.45am.

School Staff are not on duty outside before 8.45am. Your co-operation in these matters is expected as the safety and well-being of the children are paramount. Thank you.

Reminders

Please send your child to school with a coat and waterproof footwear so that they can still enjoy playing out even if the weather changes

If any of your contact details have changed (e.g. telephone number, email address, home address) please ensure you inform the school office

The first training day of this year will take place on **Friday 22 October, 2021**

Half term Monday 25 October - Friday 29 October.

MISSION STATEMENT

At St Joseph's we aim to promote a learning community based on the Gospel values of Love, Trust and Respect, where the achievements of everyone are recognised

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School Website

Please remember to check our website regularly for information and updates.



www.stjosephsrcprimary.co.uk



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



BREAKFAST CLUB REGISTRATION FORM

Breakfast Club starts at 8.10am. There will be no admission after 8.30am.

I would like my child to attend the Breakfast Club at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

I would like my child to start attending Breakfast Club from _____ (date)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

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