



**9<sup>th</sup> September 2011 NEWSLETTER NO. 1**

[www.stjosephcrayford.org.uk](http://www.stjosephcrayford.org.uk)

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the summer break and an especially warm welcome to the parents and children of the new reception class.

As you know, Miss Reen retired in August and I have the real pleasure of taking over the headship of St. Joseph's. My name is Mrs Sinclair. Over the first few days the children, staff and parents have made me feel very welcome and I look forward to a happy and productive working relationship.

I aim to build on the best traditions of St Joseph's but continue to seek ways of improving what the school has to offer and what it is able to achieve.

**DIARY OF EVENTS – AUTUMN 2011  
SEPTEMBER**

13 <sup>th</sup> September	Mr Daniels, local historian, working with Year 6 on the 'The Story of Private William James White Project'
14 <sup>th</sup> September	Yr 6 Visit to National Army Museum – children need to be in school by 8.15 am
19 <sup>th</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 6
20 <sup>th</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 5
21 <sup>st</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 4
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 3
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	22 <sup>nd</sup> September to 21 <sup>st</sup> October – Open Days/Evenings for Secondary Schools
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	9.15 am Beginning of Year Mass at St Mary's of the Cray for Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Parents are welcome to attend.
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 2
26 <sup>th</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year 1
27 <sup>th</sup> September	2.45 pm – Parents Meeting – Year R
29 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 – 10.00 am Coffee Morning – opportunity to meet the Head Teacher.

**HALF TERM - 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October**  
**31<sup>st</sup> October Staff Training – Children return Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**



## **Staff Changes**

Last term a number of staff retired and we wish them a very happy retirement.

I would like to welcome Mrs Truss who takes over from Miss Sharp as Deputy Head. Her responsibilities include Year 4 class teaching, ICT and Religious Education. On her managerial day, Mondays, the class will be taken by Mrs Blincoe.

Unfortunately Ms Wildey, the Reception Class Teacher, is still unwell and not able to return to work for the next eight weeks. We are very fortunate in managing to secure the services of Mrs Kelly, a very experienced Reception Class Teacher, please make her welcome.

Mrs Edwards has reduced her hours to four days per week and Mrs Fitzpatrick will be working in Year 5 on Fridays.

The current staffing structure for St Joseph's is as follows:-

Year 6	Mr Davies
Year 5	Mrs Edwards: Monday to Thursday Mrs Fitzpatrick: Friday
Year 4	Mrs Truss: Tuesday to Friday Mrs Blincoe: Monday
Year 3	Mrs Webber – Monday to Wednesday Mrs Perry: Thursday & Friday
Year 2	Mrs Drummond
Year 1	Mrs Low
Reception	Mrs Kelly

## **Congratulations**

We would like to congratulate Mrs Drummond who is expecting her second child in February.

## **Building Works**

As many of you might be aware, the long awaited extension to 4 classrooms began over the school holidays. The extended classrooms will improve library/reading space and coat storage as well as allowing direct access from classrooms to the playgrounds. The works are due to be complete by the October half term. In the meantime a number of classes have relocated, Year 3 are using the Art room and Year 2 are in the hall. The building works will mean a number of changes to usual routines, the school will do it's best to keep these to a minimum. The end product, I am sure, will make it all worthwhile.

## **Parents Meetings**

Information meetings have been arranged for parents to meet class teachers. The meetings will last for approximately 20 minutes. At this meeting the class teacher will discuss class routines, homework, curriculum and general expectations. Please come to the office at 2.45 pm where the class teacher will meet you and take you all into class. Dates for your meeting are detailed above.



## **Coffee Morning**

Parents are invited for an informal coffee morning in the dining hall to meet the new Head Teacher, Mrs Sinclair, on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011 between 9.00 am – 10.00 am.

## **School Meals**

The price of a school meal is £1.85 per day, £9.25 per week. Dinner money is due weekly on a Monday morning in an envelope with your child's name, class and the amount enclosed clearly written on the envelope. Please could you send in the exact money.

We would like to encourage parents to take up the option of school meals. Our meals are cooked on the premises and meet all the government nutritional guidelines. We also use high quality local suppliers for meat and produce. If you want your child to change to a school meal, please inform the office in writing. A full weeks notice is required for any change.

If you think your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the school office for the relevant forms.

## **Mid-Morning Snacks Policy**

Children are only allowed to bring a plain biscuit or a piece of fruit and a drink for the morning break. We would encourage children to bring in a bottle of water, preferably with a sports top instead of a drink and this may be kept with them in class. The Government initiative provides a piece of fruit for all children in the infant classes. It would be appreciated if parents could provide a small plastic container for the biscuit with the name of the child written on it. Yoghurts, crisps or sandwiches are not allowed during the morning break. Your support in this matter is much appreciated.

## **Nut Allergies**

Please be advised a number of children suffer from quite severe nut allergies. We ask you not to include any nut produce in packed lunches or for mid-morning snacks.

## **School Fund Contributions**

The school fund contribution of £10 is a yearly subscription per family. We rely on parents to send this amount in at the beginning of the autumn term. The money collected is for the extra expenses the school has to incur during the year, this includes end of term treats, discos and subsidy for outings etc. Please send in the tear off slip below with a £10 contribution. Thank you in advance for your support.

## **Extra Curricular Clubs**

The following clubs will start as follows:-

- Evolution Football Club commences on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September for Years 3 to 5
- Evolution Football Club commences on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September for Year 1 and 2
- Mr Boshell's Year 6 football club commences on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011

Letters have been sent out to classes regarding these clubs. If you did not receive one please contact the school office.



**Parental Help**

The school would greatly appreciate parent’s help, especially with hearing children read. If you have a few hours a week spare please consider volunteering your time. Please write, care of the school office, expressing your interest, giving an indication of when you would be available. All parent helpers require a CRB check which requires proof of identity and a police check. The school will pay for this check to be carried out.

As our Gardening Club will not be starting yet due to the building works, we are asking for any volunteers to help with sorting out the flower beds etc. Please put a note in your child’s contact book if you are able to help.

**Swimming – Year 6**

Swimming commences on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September for 13 sessions. **Please note that goggles are permitted.**

Instructions will be given to the children when at the poolside. For parents information the guidelines are detailed below:-

*To clear water or to adjust goggles, take firm grip on the eyecup and tilt the lower edger of the eyecup slightly away from the face.*

*To remove goggles, put thumbs under head strap at side of head. Slide thumbs to back of head and lift elastic from back to the front of head.*

**Warning:** *Never pull eyecups away from face as they may spring back and cause eye damage.*

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs J Sinclair  
Head Teacher**

✂-----  
**SCHOOL FUND**

I enclose £10.00 as my contribution to the School Fund.

Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

