

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



HEAD TEACHER: MRS. A. D. THORPE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS. C. HORSLEY

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29th October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school after the half term holidays, I hope you all had a happy and safe holiday. It was wonderful to see so many happy smiling faces coming into the school building this morning, despite the cold weather! This term is a very busy one with the lead up to Advent and Christmas; I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the various events, which the children will be putting on for you over the next eight weeks – please read the 'Dates for your Diary' list and the weekly letters for regular updates.

Our Smarties Fundraising Challenge

At the end of last term, all our pupils were given a tube of smarties to enjoy! We asked if they could try to fill the tube up with 20p coins and bring the full tube back into school as soon as possible. All the funds raised will go towards work in school to set up a new school chapel for the children to enjoy and use a safe and comforting place in which they can worship and pray in school.

A reminder about the Halloween Disco

This year, as we normally do, we will host a Halloween Disco on Wednesday 31st October. There are still some tickets available from the school office. Tickets cost £4, which will include: entrance, a hotdog, a drink, a chocolate bar and a bag of sweets. No money will be needed on the night. We look forward to seeing all the children dressed in their amazing costumes ready to enjoy all the wonderful games and entertainment, which the staff have prepared.

A reminder about the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Once again, we are collecting for the national shoebox appeal. Boxes will be collected from school on 8th November so please feel free to bring them into school as soon as you can. It is wonderful to have such generous families. Leaflets will come home tonight.

Book week

Starting on Monday 12th November, the Book People will be visiting school. The book stall will be open each Monday to Thursday break time for children to browse and purchase books and again afterschool for parents and children to come and purchase books. Look out for the money saving coupons, which will be sent home.

Earrings and Nail varnish

All parents/carers are reminded that pupils should not be wearing either earrings or nail polish in school. I would greatly appreciate your support and ask you to explain to your children that these are not part of the school uniform policy. Any pupil seen wearing earrings will have a telephone call home to ask the parent/carer to come into school and remove the earrings; pupils wearing nail varnish will be asked to have it removed by the following day, if they persist in wearing it, parents/carers will be contacted.

House Points

St Cuthbert – House Points grand total of 1897 last half term!

Well done to the winning house for last half term, which was St Cuthbert. They will have their reward afternoon of film and popcorn tomorrow afternoon! All the children have worked exceptionally hard to earn their House Points, we are very proud of each and every one of them.

Attendance

Well done to all those pupils who achieved 100% attendance last half term – they will receive their certificates on Friday in assembly – a fantastic achievement.

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful week ahead.

Kind regards,

Mrs A. D. Thorpe
Headteacher

The Autumn Term 'Dates for the Diary'

Date	Details of the Events (Updated 29/10/2018)
September	
13/09/2018	Roald Dahl Day – Pupils to come dressed in a costume related to their favourite character from any of his books
19/09/2018	NSPCC in school delivery of Key Stage appropriate assemblies encouraging children to keep themselves safe
20/09/2018 9:30am	Whole school Welcome Mass in church – All are Welcome
20/09/2018 4:30pm	Welcome meeting for all parents wanting their child to attend the First Holy Communion Preparation Programme at St Joseph's Church. A list of dates will be handed out for you to add to your diaries
24/09/2018 9:15am	Year 6 Families are invited to come to the Childs Class Liturgy in the school hall
26/09/2018	European Day of Languages – Pupils are all invited to come into school wearing the colour of the country they will be learning about. Pupils will take part in lots of fun activities associated with the country they are learning about Reception – France Year 1 – Spain Year 2 – Germany Year 3 – Portugal Year 4 – Belgium Year 5 – Italy Year 6 – The Netherlands
26/09/2018	NSPCC Workshops in school with Year 5 & Year 6
26/09/2018 2:00pm	NSPCC Safety Workshop for parents and carers in school – All Welcome
28/09/2018	Macmillan Coffee Morning in the school hall – All are welcome We would gratefully accept any donations of cake to sell and all monies raised will be forwarded to Macmillan Cancer Care
October	
1/10/2018	Brighten Up day for CAFOD – Pupils to come to school dressed in their most colourful clothes to celebrate the work they do across the world
04/10/2018 8:30am–9:30am	Nurse Alison is available for a drop in session for parents/carers
5/10/2018	School fair in the school hall
5/10/2018 – 10/10/2018	World Space Week – Events happening during the school day for pupils
8/10/2018	Faith in Action Workshop in school – Year 6 pupils only
10/10/2018	Big Soup Event for Reception and Year 1 parents – Straight after school We would appreciate any volunteers to come into school and help to refurbish the outdoor area and then enjoy soup made by the children using vegetables grown in the school garden. Please see Mrs Hull or Mrs Quiney for details
15/10/2018 9:15am	Year 5 Families are invited to come to the Childs Class Liturgy in the school hall
17/10/2018 6:00pm – 7:30pm	Year 5, Year6 and Year 7 pupils from the parish are all invited to attend the Pontop Partnership Worship evening. Venue: St Mary's, Pemberton Road, Blackhill, Consett DH8 8JD
19/10/2018 9:30am	Whole school Harvest festival Mass in church – All are welcome
20/10/2018 – 28/10/2018	Half Term Holidays
30/10/2018	St Cuthbert winning House Point Movie and Popcorn Treat
30/10/2018	Parents evening for Y1 – Y6 in the school hall
31/10/2018	Closing date for secondary school places
31/10/2018 5:00 – 6:30pm	Halloween Disco – Ticket available via the school office

