



The Communicator

DATE 18th September 2020

Tel: (01782) 235393

www.stjosephscatholicacademy.co.uk



Best attending class last week was Year 3 at 98.5%

Thank you once again to our parents who have continued to support us as we continue to adjust to our new normal. We appreciate that everyone is feeling rather more anxious than usual and school life is not as it was. We continue to ask that you keep your children with you on the school grounds until they are asked to enter the school building. Children **must not** be running around with other year groups before or after school as this seriously compromises the bubbles that we are working so hard to protect in school. Please talk to your child about the importance of trying their best to socially distance, especially children in Key Stage 2 who should have a better understanding of why this measure is so important. The government's new guidance from last Monday was that no more than 6 people gather in a group inside or out; please practise this on our school grounds. Can I also request that parents are mindful of the way that staff are spoken to. A few members of staff have reported that some parents have not been as polite and patient as we would have hoped, and your patience and understanding at this time would be greatly appreciated by our staff, who are working incredibly hard in very difficult circumstances.

Coronavirus testing

If your child has one of the symptoms of coronavirus (continual new cough, high temperature or loss of taste/ smell) your child will not be allowed into school until they have a negative test result confirmed. We are well aware that getting a test is proving very difficult; however, you will have to keep trying. In order to book a test, you please use one of the following websites:

Government website:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

Staffordshire website: <https://staffordshire.zipporah.co.uk/TrackAndTrace/>

If you are unable to book a test at a testing centre, you can phone 119 to arrange for a home testing kit. You can also make test appointments using 119.

Please understand that your child may only be suffering from a common cough and cold, but if they are displaying any one of the symptoms in school they will have to be sent home, along with any siblings and the whole family must self-isolate until the person displaying the symptoms has been tested and a negative test result has been given.

Facebook

Our Facebook page has been set up to inform parents of vital information regarding the running of the school. Please refrain from sending messages via Facebook unless in an emergency. The Facebook messenger service on our school page is not frequently checked and should not be used unless in an emergency. Please telephone or email the school if you need to speak to a member of staff. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Peak District Survival School

Years 3 and 5 are having a fabulous time every Tuesday with Mark Fox from Peak District Survival School. We will be working with Mr Fox all year, so all classes will get to experience his outdoor learning lessons throughout this year. If parents would like to see the activities that the children are engaging in, please like or follow his Facebook page: Peak District Survival School.

Home-School Agreement reminder- if home-school agreements have not yet been signed, teachers will be asking you to sign them next week. These are vital to ensure that you understand your own responsibilities as a parent and what we expect of children, as well as what you can expect of us during the pandemic.

WOW award



- Nursery - Maciej Jezierski
- Reception - Grace Zhang
- Year 1 - Aissatou Diallo
- Year 2 - Lilly Green
- Year 3 - Hope Burgin
- Year 4 - Nicole Silva
- Year 5 - Anya Wilshaw
- Year 6 - Sienna Gilbert-Edwards

Values and Virtues

(Faith Filled and Hopeful)

- Nursery - George Bourne
- Reception - Decoda Doherty
- Year 1 - Chase Sowerbutts
- Year 2 - Emily Callan
- Year 3 - Michael Ikedinobi
- Year 4 - Tianna Doherty
- Year 5 - Destiny Doherty
- Year 6 - Mary-Ann Potts

Presentation award

(for presenting work to a very high standard)

- Nursery - Roman Platt
- Reception - Elsie Meakin
- Year 1 - Anaya Butt
- Year 2 - Michael Ward
- Year 3 - Ryan Osborne
- Year 4 - Mitchell Viggars
- Year 5 - Lewis Steele
- Year 6 - Isabelle Wright

You can follow us on Twitter!



Sunday Mass Times

St Josephs
Sat 6:30pm Sun: 11:00am
English Martyr's
Sun 9:00am and 10:00am

Please ensure that you supervise your children carefully before school starts and after you have collected them at home time to avoid accidents and other children being hurt. Children should not be playing on playground equipment after school- please support us by ensuring that your children stay with you after collection. Thank you.

