



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



“Together in faith we nurture, encourage and inspire each other to achieve excellence and become all that Jesus calls us to be”

Headteacher Mrs M Hollis

School Office 0151 638 3919
May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a busy start to the Spring Term. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with the recent strike days. I have not been informed of any future strikes at present. If unions plan more strikes, I will communicate the proposed dates as soon as I have them.



On Friday, we plan to celebrate the King's coronation a day early. As a whole school, we are holding a coronation picnic on the grass. We invite children (and staff!) to wear red, white and blue and ask for any donations for the school PTA. Please keep your fingers crossed for us that it stays dry on the day. Thank you to the PTA, who are purchasing us some decorative red, white and blue items and a life-sized cut out of King Charles. I know the children will enjoy having selfies with King Charles!

Next week, our Year 6 children will sit their SATs tests. We are so proud of the perseverance and determination they have shown throughout their preparation period this year. They have shown positivity to all aspects of their learning. While SATs provide us with academic information about our Year 6 children, they don't tell us about what makes each of them unique and special. Year 6, remember life is not about passing tests, it is about who you are as a person, the choices you make and the gifts you bring. We are proud of each and every one of you!



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers, our children who are working with Mrs Airey, to prepare for their Holy Communion. This year, the preparation group will make their First Forgiveness on the 18th May. Sacramental preparation starts in

Year 3. In order for your child to be included on the programme, they must be baptised. If you would like more information, on the baptism programme at St Joseph's, please contact the school office.

We have some exciting news! We have been allocated 60 places for our Yr4 and Yr5 children to

attend the outside rehearsal of 'The English National Opera, Does Eurovision!' It is an opportunity for local schools to get a first look at world class opera and Eurovision stars on stage as part of Liverpool's City celebrations. The children can expect to see bright costumes, rousing choirs, a full orchestra, fabulous divas and sing-along tunes. What an opportunity! In the next newsletter, we will share how we have celebrated Eurovision in school. Look out on our Twitter account for our updates.



Thank you for continuing to support our morning trampolining club. We are delighted with the high numbers of children that are attending each day. We have noticed how energetic and ready for learning the children are after attending. Thank you to Mr McGovern, who continues to work hard to promote and support this new extra-curricular club.



A quick request from Miss Last. Please complete the 'Journey to School' survey that has been shared on the whole school Dojo page. Thank you!

As we enter Mary's month of May, we pray together...

Mary our Mother,
We think carefully about you in your month of May,
Be at the sides of our school family when they need you most, especially our Year 6 children and our Sacramental preparation group,
We pray for peace for those at war and less fortunate than ourselves,
We ask for you to answer our prayers,
s we pray in our hearts for you.
Hail Mary...
Amen

A reminder that we have another long weekend ahead, with an additional bank holiday. School will open again on Tuesday 9th May.

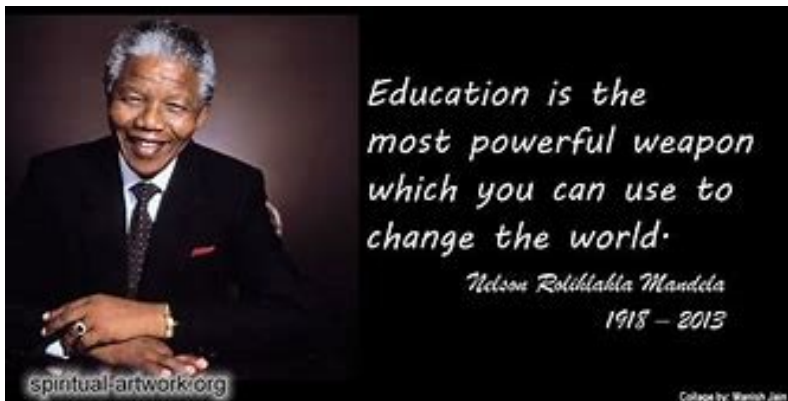
Best wishes,

Mrs Hollis
Headteacher

IT'S SAT'S TIME

It's that time of year! On Tuesday 9th May, SATs week will begin and the pupils will sit a range of tests starting with Spelling Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG). The hard work that the pupils in Year 6 have put in since September has been incredible and there is something we would like to say:

***The end of year assessments
DO NOT tell us who you are***



Throughout their time at St Joseph's, it has become clear that we have incredibly talented, passionate, compassionate and resilient pupils that we are all extremely proud of. There is no doubt that we have future scientists, authors, actors and athletes. We truly hope that they never forget the love of learning.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to be their Year 6 teacher. We believe in all of you Year 6!

SATs Timetable – Year 6 – May 2023

As you are aware all children will be taking their SATs test this year. They are a statutory part of the curriculum and they will assess the children's understanding in Reading, SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and Mathematics. Below is a breakdown of when the tests will be carried out. All tests will be carried out in the mornings.

KS2 Year 6 SATs Dates - May 2023

Date	Test
Tuesday 9th May 2023	Grammar & Punctuation test - 45 minutes Spelling Test - 20 minutes
Weds 10th May 2023	English Reading Test - 60 minutes
Thurs 11th May 2023	Mathematics Arithmetics (Paper 1) - 30 minutes Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 2) - 40 minutes
Friday 12th May 2023	Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 3) - 40 minutes

Any support you can provide for your child in the run up to their assessments is greatly appreciated. It is vitally important that pupils have a good night's sleep and **arrive at school on time each day**. If your child wears glasses, please ensure they bring them to school each day. Please ensure that your child brings a bottle of water with them to school each day.

