



## Head-lines

As this academic year draws to a close, I am pleased to write to you through our half termly newsletter. It has been another year of immense pride in all of our wonderful children, and we give thanks for the time we have spent with them. As we say goodbye to another cohort of leavers, we wish them all the best for their future, and remind them that they will always be part of the St Joseph's family. I thank you all for everything you have done, for being with us, and I wish you all a lovely, bright Summer break. Mr Turner

## How lucky we are to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard....

These are some of my favourite words from literature and I use them each year to describe the feeling of saying goodbye to our Year 6 children. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with them and watch them grow and develop. For some, we have been blessed to have them right from day one, where we welcomed them as Nursery children, and for others they have joined us mid point on their journey. But that doesn't really matter - as they leave as St Joseph's alumni, they will always be part of the family and history of our school. We have shared laughter, tears, worries and pride. This cohort in particular have not had a full uninterrupted school year since they were Year 3. But they have more than 'Stepped Up'; they have been the figure heads for our school, setting a great example and high bar for others to aspire to. Prefects, Play Leaders, Reading Ambassadors, Councillors, Sports teams, Choir, model pupils - each and every one of them has given so much to our school, and I am grateful and proud of them all. I am sure that as they continue their journey, they will continue to shine and achieve great things.

How lucky I am to have something that  
makes saying goodbys so hard.

- Winnie the Pooh

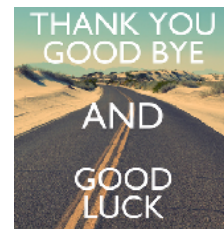


Abie, Paul, Eloise, Daniel, Ava, Vinnie, Ruby, Evie, Ryan, Joseph, Ruby, Theo, Ethan, Talia, Riley, Louie, Amelia-Rose, Callum, Justin, Lola, Dylan, Lexie, Liam, Chloe, Declan, Ben, Katy, Sophie, Joe, Hayden, Joel, Fleur, Ella, Scarlett, Amelia, Fiya, Theo, Zachary, Olivia, Zac, Aiken, Rixon, Lex, Luke, Julia, Alexa, Declan, Chloe, Alfie, Connor, Charlie - you are all absolute stars and I couldn't be prouder of you. From the bottom of my heart I thank you for all you have done, all you have achieved at St Joseph's and I wish you every success for the future. You will be assets to your new schools and I am sure each and every one of you will do amazing things. You will always be members of our St Joseph's family so please do keep in touch. Saying goodbye to you, means that for some parents, we also say goodbye. For those parents who this year marks the end of the journey with St Joseph's, thank you for your trust, support and relationships over the years and I wish you well.

We also say goodbye to some pupils in other year groups, so to Jack, Ben and Joseph, good luck in your new schools, we will all miss you and wish you all the best for the future.

We say hello to Arthur who has joined us this half term. Hope you have settled in and I look forward to getting to know you more over the years.

This year, we also say goodbye to a few members of staff. Mr Rose, Miss Neal and Miss Rynkiewicz will be moving on this Summer. I would like to thank them for all of their hard work and dedication over their time with us. From me, and on behalf of all staff, Governors, and children, thank you and we all wish you well for the future.



## Thank you.....

The end of the year is an opportunity for us to say a huge thank you to all of our wider community who have supported the children and school this year. Our wonderful PTA have had a really successful year, running events, fairs and ongoing support. So thank you to the PTA and all who contribute by helping and attending. Thank you to all parents and carers who have given time to help out in school - joining the children on trips, taking them to events, helping out in class and so much more! We really appreciate all of the time you have given to help enhance the experience and opportunities for our children.

And I would like to say a massive thank you to my amazing staff. It is genuinely a delight to work alongside such dedicated and committed and caring colleagues. I am sure it is understood how much goes on 'behind the scenes' in this profession, and the time you have spent making this a good year for the children is really appreciated. So from me, a huge thank you.

### Key Information for Parents

Two years ago we introduced a new system for 'New Starters' which consisted of a page on our website with links to key policies, systems and arrangements, such as our safeguarding policy, behaviour policy, attendance expectations, uniform details, how to register for the apps we use etc. It works as a 'checklist' to ensure that all parents are aware of our systems, and will support us in implementing them. Visit our website and click on 'School Information' - 'Joining us' and then select the page linked to your child. There you will find all of the key information in one place. Feedback from our new parents is that it was really useful to get everything together, so in September, we may consider sending the checklist out to everyone for reference.

**School Uniform.** A reminder that you can 'beat the queues' and purchase school uniform for next year from the Wirral Uniform Shop using Click and Collect. <https://www.wirraluniforms.com>

Tesco also have our logo to be embroidered on items. Wirral Fuss have items of school uniform you can also purchase for a donation. We are also able to provide support for Free School Meal/Pupil Premium children with purchasing uniform - speak to Angie and she can advise. Full uniform details are available at <http://www.stjosephscatholicprimarybirkenhead.co.uk/uniform>

### Attendance

We finish the year with a whole school attendance figure of 93.1% As highlighted throughout the year, the expectation is to achieve at least 96% so we are some way off that target. We also continue to have too many children with attendance below 90% Attendance will remain as a school development target for next year as there is a way to go to ensure that we meet expectations of attendance. We will write further in the next school year.

Children return to school **Monday 5th September.**

The full school calendar is available to download from our home page <http://www.stjosephscatholicprimarybirkenhead.co.uk>

From all of us, we wish the children, and you, a lovely Summer and look forward to seeing you in September!



### *Prayer for the Term*

*From the Letter of St Paul to Timothy:*

*The time for my departure is near. I*

*have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

