

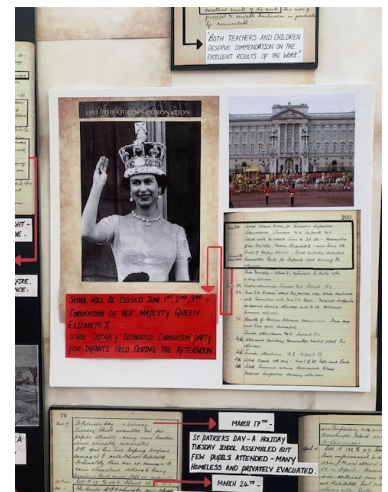


Head-lines

As we bring Summer 1 to a close, it feels like it's been quite a brief half term, with extra bank holidays and periods of school closure. Hopefully Summer 2 will be more settled, although the weeks will fly by before we know it! There is always so much going on during the last period of the school year, with productions, sports days, end of year reports and of course preparations for the following year, including waving goodbye to our Year 6 children as they continue their journey to High School. With all that to come, I hope you have a lovely, restful and sunny half term! Best wishes Mr Turner

The Coronation

In the St Joseph's record books we have, dating back to the early 1900's, there are entries and images of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. It therefore felt very special that we were able to capture our point in history by celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III, albeit our records are now kept via our Twitter account! We spent time learning about the history of the Royal Family, the traditions of the Coronation ceremony, produced art work based on the theme and developed a new garden area by planting wild flowers. Unfortunately the weather prevented our outdoor picnic, but we still managed to celebrate in style with games and music provided by DJ Hanlon and refreshments and decorations kindly provided by the PTA. We had a lovely day and enjoyed being part of living history.



Here comes the sun.....



As we return to (hopefully!) nicer weather after the half term, please may we remind you about a few sun precautions. Please ensure your child has a water bottle and you may wish to also provide a sun hat. We suggest applying sun cream first thing in the morning. Children may bring sun cream in to 'top up' however they will need to apply this to themselves, and we also ask that you check the ingredients. As you are aware we have several children with nut allergies and some lotions (including Nivea) may contain nut traces so please can we ask that you check. And finally, Summer is the season of 'lost property' as items are removed as the weather hots up and get left and lost. Please can you ensure that all items are labelled so they can be easily traced and returned. Many thanks



Welcome!

We say hello to Zachary and Biya who have started with us during this last half term. We hope you have settled in, made lots of friends and are enjoying life at St Joseph's.

Year 6 adventures in Conway

Year 6 had a fabulous time at their three day residential in Conway. Rock climbing, canoeing, abseiling and more importantly, fond memories with friends. We are glad you all had a good time and imagine there were some very tired children over the weekend! Thank you to all the staff who gave their time to stay with the children.



Year 3 First Holy Communion

- A big congratulations to the children of 3BS and 3W who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 20th May. It was a lovely special morning and you all looked fabulous!
- It is a privilege working in a Catholic school as we get the pleasure of being alongside the children and their families as they continue their journey in faith. We hope you all had a wonderful day.

May and June are also the months where Primary aged children participate in statutory testing. This month we have had Year 6 SATs, Year 2 Teacher Assessments and SATs, then as we return after the half term we have Year 1 Phonics Screening, Early Years Assessments and the Year 4 Multiplication Check. Some of these results will be reported to you along with end of year reports, which all children will receive (7th July). It goes without saying but whatever the children attain during a test does not define them, and we are so proud of everything they do, all that they are and we know that they will continue to do well and have success and joy in their lives.

Lunch debt and trips

Please can we ask that you ensure that any outstanding money for school lunches is paid before the school finishes for Summer. We have a fairly large amount owing which ultimately will have to be paid. We will make calls to parents on our records and discuss when we can expect payments, and we are more than happy for payments to be made in instalments.

On a similar note, we have always tried to supplement our curriculum offer with a wide range of trips, visits and events, and have always relied on contributions from parents to enable these to happen. We have always subsidised costs in order to reduce the amount we ask for from parents. However, we are finding that parental contributions have really decreased, meaning some events have had to be cancelled or rearranged. We do understand that cost of living has hit us all, but unfortunately we just can't continue to subsidise at the rate we have done this year. Next year, if we find that we don't get closer to trip costs from parental contributions, we may have to reduce the amount of supplementary curriculum experiences we are able to offer. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Attendance and punctuality

Our whole school year to date attendance figure stands at 94.6% Whilst this is still below our target of at least 96% it is moving in the right direction, so thank you for engaging with us and ensuring your child has good attendance.

We are aware, however, that during the Summer term we do get a spike in requests for absences for holidays. Please may we remind you that in line with Wirral policy, we cannot authorise requests for holidays in term time, so these will be recorded as 'Unauthorised' and may result in fines being issued by the LA.

Prayer for the term

Next week we celebrate Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit was sent to empower the disciples to spread the word of God. We pray that the Holy Spirit enters our lives, enabling us to do God's work.