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# St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

## Welcome back!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to a new school year. We hope you have all had a relaxing summer and enjoyed the unusual hot weather! Our children have settled well into their new classes and are looking very smart in their new uniforms.

Primary 1 have had an excellent start to their primary career and have enjoyed learning their first sounds and their first session of Muddy Movers.

We would like to welcome Mr Hampsey to our staff, Mr Hampsey will be delivering our music programme in most classes this session and developing our school choir.

We are also joined this year by Ms Donaghy who is covering Mrs Stewart's maternity leave, we are sure they will both be very happy in St Joseph's.

Congratulations to Miss Cocozza who became Mrs McLaughlin during the summer break. We wish Mr and Mrs McLaughlin a long and happy marriage. And welcome to our new addition Maisie Stewart, we wish Mr and Mrs Stewart happy days and peaceful nights!

We are looking forward to another happy, successful year in St Joseph's and we hope you will be with us all the way!

Mrs Suzanne Martin  
Head Teacher

## School website

Over the last few weeks Mrs Wright, our Principal Teacher, has been working hard to improve our website and make it more user friendly. Our old site contained a lot of useful information, however the new site is easier to manage and can be adapted to suit the ever changing needs of our school. Please log on and have a look, we would like parents to tell us what they would like included on our website so email me at: [headteacher@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk) with your suggestions.

## Safety at school

Keeping our children safe is our priority in St Joseph's. The back entrance into the upper school playground is locked during the day to ensure our children are safe in the playground. This entrance will be open first thing in the morning and at the end of the school day for parents to access the school grounds.

If your child is late then they should report to the main entrance of the school where they will be signed in.

**Please do not drive into the school car park in the morning or at the end of the school day.**

Road markings outside the school are visible and there for a reason. Please do not park on or near the driveways of our neighbours. Double parking increases the risk to our children when they are crossing the road, please refrain from doing this.

**Dogs are not permitted in the school playground.**

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September 2018



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## Here to learn - Attendance

Attendance for session 2017 -18 was 97%. Each year we are challenged by the authority to improve these figures.

We would ask that you call the school office to report your child's absence before 9.30am , the number is **0141 570 7380**. Absences that are not explained by a telephone call remain 'to be confirmed' (tbc) until the child returns to school with a letter explaining their absence. Without a letter or phone call, children will be marked with an unauthorised absence.

Parents/ carers do not have automatic rights to take their child out of school without permission. The Head of Establishment only can authorise time off.

There has also been a significant increase in the amount of dental and doctor appoints during the school day. Can we ask ,if possible, that appointments are made for out with the school day.



## Building works

Thank you to ERC Education Department for the lovely new windows and P1/2 base that we now have!

The works are continuing in the school with new windows and structural beams being installed in our Primary 3 and Primary 4a classroom. New windows and a structural beam are also being fitted in our GP room which has now been refitted as our ICT Suite and will be a fantastic space for our children to enhance their digital learning.



## Centenary of Catholic Education

As part of our celebrations of 100 years of Catholic Education in Scotland, the St Ninian's Cluster joined with the St Luke's cluster to create a film reflecting the importance of Catholic Education. Please follow the link below to view the film.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr7vi\\_JCRHg&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr7vi_JCRHg&feature=youtu.be)

On Friday 7th September the Icon of 'Jesus the Teacher' will arrive in our school. There will be two prayer services in the afternoon to celebrate this important icon that was commissioned for the Centenary year.



## Parent Council AGM

St Joseph's Parent Council is very active and committed to improving outcomes for our children. This year's Parent council AGM will be held on Tuesday 18th September at 7pm in St Ninian's high School. We would be delighted to welcome any Parent/ Carer who is interested in joining the Parent Council or if you would like more information then please come along.

## Better Eating Better Learning

St Joseph's are the proud winners of the 'Better Eating Better Learning' award. Mrs Thomson has been working with different year groups over the last year to grow, plan, prepare and cook a range of dishes. Millie and Peter from P7 presented confidently in front of an audience of professionals from the catering sector at the Hilton hotel.



## Parental Workshops

This session our Parental Workshops will take place on Thursday 13th September from 6 - 7.30pm. We have changed the format of our workshops this year in light of the feedback we received last session. All stages will run their workshops on the same night. Workshops will commence every 30 minutes from 6pm until 7.30pm this should allow for parents to visit more than one stage. The workshops being delivered are:

P1,3,5 and 7 - Literacy                      6pm      6.30pm      and      7pm  
P2,4 and 6 - Numeracy                      6pm      6.30pm      and      7pm

## House Captain

On Tuesday 28th August interviews were held for the positions of House captains and Vice Captains. Many children from Primary 6 and Primary 7 put themselves forward for these positions and the standard of presentations was extremely high. Thank you to all the parents who supported their child in preparing for interview - we were very proud of them all!

House	Captain	Vice Captain
St Mungo	Millie	Eva
St Columba	Kieran	Grace
St John Ogilvie	Martin	Fergus
St Margaret of Scotland	Eve	Patrick



## St Ninian's Cluster

This session we will have a member of St Ninian's Maths Department working in P6 and P7 on a Tuesday morning. We have identified specific areas in maths that Miss Brookes will be supporting our staff to plan and deliver and also to share practice to ensure continuity through Second and Third level of the Curriculum for Excellence Numeracy and Maths.

We are also fortunate to be receiving input from St Ninian's Computing Department. Mr McNellie will be working with Primary 4 over 7 weeks and the focus will be coding.

# Dates for your diary

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Stage</b>
Thursday 6 September	9am	St Ninian's Cluster working	P7
Thursday 6 September	9am	Diversity Day	P6
Friday 7 September	1pm	Arrival of the Icon	Whole School
Friday 7 September	6.30pm	P1 Welcome night	P1 parents
Sunday 9 September	12pm	Pope Francis Faith Award enrolment Mass at St Joseph's Church	P6
Tuesday 11 September	2pm	Class Mass	P6
Thursday 13 September	9am	St Ninian's Cluster working	P7
Thursday 13 September	6.30-7pm	Parental workshops	P1-P7 Parents
Friday 14 September	2.15pm	P1 Parents coffee afternoon	P1
Tuesday 18 September	7pm	Parent Council AGM at St Ninian's	All parents welcome
Thursday 20 September	9am	St Ninian's Cluster working	P7
Friday 21 and Monday 24 September <b>September Weekend</b>			
Wednesday 3 October	8.30am	Rosary Group	All welcome
Thursday 4 October	9.30-11.30am	Retreat with Father Stephen in St Joseph's Church hall	P4a
Thursday 4 October	12.30-2.30pm	Retreat with Father Stephen in St Joseph's Church hall	P4b
Friday 5 October	10.30am	Vocational Mass in St Mirin's Cathedral	P7
Wednesday 10 October	8.30am	Rosary Group	All welcome
Friday 12 October - In service day <b>October Week</b> Monday 15 October - Friday 19 October (inclusive)			