As always, we will be holding our SATs breakfast club in school.

The children will be provided with a range of breakfast cereals, toasts/bagels and fruit to help them be fully prepared for their assessments.

If you have any questions regarding any element of the SATs, please contact the school office or contact me on Class Dojo.

Best wishes

Mrs Lyon

xxx

good
*LUCK

in your exams

2 year old provision

Our two year olds have really enjoyed their first two trampolining sessions.

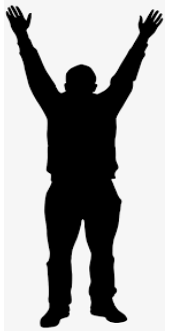


The sessions cover basic gym fundamentals with the opportunity to then apply these on the trampolines.



The children's confidence has already begun to grow, especially when standing and jumping independently on the trampoline.

They have shown great determination and focus when walking along the balancing beams and jumping off the equipment onto the mats.



We have been practising our positions in class – tall, small, wide.

Gross motor skills are the skills that children develop using their whole body. By using their whole bodies children become increasingly confident, agile and flexible.

All children need to be confident in their gross motor skills and movements. For some children this confidence will come in smaller steps and take longer to achieve.

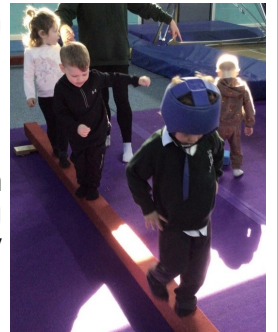
Be patient, giving them time and space, and encouraging words.

Gross motor skills affect wellbeing and give children opportunities to socialise in play. Confidence and coordination in gross motor skills are essential for children in developing their fine motor skills.

When considering children's gross motor skills think of crawling, walking, running, jumping, hopping, skipping, creeping and slithering, spinning, turning, twisting, pushing and pulling.

Older children engage in weight bearing skills and develop upper arm strength, mobility, control and balance.

This could be by hanging from climbing equipment or lifting and manipulating large, heavy and awkward objects.



Year 4 are working hard!

Science

Recently in year 4, we have been learning about circuits as part of our electricity topic. We began by looking at what a simple series circuit requires to work and linked it to the previous lesson on conductors and insulators. Afterwards, we completed an activity which involved matching the name, purpose, image and symbol of several components. Finally, the students were able to build circuits both digitally and physically using what they had learned. Every group were successful in switching a lightbulb on and off as well as a buzzer sounding.



Jamie-Leigh said "it was so much fun getting to play and experiment with the equipment to see what would work and what wouldn't." "Now I know how to draw a scientific circuit diagram with the correct symbols" added Harrison.

For the remainder of the topic, we will be looking at conductors and insulators in more detail, more on switches

and how components can change a circuit.

Hype

Year 4 have been lucky enough to have two sessions so far with HYPE

(helping young people everywhere) as part of their history curriculum. The students will be learning about Victorian Britain linked to the culture and heritage of Birkenhead Park. It will culminate in a trip to the park where the students will be able to visit the Grand Entrance and the Victorian sweetshop it houses.

So far, we have learned about the industrial revolution and the lives of a child during these innovative times. "I have really enjoyed working with Finn and XX because I already knew them from the Easter holiday club" said Kayleen. "I cannot wait to see what sweets there are!" exclaimed Poppy. For the remainder of the course, the children will be looking at a timeline of Birkenhead Park, public parks across the world and more aspects of Victorian life.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance is not good at present, well done to all who have still got 100%!

It is a key priority for us to ensure that attendance remains at
95% or above.

And to everyone who has made such an effort this week to be in school every day

Attendance overall including Foundation Stage: 89.21%

Attendance overall without Foundation Stage: 88.65%

Those who have already fallen below national average will be invited into Attendance Panel or receive a home visit from our Education Social Worker, Steve Clayton.

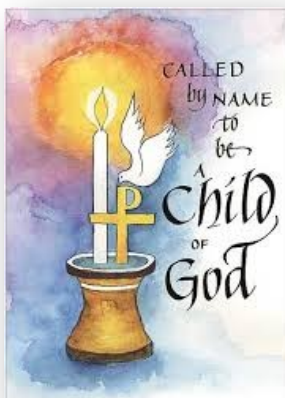
CLASS	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
2 year olds: Mrs Higgins	76.81%	63.41%
Foundation 1 Miss Howard	85.53%	92.11%
Foundation 2 Miss Walker	94.47%	90.67%
Year 1: Mr Shankland	89.20%	95.45%
Year 2: Miss Finnigan	88%	96%
Year 3: Miss Davies	86.98%	94.44%
Year 4: Mr Clare	94.79%	93.06%
Year 5: Miss McAlinden	89.91%	83.30%
Year 6: Mrs Lyons	84.29%	87.86%

Baptism Preparation

If you would like more information about having your child baptised please ring the parish office on 638 1520 or email to stalbanandstjoseph@yahoo.co.uk

Please add a contact number and we will ring you to arrange a date for a preparation session with Fr Ramesh or Fr Praveen.

We look forward to welcoming your children into our parish family.



2 year old funding places...

We currently have places available for our 2-year-old provision for

**September 2023
and January 2024**

Please check on Wirral.gov for eligibility for 2 year old funding.

If you have any queries please come into school and speak to Mrs Higgins for further information

