



Newsletter Summer Term

April 2021

Welcome back

We hope that you all had a happy and Holy Easter and managed to spend some quality family time together. We are all really looking forward to the summer term, hopefully the sun will shine brightly and the children will enjoy getting back to some of the things that they previously enjoyed, as life returns slowly to more normality.

Acting Deputy Headteacher

The Governors have appointed Mr Fannan as Acting Deputy Headteacher for the summer term. Mr Fannan, was interviewed for the acting position and we are pleased to say was successful. We thank him for his ongoing hard work and commitment to ensuring the smooth running of the school this term. The permanent position of Deputy Headteacher is out to advert and interviews will take place this term, with the hope of securing a permanent Deputy Headteacher for September.

Jesus is Risen

During our break we celebrated one of the most important and significant events in the Church's year, the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. During the coming days and weeks, in school, we will be focusing on the events leading up to Pentecost, with children learning about how these events link to the Gospel Values that we live out every day at St. Joseph's and in our lives.



The Year of St. Joseph



Pope Francis has asked us to dedicate this year to the Year of St. Joseph. We celebrated St. Joseph's day on 19th March and will continue to focus and learn each month, about a different aspect of St. Joseph's life.

As the patron Saint of our school, St. Joseph is particularly important to us and we look forward to looking in depth at the special qualities that St. Joseph had and his example as a role model to all of us.

Catch Up

We have been working hard on devising Summer Term Timetables to ensure that all children have access to catch up provision to support with any gaps in learning that they may have after the very difficult year that we have had. Some of this will take place during school time and some sessions may take place before or after school. Staff will be in touch to discuss any booster sessions outside of the ordinary timings of the school day.

Let us Pray for:

Canon Michael McCoy

We join with Bishop Robert and members of our Diocesan family in praying for the repose of the soul of Fr Michael McCoy who has sadly died. We pray for his family, friends and all who knew him at this very sad time.

Canon Michael was a well-loved and respected priest of our Diocese and was Dean of St Mary's Cathedral. He was instrumental in developing school chaplaincy in our Diocese, as well as nationally in his role as National Coordinator for School Chaplaincy for the Bishops' Conference. He collaborated closely with the Diocesan Department for Education and was a great supporter of our work and that of our schools. He touched the lives of so many people and he will be greatly missed.

Quote from Deborah Fox, Director of Education, Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

The Duke of Edinburgh

Our deepest sympathies also go to her Majesty the Queen and all of the Royal Family, on the death of Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh. We thank him for his service to our country and will remember him in our thoughts and prayers.

There will be a message of condolence made on behalf of our pupils at St Joseph's, on the online book of condolence.

If anyone would like to leave their own message you can do so using the following link <https://www.royal.uk/condolence>



Social Media

During recent months, there has been an increase in the amount of incidents, that school have been informed of, where inappropriate comments are being sent by pupils to other pupils, out of school hours. Please could I ask parents to be very vigilant about this and to please monitor the content of your child's messages and correspondence with peers. All of these incidents are taken very

seriously and often children do not realise the impact of their words and actions towards others until it is too late. These incidents can quickly escalate and we want to avoid any further action having to be taken. We will continue to promote e-safety and responsible use of technology in school and would appreciate parent support with this at home.



Covid-19

We would like to remind everyone that the Covid-19 virus continues to be around us and impacting on our school and wider community on a daily basis. It is easier, now vaccines have been rolled out to many, to become a little complacent and relaxed around the rules of social distancing, masks and handwashing; however I ask that we all continue to work together to ensure that these are followed rigorously, enabling us to keep all of our school family, and wider community as safe as possible.



Therefore, whilst on the school site please remember to:

- **Keep your distance from those not in your household/ bubble**
- **Wear a mask at all times when dropping off and collecting your child unless exempt**
- **Wherever possible only 1 adult to drop off and collect their child reducing the amount of people on site**

Safeguarding Leads

If you have a concern about a child, please do not hesitate in contacting one of our safeguarding team in school. Mrs Ashton is the Designated Safeguarding Officer and Mr Fannan and Mrs Hoggarth are also safeguarding leads.

Important Dates

May Day Bank holiday	Monday 3rd May
Parent Consultation Meetings	Tuesday 11th May
Parent Consultation Meetings	Monday 17th May
Break up for half term	Friday 28th May
Return to School	Monday 7th June
School breaks up for Summer	Tuesday 20th July
School Returns Autumn Term	To be determined