



## Head-lines

It comes as no surprise how quickly this half term seems to have passed with all the bank holidays and Polling days! But despite the number of four day weeks, an awful lot has happened! So this half term edition of the St Joseph's news is packed full of events and happenings over the last few weeks, as well as some upcoming items for Summer 2. Wishing you all a lovely half term,

Mr Turner

## Y6 sat SATs....

The 'biggie' this half term has been the Y6 SATs. Over the course of last week the children sat national tests in English Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, Arithmetic and Mathematical Reasoning. I know how hard they have been working and I just want to take this opportunity to reassure them, that whatever the outcome of the tests, we couldn't be prouder of them. They are more than a 'Standard' and are all brilliant, unique, talented, wonderful individuals. I hope that they enjoy their last few months as pupils of St Joseph's - there is still a lot to do, with lead parts in concerts, Enterprise week, transition day and leaver's mass, as they prepare for the next stage of their education. Well done children - now enjoy a good rest!!



## St Joseph's Choir

The residents of Oxton were once again treated to a performance from our wonderful choir at this year's Secret Gardens of Oxton event. This is the third year we have been asked to sing and as always the children delivered an outstanding performance, with pieces taken from The Greatest Showman amongst others. Many thanks to our choir lead Mrs Lester and to all the children who performed. I was delighted to then receive the following from a resident:



*Dear St. Josephs*

*As a resident of Oxton and a helper at the Food Hub in the grounds of Prenton Prep School yesterday, I had the enormous pleasure of listening to your School Choir. The enthusiasm and sheer delight on the faces of their Music Teacher and also the children was something special. They had voices of angels and one was stopped in their tracks just listening to them. Top marks must go to their music mistress who obviously trained the children to this level. They were a credit to your school and I am sure you are very proud of them. Please pass on my comments.*

## Attendance

Whole school attendance from September is 95%.

This is below our target of at least 96%

Please can you ensure your child has good overall attendance. Thank you

## New Starters

We welcome Finlay, Amelia and Faith who have joined us this half term. Welcome to the family of St Joseph's!

## Mental Health of children

Earlier this year we were delighted to be invited to be involved in the opening of the Children's Mental

Health wing of St Catherine's Hospital. Madison from Year 6 was asked to say a few words about the importance of supporting children's mental health and about her encounter of talking to Harry and Meghan Duke and Duchess of Sussex about her aspirations to become a mental health nurse. The event was even covered



by North West Tonight and Granada News!

This was then followed up as we welcomed some

students from St Anslem's College to deliver an assembly about body image and caring for our minds.

Mental Health in children and young people is a vital area and one which we are hoping to explore and develop next year. In order to support our children mentally as well as academically and physically,

we have a member of staff embarking on training to become an 'ELSA' (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). This training covers modules such as Building resilience and self-esteem, Managing emotions and Supporting children through trauma such as bereavement or change. We are also in the process of developing and creating a 'nurture' room - a safe and welcoming space children can work with staff on these aspects of care. We are clear that this is an area we want to add to our curriculum to help our children be the best versions of themselves.



### **Coming Up.....**

The Summer 2 half term is always a busy one! Just a reminder of a few of the events scheduled to take place:

- PTA summer fair - 28th June
- Y3 Holy Communion - 15th & 22nd June
- Sports Days KS1 - 4th July KS2 - 5th July
- KS2 concert - 16th & 17th July
- Y6 Leavers Mass & Assembly 23rd July

I also understand you are keen to find out about your child's next teacher - I will let you know as soon as I can

**PTA Pig Race** - Many thanks to the PTA for organising this always popular event, and thank you to those who attended. The money raised is fed back directly to school. Hope you had a good night and your 'pig came in!'

### **Sun Safety**

Without wanting to 'jinx' it, hopefully the sun will continue to shine when we return after half term! Please could you consider 'sun safety' when sending children in to school - make sure they have a water bottle, and apply suncream before sending them in.

Children can bring in cream to 'top up', but please label the bottle, and children must apply it themselves and only to themselves. Children may also bring in hats and visors. The uniform shop sells these with school logo.

### Thought for the term

*I ask you to please keep our Year 3 children in your prayers. As mentioned above, coming up on the 15th and 22nd June, the children of Year 3 will be receiving Jesus for the first time in the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. This is a really special time for them and their families, so please do keep them in your prayers. Earlier this week they held a beautiful 'Prayer Trail' for time to reflect on what this special Sacrament means.*

