

February 2018

www.stjosephcrayford.org.uk

Dear Parents

The calendar is updated every month so please check.

DIARY OF EVENTS – SPRING 2018

FEBRUARY 2018	
Friday 2 nd	7.30 pm - PTA Quiz Night – keep the date!
Monday 5 th	Sponsored spelling list and sponsor forms distributed today
Tuesday 6 th	Year 4 trip to Sea Life Centre Hastings – Blue Reef Abyss topic
Friday 9 th	9.15 am – Year 2 and Year 5 Class Mass in church – parents invited
HALF TERM	
Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2018	
Tuesday 20 th	9.15 am CAFOD Assembly – Juniors
Wednesday 21 st	Spelling tests today for Sponsored Spell Lunchtime - Year 3 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
Thursday 22 nd	9.15 am – Year 5 Class Assembly – parents invited
Tuesday 27 th	Year 3 trip to Museum of Kent Life – Tribal Tales topic
Wednesday 28 th	9.15 am Mission Together Assembly – Infants Lunchtime - Year 4 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change) Townley Science Course – invited pupils
MARCH	
Thursday 1 st	World Book Day – each class to dress up as their favourite character from a given genre. Letter to follow. St David's Day – Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies wear uniform
Friday 2 nd	Year 6 Junior Citizen Event
Monday 5 th	Bring in bulbs for judging
Wednesday 7 th	Lunchtime - Year 5 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change) London Children's Flower Society – bulb judging
Friday 9 th	9.15 am – Year 1 and 6 Class Mass in church – parents invited
Wednesday 14 th	Lunchtime - Year 6 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
Thursday 15 th	Able Writer Day – Years 3 and 4 – invited pupils 9.15 am – Year 2 Class Assembly – parents invited
Monday 19 th	9.15 am – St Joseph's Feast Day Mass – parents invited – Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies wear uniform Chicks arrive!
Tuesday 20 th	RE Art Day – guest Artist
Wednesday 21 st	Year 2 trip to Chatham Dockyard – Land Ahoy topic am - Catholic Choral Competition for school choir

Thursday 22 nd	Football Workshop – junior children at St Columba’s
Friday 23 rd	After School Discos organised by the PTA (letter to follow): - 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm - Infants - 6.30 pm – 8.00 pm – Juniors
Monday 26 th	3.30 pm – 6.30 pm - Open Evening – appointments to available to book online – details to follow
Tuesday 27 th	11.15 am – CRIBS Easter Play 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm - Open Evening – appointments to available to book online – details to follow
Wednesday 28 th	Townley Science Course – invited pupils Health Screening – Years 6 and R return permission slips previously sent to School Nursing Service
Thursday 29 th	9.15 am – Years 3 and 4 Easter Service – parents invited Infant Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Holidays Friday 30th March 2018 - Friday 13th April 2018 INSET Day – Monday 16th April 2018 (children return on Tuesday 17th April 2018)	
APRIL	
Tuesday 17 th	Children return to school
Monday 23 rd	St George’s Day – Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies wear uniform
Wednesday 25 th	7.00 pm – PTA Meeting
Thursday 26 th	9.15 am - Year 1 Class Assembly – parents invited 3.00 pm – 4.30 pm Year 1 and 2 Football Tournament

Details of all our regular school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Mondays	Pro Futures Football Club Years 3, 4 and 5 Contact www.profutuessoccer.com 01322 278677	3.15 – 4.30 pm 8 th January – 19 th March
	Orchestra – Mrs Martin Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 8 th January – 19 th March
Wednesdays	Dance Club – Mrs Sweeting Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Contact 07984 952445	3.15 – 4.15 pm 10 th January – 21 st March
	Tiny Artists (contact club directly) phoebefricker@googlemail.com Contact 07891 733059 – Phoebe Fricker	3.15 – 4.15 pm 10 th January – 7 th February
Thursdays	Pro Futures Football Club Years 1 and 2 Contact www.profutuessoccer.com 01322 278677	3.15 – 4.30 pm 11 th January – 22 nd March
	Mathletics – Mrs Vidler Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 11 th January – 22 nd March
	Choir – Mrs Martin Please contact via your child's Contact Book	12.45 pm – 1.15 pm 11 th January – end of term
Fridays	Football Club – Mr Hobson Years 6 Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.20 pm 12 th January – 23 rd March
	Netball Club – Mrs May Years 5 and 6 Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 12 th January – 23 rd March

Smiley Ark Breakfast Club – 7.30 am – 8.45 am – Monday - Friday
After School Club – 3.15 pm – 6.00 pm – Monday - Friday

For further details please contact Susan Ikpefuran on 07956 263531 or e-mail kids@smileyark.com



NEWSLETTER



Ofsted

As you are aware, the school had an Ofsted inspection on Thursday 1st February 2018. The inspection looked at all aspects of school life: lesson observations, book monitoring, data, talking to pupils and staff. The inspector's verbal feedback was positive on many aspects of school performance. The report will be forwarded to parents in approximately three weeks. The inspector will consider the evidence gathered and the report will highlight the schools strengths and development points. I would like to thank parents for their quick response in offering parental feedback via Parentview. The response from parents indicated that they are very much part of our successful school community. I would also like to thank staff for their extra time and support, inspections are stressful - it was a real team effort. Thank you everyone.

