



# St Joseph's Catholic Middle School

*The family of St. Joseph's loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus*

Monthly Newsletter – Friday 7th October 2022

## Statement to Live By:

### What Must I do?

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter. The newsletter will be published on the first Friday of every month. We have decided to move to a monthly newsletter as that allows us to keep it fresh and also to reduce the workload of staff a little.

It was a busy week at St Joseph's last week with lots of prospective parents and year 4 children visiting on Tuesday evening. It was lovely to see so many people there. Our year 8 children came to act as tour guides and helpers and they were fantastic. If you would like to have a tour during the school day please contact the school office on [admin@hexhamstjosephs.uk](mailto:admin@hexhamstjosephs.uk) and I will happily show you around.

On Thursday we had a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. It was really well attended and was a lovely morning. Thank you to all those that attended and all those that supported the event by baking cakes. We made an amazing total of **£601.00**

*"Don't withhold good from someone who deserves it, when it is in your power to do so." Proverbs 3:27*



## **Additional Professional Development Day**

On Friday 21st October, we have planned to have an INSET day for staff so pupils will finish for half term on Thursday 20th October. There is now only 1 further INSET day to add to the calendar.

## **Year 5 Welcome Service**



The Year 5 pupils are very excited about their Welcome Service at St. Mary's RC Church. They have been enjoying learning songs, actions to songs and some beautiful prayers. Miss Mooney and Mr Simpson welcome you all to this delightful morning service. It begins at 9.30 prompt on October 13th. Ourselves and the children look forward to seeing you there.

*A polite reminder that food and drink are not permitted in Church.*

## **6D Poetry**

Year 6 are really enjoying studying Benjamin Zephaniah's 'Windrush Child'. Here are some pictures of 6D performing their poems inspired by John Agard's poem 'Windrush Child' and other traditional Jamaican performance poetry. The pupils wrote and performed engaging and thoughtful poems telling the story of the book's main character, Leonard, travelling to England from Jamaica as part of the Windrush generation.



## **Y7 Trip to**

## **Warkworth**

We are looking forward to taking Y7 to Warkworth Castle next week. 7S will be going on Wednesday 12th and 7M will be going on Friday 14th. This trip is always a great success and really supports pupils in understanding the features of a motte and bailey castle as part of their Norman Conquest topic - it really is a trip that helps to bring history to life. Pupils are reminded to come to school in home clothes, to bring a packed lunch and ensure they have waterproof coats and sturdy comfortable shoes.

## **Uniform:**

It is expected that all students will wear the correct uniform at all times. At present students are allowed to wear their PE uniform to school on the days that they have PE.

## **Application for Middle and High School**

If your child is transferring to either middle or high school in September 2023 then you need to apply for their place before 31st October 2022. Please see the link below

[https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

## **Sports Leaders:**

A huge number of Y8 pupils have written letters applying for the role of sports leader for this academic year. It is fantastic that so many pupils are interested in developing their leadership skills in school and providing additional

opportunities for St Joseph's students to be active. Mr Secker has a busy weekend planned reading all of the letters and we are looking forward to conducting interviews with pupils on Wednesday 12th October for these important roles around school.

### **Sports Clubs**

Our lunchtime sports clubs have been really well attended since they started in mid September. If your child would like to attend a club it is never too late to start! All they need to do is arrive at school in their PE uniform and turn up after they have had their lunch. A list of the activities are in the table below.

| Day       | Lunchtime Activity | After school                          |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday    |                    |                                       |
| Tuesday   | Y7/8 Rugby         |                                       |
| Wednesday | Y5/6 Football      |                                       |
| Thursday  | Y5/6 Tag Rugby     | Table tennis                          |
| Friday    | Y7/8 Football      | Dance club (Starting after half term) |



### **Sporting superstars**



**The following pupils were nominated by their PE teacher for their hard work in their PE lessons in the month of September. Well done to all pupils!**

## September Sports Superstars

5M – Thomas  
5S – Fleur  
6D – Bertie  
6H – Owen  
7M – Madeleine  
7S – Bea  
8C – Megan  
8D – Aimee  
8W – Finn

### E-SAFETY - How can I introduce a phone in a safe way?

Whether your child already has a phone or they are about to get their first one, explore the parental controls on offer and have a conversation with your child to set up some boundaries around their phone use, for example, who they can give their number to, or where they keep it overnight. Reassure them you want to help them to enjoy using it safely, and that they can talk to you if anything upsets or worries them while using it.

If your child is very young, spend time with them downloading some appropriate apps and games. If your child is older, have a conversation with them about what they like or want to use their phone for, and what apps or games they use. Give them a strategy to use if something goes wrong, for example, turning off the screen and coming to talk to you.

### Upcoming Events at a Glance:

| <b>Date</b>                 | <b>Activity</b>   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Monday 10th October</b>  | <b>Wear it Yellow Day</b>                                       |
| <b>Wednesday 12th</b>       | <b>7S to Warkworth Castle<br/>Y8 Sports' Leaders Interviews</b> |
| <b>Friday 14th</b>          | <b>7M to Warkworth Castle</b>                                   |
| <b>Fri 14th October</b>     | <b>School Disco 7.00 - 8.30pm</b>                               |
| <b>Tuesday 18th October</b> | <b>Y5 Music Night - Details to follow</b>                       |
| <b>Friday 21st October</b>  | <b>Teacher Training Day - School closed to all pupils</b>       |

### PTA News

#### Disco Dates:

**Friday 14th October 2022 7.00 - 8.30pm £3.00 entry**

**Friday 16th December 2022 7.00 - 8.30pm £3.00 entry**

**Friday 10th February 2023 7.00 - 8.30pm £3.00 entry**

**Friday 14th July 2023 7.00 - 8.30pm £3.00 entry**

**If you are able to help out at any of the discos please can you contact Eleanor Stoves Tel: 01434 605124**

#### Christmas Fair

**Friday 9th December 2022 1.30 - 3.00pm**

### Prayer for the week

We thank you for the friendships that we make at our school and we ask for your loving care as you watch over our school. Most of all we ask that you continue to teach us and lead us, in being the people you would like us to be, as you walk beside us every day of our lives. We ask this prayer in your holy name.

God bless

Mr N Wood