November

1/11/2018 8:30am	Nurse Alison – Whole school Health Profile
1/11/2018 11:00am	All Saints Day Mass in Church – Year 5 & Year 6 to attend – All are welcome
7/11/2018	Flu immunisations for R to Y5 in school
8/11/2018	Shoe Box Appeals – boxes will be collected today from school. Details to follow
11/11/2018	The Bishop will be saying Mass at church – All are welcome to come and join the celebration
12/11/2018 9:15am	Remembrance Service in school followed by a Y6 memorial at the church Cenotaph
12/11/2018	'Odd Socks Day' for Anti Bullying week
12/11/2018 – 16/11/2018	Anti-bullying Week – There will be a number of events going on in all the classes at an age appropriate level
12/11/2018 – 16/11/2018	Parliamentary Week – Pupils will be learning about the British Values of democracy and fair elections
19/11/2018 9:15am	Year 4 families are invited to come to the Childs Class Liturgy in the school hall
26/11/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 1 – Year 1 & Year 2 Families only in the school hall
27/11/2018 – 28/11/2018	Northern Dance – in school working with all pupils on the meaning of our Northern Saints: St Bede, St Oswald, St Cuthbert, St Aidan
30/11/2018 2:00pm	Christingle Service in the school hall – All are welcome
30/11/2018	Last Afterschool Club Session for the term except for multiskills and netball
30/11/2018	Smarties fund raising tubes to be brought back into school

December

03/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 2 – Year 3 & Year 4 Families only in the school hall
4/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – All welcome
10/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 3 – Year 5 Families only in the school hall
11/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – All welcome
12/12/2018	Christmas Lunch in school
12/12/2018 4:30pm	Christmas Drive in Movie Night – Tickets will issued nearer the time
13/12/18	Last afterschool club for multiskills (11/12/218) and netball (13/12/18)
14/12/2018 am	Reception and KS1 Gibside Trail – information to follow
14/12/2018 2:00pm	Carols by Candlelight in the school hall – All welcome
17/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 4 – Year 6 Families only in the school hall
18/12/2018 9:30am	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Nativity Families
18/12/2018 2:00pm	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Nativity Families
18/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – All welcome
19/12/2018 9:30am	Year3, Year4, Year5 & Year6 Christmas Production Families
19/12/2018 2:00pm	Year3, Year4, Year5 & Year6 Christmas Production Families
20/12/2018 9:30am	End of Term Mass in Church – All are welcome
20/12/2018	Christmas Disco in school (Children can change into party clothes at school after lunch)

Christmas Holidays

21/21/2018-06/01/2019	Christmas Holidays including an Inset Day on 21/12/2018
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