



6th January 2012

www.stjosephcrayford.org.uk

Dear Parents,

Thank You

On behalf of all the staff at St Joseph's I would like to thank parents for the many generous gifts that were sent in before Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The dates below cover the important events in the school's calendar for the Spring Term. You will also find all newsletters on St. Joseph's website. The events for each month are updated each term – please check for additions.

DIARY OF EVENTS – SPRING 2012	
JANUARY	
Tuesday 3 rd	INSET Day – Staff Training
Wednesday 4 th	Children to return to school
Thursday 12 th	Charles Dickens Interactive Show – whole school
Friday 13 th	9.00 – 10.00 am Head's Coffee Morning – all parents welcome After school Dance club begins (letters to be sent out before the end of term)
Thursday 19 th	9.15 am – Year 5 Class Assembly – parents invited
Tuesday 24 th	Year 1 Trip – Hall Place, Toys and Games Parents Association Meeting – 7.00 pm school hall for interested parents
Thursday 26 th	9.15 am - Year 1 Class Assembly – parents invited Year 5 and 6 - ICT Technology Day
FEBRUARY	
Thursday 2 nd	9.15 am – Year 6 Class Assembly – parents invited
Friday 3 rd	9.15 am – Years 3 and 4 Class Mass in Church – parents welcome
Wednesday 8 th	Year 4 trip to the National Maritime Museum – Vikings
Thursday 9 th	9.15 am – Year 2 Class Assembly – parents invited
HALF TERM 13TH – 17TH FEBRUARY	
Wednesday 22 nd	Ash Wednesday Water Aid Talk
Friday 24 th	9.15 am – Years 1 and 6 Class Mass in Church – parents welcome
MARCH	
Thursday 1 st	Car Story presentation – Year 3 – 6 – Road Safety Drama Year 5 Confessions Letters sent by 1 st class post to parents notifying them of secondary school allocation decisions. Online decision available.
Friday 2 nd	Stations of the Cross – Years 3 and 4
Thursday 8 th	Healthy Eating Workshops 2.00 – 3.00 pm (Bexley Care Trust) – parents invited.
Thursday 15 th	Year 4 Confessions

Friday 16 th	Year 6 Confessions
Monday 19 th	Whole School Mass - Feast of St Joseph – Years R – 6 - all parents invited
Wednesday 21 st	Open Evening – appointment times to be sent out 2 weeks in advance
Thursday 22 nd	Open Evening – appointment times to be sent out 2 weeks in advance
Friday 23 rd	Stations of the Cross – Year 5
Tuesday 27 th	Year 5 to attend 'Pond Dipping' launch at Hall Place
Thursday 29 th	Easter Performance by CRIBs – Years R-6 Year 6 Confessions
Friday 30 th	Easter Service/Assembly – Years 3 and 4 – parents invited

Details of all our regular after school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Mondays	Pro Soccer School Football Club Years 3-5	3.15 – 4.30 pm 9 th January – 26 th March 2012
Tuesdays	Pro Soccer School Drama and Performance Club Years 1-6	3.15 – 4.30 pm 10 th January – 27 th March 2012
Thursdays	Pro Soccer School Football Club Years 1-2	3.15 – 4.30 pm 12 th January – 29 th March 2012
Fridays	Dance Class Years 3-6	3.15 – 4.15 pm 13 th January 2012 – 17 th February 2012

Fundraising

You will be pleased to hear that the Grand Christmas Raffle and the sale of our Magic Reindeer Food raised a total of £199.70 which will help support the School Fund and the extra expenses the school has to incur during the year.

Shelterbox

Back in the summer term we raised money to buy a ShelterBox. You will be pleased to know that the ShelterBox has arrived in Turkey and has assisted a family who have been affected by the recent earthquake.

Packed Lunches

Good nutrition is important if children are to be happy, healthy and fulfil their potential.

The midday lunch supervisors have noticed a number of children are not eating a balanced packed lunch (too much biscuits/cake content) and some children are not finishing their packed lunches. Please be advised packed lunches must be a balanced meal with carbohydrate, protein, fibre and fruit/vegetable content.

If you are struggling with ideas why not try our school meals which are of high quality and promote a 'healthy' lifestyle.



All healthy lunch time choices are rewarded with stickers to encourage the children. Have you a favourite school lunch or packed lunch? Drop a note into the office and we will publish the description or recipe in next month's newsletter.

Please find attached the new 3 Week Spring Menu. Please put a note in your child's contact book, if you wish your child to change from packed lunch to school dinners. A full week's notice is required for any changes. We will be on Week 2 from Monday 9th January 2012.

Parents Association

Many schools have a 'Parents Association' – a group of parents who organise fund raising and social events for the school. Parents have mentioned starting a Parents Association here at St Joseph's and the school would be supportive of the idea.

We would need a number of parents to volunteer to act as committee members. From this group a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer would need to be found. This group would decide on and organise fund raising and social events, liaising with the school. It would probably be best to start in a limited way, perhaps an end of year Fete/BBQ. The Parents Association would need support from other parents to help run and organise events – so the job would not become too onerous. If you have any ideas please raise them at the next Head's Coffee Morning on Thursday 13th January. An initial start-up meeting has been set for Tuesday 24th January 2012 at 7.0 pm. The PA members would need a few hours spare every half term for a meeting and more time nearer and on event day/evenings.

If you are interested in being involved in the Parents Association please could you complete and return the tear off slip below so that I can get an idea of numbers.

Attendance

The school has recently reviewed its Attendance Policy and the following procedures have been put in place:-

- If your child is too unwell to attend school, please telephone the school office (and press option 1) before 9.00 am on the first day of absence.
- On return please write a note in your child's contact book with any details necessary
- If we do not receive a telephone call the office will telephone to ask the reason for absence

Good attendance will be rewarded by:-

- the children receiving the class award of 'Attendance Bear'
- termly achievement certificates for 100% attendance.

Poor attendance will be followed up with parents at:-

- Open Evenings
- Meeting with the Head Teacher
- And for persistent absentees a meeting with the Education Welfare Officer

Lateness is also being reviewed and the following procedures have been put in place:-

- If your child is late more than 3 times in 2 weeks a letter will be sent home
- Persistent lateness a meeting will be held with the Head Teacher
- Arriving to school on time will be rewarded by the children receiving the class award for the least amount of late children for the week of 'Denzil Don't Be Late'



Dance Club

All children who have applied for Dance Club starting on Friday 13th January have a place. Please do not forget comfortable dance clothing.

Primary Admissions 2012

If your child was born between 1st September 2007 and 31st August 2008 they will be due to start school in the autumn of 2012. The Bexley Common Application Forms (CAF) are available from the school office. Supplementary Admission Forms will also be available either on line at the website address above or from the school office. The deadline for completion of the forms is 15th January 2012. Parents with siblings in school must still apply for a place.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs J Sinclair
Head Teacher**

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I would be interested in being on the Parents Association

Parents Name: _____ (please print)

Child's Name: _____ Year: _____

I am able/unable* to attend the meeting on Tuesday 24th January 2012 at 7.00 pm.

Signed: Date:

