



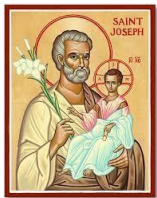
# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

2023-24 #1 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

St. Joseph's is a joyful community which follows the example of Jesus, helping, accepting and respecting everyone, as we learn and grow together, safe in His love.

## Stay and Pray

Year 6 & 5 (12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Sept) attended ST Joseph's Church for the first Stay and Pray Masses of the academic year. Year 4 (26<sup>th</sup> Sept) and Year 3 (10<sup>th</sup> Oct) will be the next to attend.



A big THANK YOU to Fr Matthew for leading our first school Mass of the new academic year.

*Dear Lord, Creator of body and mind and heart, you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways. At the beginning of this new school year, we implore your mercy: bless the pupils, staff, parents and our parish community that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus. Expand the horizons of our minds, that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen We ask our Patron saint to watch over us St Joseph.... Pray for us.*

**UNIFORM RULES 2023/2024** - The St Joseph's uniform is an important part of our school identity and it links generations of children that pass through the school. Uniform updates were sent out in July and are on website for you to refer to.

Please remember that earrings must be removed on PE days – if not removed, children will either miss PE or you will be asked to attend school to remove them. This is for safety reasons. We will not tape over earrings for PE lessons.

The minor amendments that were made to the uniform policy should make uniform decisions easier and in line with what you may already own outside of school. Hopefully this will offer some support to all our families in the current economic climate.

**Please remember that we have a large selection of pre-loved uniform available to purchase.**



We have been delighted to welcome both new members of staff and some new children. I am sure you will help to make them feel very welcome.

## Attendance Matters



**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE** - Last year, the overall school attendance was **95.31%** We would love to beat that this year and have set a target of at least **97%** next year.

Attendance is one of the key factors in determining success through an individual's school life. Punctuality has a really big effect too! Please be mindful of these two important factors throughout the school year.

We will be continuing our popular Attendance Prize Draw each half term. Each full week of school attendance earns a lottery ticket. At the end of half-term, several tickets are drawn and those children win a prize. 100% attendance in the first half-term will mean 7 tickets in the draw!


**BEHAVIOUR POLICY** – we have updated our approach to behaviour and are introducing a new system to support us all to make the right decisions during the school day. It is based upon Gospel Values and the promotion of being role models for each other. We all have the same rules to follow in class and in the playground – these rules were devised with the school council last year. Over the next few weeks and months we will re-visit and review the response to these changes and refine arrangements as required.

**PHASE LEADERS** – we have appointed a staff leader in each phase across the school; Upper KS2 – Mrs Shepherd, Lower KS2 – Mrs Turner, KS1 – Mrs Partridge and EYFS – Mrs Worgan. Their role will be to support the staff in each phase and lead on further developing the practice of their colleagues. They will also be involved in monitoring aspects of the school and will support the promotion of good behaviour across their phase. We are pleased to be able to use their expertise and hope they will be successful in their new role.

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## ATTENDANCE

Group	% Attendance 
4B	99.4%
3T	99.3%
4A	99.0%
6B	98.6%
5C	98.1%
2F	97.6%
6S	97.3%
5M	97.2%
1CD	96.1%
1N	95.9%
2P	95.8%
3R	94.2%

**Congrats to 4B for the highest attendance  
in the first weeks of this term!**



As we start another academic year, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you about the invaluable skills of knowing times tables, with speed and accuracy. When children have a solid understanding of their times tables they can easily apply these skills to other areas of the Maths curriculum such as fractions, percentages, division, telling time etc. It also relieves pressure on their cognitive load.

Children begin learning their times tables in Year 2 and should have a fluent understanding up to x12 by the end of Year 4, this includes multiplication and related division. Below you will see which times tables children should know by the end of their Year group:

Year 2: X2, X5, X10

Year 3: x3, x4, x8

Year 4: X6, X7, X9

Years 5 and 6: time should be spend building speed and accuracy of all times tables.

A great way to support their learning is through TTRS and the many catchy songs on Youtube. You will find attached to this newsletter a guide on using TTRS.

## House Captains

We are delighted to announce the Year 6 House Captains as voted by the pupils.



Clara

Thomas B



Thomas G

Ella



Betsy

Oliver R-O



Rosie

Penelope

MEET  
the  
TEACHER

All year groups 1-6 have hosted a 'Meet the Teacher' session in the Hall. We hope you found the sessions useful.

### New Reception Parents Meeting

Thank you to all the Reception parents who were able to attend the meeting yesterday evening to hear about the year ahead. Thanks must also go to the staff who were there to help and support.

**On 15<sup>th</sup> September**, children participated in **Bird of Prey** demonstration. They learnt about seven different types of owls, including a Barn Owl called Dottie. The children and staff enjoyed a flying display of these magnificent birds. Everyone had a chance to have a photo taken with friendly and resilient Dottie.



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## SPORTS News

### Draper's Academy Football Festival

On Thursday 22nd September a selection of boys from the football team took part in a competition supported by the FA. Scouts from Premier League teams were in attendance and all were impressed by the standard of play.

It was a great competition and enjoyed by all who took part. It was a pleasure to see the St Joseph's team spirit and very apparent sportsmanship. It was a privilege to be part of such an exciting day.



Please see the link below for the Blue Peter Book Club which is available for Years 3 to 6:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/blue-peter-book-club?fbclid=IwAR0O\\_sTeZEFwFwFNvHzG\\_RCFwicXOYGaEiJrOBEm4sr4VqyiHCz2A-aNUk\\_aem\\_AUHtv2bE9ZqHBt\\_UawoSIBsmLQrdWKovcSsBCpFLd1Oy2a\\_uyxllTT-Od9HA9RAKksg](https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/blue-peter-book-club?fbclid=IwAR0O_sTeZEFwFwFNvHzG_RCFwicXOYGaEiJrOBEm4sr4VqyiHCz2A-aNUk_aem_AUHtv2bE9ZqHBt_UawoSIBsmLQrdWKovcSsBCpFLd1Oy2a_uyxllTT-Od9HA9RAKksg)

All children from age 5 upwards can take part in the writing competition 500 Words 2023, which is organised by the BBC. The link will take them to ideas and information on how to submit a piece of writing:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



**CHOIR** - The first session for the Years 5 and 6 choir took place this week. We are preparing for the Young Voices concert at the O2 in January and have already started learning two of the medleys with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see and hear so many children singing with such joy. *Don't forget that there is no choir on Monday 2nd October as Miss Ramsay will be attending the Young Voices training.*

Years 3 and 4 children will be hearing about their choir with Mrs. Calver shortly.



Gaynes School, Brackendale Gardens,  
Upminster, Essex, RM14 3UX  
admin@gaynes.havering.sch.uk

## GAYNES SCHOOL

### Open Events

Open morning tours  
being held at 9am & 11.15am from  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Open evening  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023  
4pm to 7pm

Bookings for morning tours can be made on  
admin@gaynes.havering.sch.uk  
or call 01708 502900

### Diary Dates September/October

Tues 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Yr4 Stay and Pray – parents welcome
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm Year 6 parents meet for Campion and SHOM introduction
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 to Rainham Marshes Macmillan Coffee Morning
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Mission starts – Sion Community
<b>October 2023</b>	
	Month of the Rosary Black History Month
w/b Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mission Week by Sion Community Rosary Starts
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Mission ends