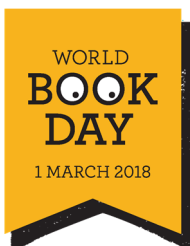
PTA

On Friday 2nd February 2018 the PTA held a Quiz Night for parents, staff and friends of the school. Eight teams were challenged with music and general knowledge questions. Well done to Mrs Heelan and her team. A special thanks to Mrs Short who not only put together the questions, but acted as quiz master as well! A very enjoyable evening was had by all.



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March 2018

Please be advised that the school will be celebrating the joy of reading by taking part in World Book Day. Children are asked to dress up as a story character linked to class work. There will be a range of activities including a 'Book Swap Shop' for children and adults. A letter will follow with further details and guidelines. (There will not be an Easter bonnet competition this year as it alternates with World Book Day).



Stones

Please check your children's pockets and book bags for 'unapproved items' such as collecting cards, stones and toys. These items are not allowed, as generally they cause fuss and trouble amongst the children. Just say no even if they tell you their friends bring in items!



Sponsored Spelling

Mrs Partridge, our English Co-ordinator, has organised a sponsored spell. Children will be issued with a challenge to learn a list of spellings appropriate to their age. The children, with parental support and permission, are then asked to find sponsors. The children will have two weeks to learn their spellings. We hope this activity will support the children's spelling knowledge and raise funds for new resources to support our exciting curriculum.





Tuck Shop

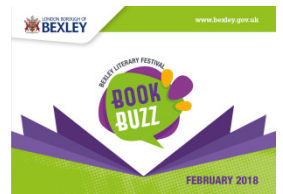
The PTA's Tuck Shop Friday initiative has opened to mixed reviews. For some parents it offers an extra incentive for children to read and complete homework. For others it sends out the wrong messages about healthy eating.

The PTA are now stocking healthy alternatives to traditional sweets including crisps and snack bars which will support Lent and abstinence.

All feedback given to the school is passed to the PTA who hope to iron out teething problems as soon as possible. The impact of the Tuck Shop will be kept under review however I do very much thank the parents who organise the Tuck Shop for their time and effort.

Literary Festival

Bexley Library Service will be holding a Literary Festival from 10th – 24th February 2018. The festival will feature lots of events and activities for children, adults and families.



During half term, there will be a variety of free events for children including storytellers, interactive theatre shows, drama workshops, dance workshops, comic arts masterclasses, robotics workshops, Harry Potter themed activities and 'Where's Wally?' hunts. The author of 'Beetle Boy' series of novels, M G Leonard, will also be talking to young people at the Central Library on Saturday 17th February and there will be a poetry SPIN event on Thursday 15th February 2018.



Staff Training – Growth Mindset and Supporting Progress

The staff have recently undertaken training on Growth Mindset. This training outlines the importance of children understanding that learning can be a tricky process and that they must feel learning is within their power. So the vocabulary is 'not understood yet' it will happen with enough practice, effort and encouragement. Parents should support with this positive Mindset.

Further training has been undertaken on the importance of spoken language and experiencing and understanding a wide vocabulary. Research has shown these two aspects of the curriculum have a powerful influence on academic success.

So as you hear children read, go beyond the word recognition type listening and spend a few minutes discussing the words the author has chosen to use and how these add to the meaning of the story.

School Lunch Menu

The lunch menu will change to the Spring Menus after half term. Menus are available on the school website. Please be advised that the office and kitchen staff need one weeks' notice of any changes to dinner arrangements.





Exceptional Weather

Please check the school opening information on St Joseph's website. Look at 'Open Check' service on the left hand side on the homepage on the school website.

Spring Bulbs

Remember to look after your bulbs by ensuring the soil is moist. Once the bulbs start to show signs of growth (4 cm) they can be brought out of the dark and placed on a sunny windowsill. Judging will take place on Wednesday 7th March 2018.



Writer of the Week

Each week a teacher nominates a child who has produced an excellent piece of work or has considerably improved their writing. January's winners were:

Year R	Yasmin	Arwa	Jakob
Year 1	Rina	Ashleen	Samuel
Year 2	Emmanuella	Maksymilian	Hugh
Year 3	Jessie	Tumininu	Dunbarin
Year 4	Corey	Elizabeth	Oyinade
Year 5	Rowena	Louie	Adolph
Year 6	Sohan	Carter	Lillie

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Sinclair
Head Teacher