City Music Service

City Music Service deliver peripatetic lessons to some of our Key Stage 2 children. We will be sending out letters next week to those who wish to learn how to play an instrument in school. The City Music Service Ensembles also rehearse weekly during term time. Currently they are meeting online using 'Teams', and will be returning to The Bridge Centre in Birches Head when it is safe to do so. Attendance is free of charge, and new members are welcome. For more information please contact them on: citymusic@stoke.gov.uk or 01782 233796 and they can advise you on which group or groups may be appropriate. Online rehearsals for most of the groups are from 6-7pm. The small ensembles are 4.30-5.30 and Theory starts at 5pm and anyone is welcome.

Mondays

City Youth Choir	For singers of all ages
Training Brass Band	For beginner brass players
City Youth Brass Band	For senior brass players

Tuesdays

Fun 4 Strings	For beginner strings (open strings and beyond)
Super Stringsounds	For intermediate string players
City Youth String Orchestra	For senior string players
City Youth Recorder Ensemble	For recorder players of all ages and abilities

Wednesdays

Blast Off!	For beginner wind players
Concert Band	For intermediate wind players
City Youth Wind Orchestra	For senior wind players

Small Ensembles (by invitation)

Brass Ensemble, Clarinets, Flute Choir

Thursdays

Rootz	Folk ensemble open to all
Rock and Pop	For percussion, keyboard, guitar and vocalists
Music Theory	For those wanting to work towards music theory

Uniform- Please ensure that ALL items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. This includes PE kits and even shoes where possible. Labels written in pen will wash out so it would really help if you could use iron-in labels or permanent markers. Please also be mindful of our school policy for appropriate hairstyles- long hair should be tied back neatly, shaved hair, dyed hair and fashion styles are not appropriate for school. Large bows and accessories are not necessary and often distract children from learning- we would appreciate if you keep hair-styles as neat and simple as possible. Thank you.

PE Days for Autumn Term-

Children need to come to school in their full PE kit on their designated PE day; this must include jogging bottoms and trainers.

Nursery- Tuesdays (Nursery will also have PE on Mondays, starting in a few weeks once they have settled. Miss Bridges will inform you when this happens)

Reception- Tuesday and Friday

Y1- Wednesday and Friday

Y2- Tuesday and Wednesday

Y3- Wednesday and Thursday

Y4- Tuesday and Wednesday

Y5- Monday and Wednesday

Y6- Monday and Thursday

Taking children out of school in school hours

Please note that children cannot be taken out of school during the day except for medical appointments or a family emergency. Proof of medical appointment must be shown to office staff as evidence. Any other appointments must be made outside school hours. Thank you

Due to Coronavirus we have decided to slim down the number of Y6 responsibilities for children for the time being as they will be unable to fulfil roles such as prefect, playground leaders etc. Therefore we have announced the following roles today

Head boy—Lucas Schifano

Head Girl—Mary Ann Potts

RE Champions—Kathleen Quinn and Julius Ward

House Captains—**St George**

Ronnie Gaunt

St Patrick

Sienna Gilbert-Edwards

St Andrew

Mayara Silva

St David

Grace Pearce

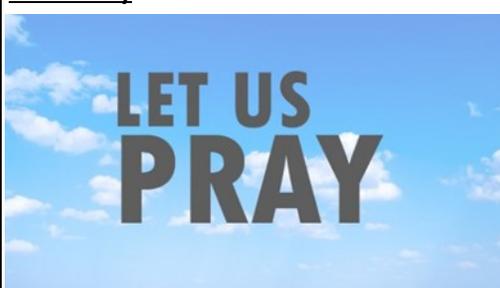
Sports Captain

Boys Lucas Jones

Girls Libby Hellawell

Poppy Hiller

Let Us Pray



'At this time'

Dear Lord,
At this time of pandemic,
Let us foster respect and solidarity with others, especially those who are weak or poor.
Let us remain calm and ignore unsubstantiated rumours.
Let us take advantage of living together as a family.
Let us attend to moments of prayer.
Let us cultivate responsibility, patience and hope.

Amen.