



# St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

## Changing times

Schools are dynamic places where change, innovation and progression are evident. Our curriculum changes to suit the needs of our learners and our priorities change to ensure the best possible outcomes for our learners. Staffing also changes as people grow, develop and their own priorities change. This term we have said goodbye to 2 familiar faces in our school. Mrs Thomson has been a member of staff in St Joseph's for over 10 years and Miss Byrne has spent the last 25 years of her career dedicated to the children of St Joseph's. We wish them both luck in all future endeavours and thank them for everything they have done.

We would like to extend a warm St Joseph's welcome to our new member of staff, Miss McBride, who will be with us until June.

Mrs Suzanne Martin  
Head Teacher

## Lent

Wednesday 6th March is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. Father Stephen will distribute ashes in the our school on Wednesday morning during 2 services. During Lent we will be collecting for MISSIO. Each class has a 'Wee box' for children to put any spare change into as part of our Lenten alms giving.

Father Stephen will be saying Mass in the school on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30am. We had an excellent turn out last year so please join us if you can.



## Reporting to Parents

This year we have changed the way we will be reporting to parents on pupil progress. Our annual report cards will be issued at the end of April/ beginning of May and our parents evening will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. This change was agreed in consultation with our teaching staff, we are hoping to provide a clear focus for discussions and give our parents enough information regarding progress to ask relevant and important question during parents evening. As always, we would welcome feedback on this new model and will issue an online questionnaire in June to take your views on the process.

## Playground Safety

It has been brought to my attention that there has been increased dog fouling outside the school gates. If you bring your dog with you when dropping children at school please make sure:

- You dog is on a leash.
- It is not in the school playground.
- If your dog fouls, you clean it up.



March 2019



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# Masterclass

Our masterclasses will be running for 3 consecutive weeks starting on Thursday 14th March. The children rotate each week for a new experience and to develop new skills!

Ask your child what skill for life, learning or work they have learned. Here is a list of the masterclasses on offer. Thank you to all our wonderful parents and business partners who have given their time and skills to support this.

Mixed age groups: infants, middle, upper

- Cooking
- Spanish
- Italian
- Jewellery making
- Knitting
- Orienteering
- Outdoor Planting
- Stone masonry
- Tin whistle
- PIYO
- STEM
- Banqueting skills @ Busby Hotel and White Cart bar/Restaurant
- Digital Art



## Fairtrade Fortnight

Over the last few weeks our Fairtrade Committee have organised several events to celebrate Fairtrade fortnight. This highly motivated group also presented confidently at a recent assembly and have taken full responsibility for organising all events. What confident individuals we have in St Joseph's, well done!



## Bishop's Lenten Station Mass

Lenten Station Masses

With Bishop's Catechesis on Lenten Discipline:  
walking with *Mary*

- Prayer - 7th March, St. Columba's, Renfrew - 7pm
- Fasting - 11th March, St. Charles, Paisley - 7pm
- Almsgiving - 12th March, St. Mary's, Greenock - 7pm
- Simplicity - 13th March, St. Ninian's, Gourrock - 7pm
- Chastity - 14th March, St. Joseph's, Clarkston - 7pm
- Obedience - 20th March, St. Margaret's, Johnstone - 7pm
- Reconciliation - 21st March, St. John's, Barrhead - 7pm
- Mother of the Redeemer - 27th March, St. Francis, Port Glasgow - 7pm

Come and journey with us...

## Gardening Day!

Our gardening committee led by Miss Fusaro have organised a school gardening day on Friday 29th March. We will be looking for lots of helping hands on the day! More information will be issued over the next few weeks.



## Parent Council

St Joseph's Parent Council is committed to improving outcomes for our children. The next Parent council meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th April at 7pm in St Joseph's Primary school ICT suite. 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.

## A few wee reminders

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of a few house-keeping matters and would greatly appreciate your co-operation:

### Water Bottles:

Please ensure your child/ren are coming to school daily with a filled water bottle. Many children are coming to school without a water bottle and it is essential they are hydrated during the day. We have water fountains that children can use during the day to top-up their bottles.

### PE Kit:

It is required that all children participate fully in their PE lessons and therefore need their PE Kit. Many children are continually coming to school without their kit. You are able to leave their St Joseph's T-shirt and Shorts in school and bring trainers in on Gym Days.

### Parking in the Staff Car Park:

Some parents and/or carers are continuing to park in the staff car park at the start and end of the school day. The car park is solely for Staff use, authorised ERC taxi's and parents of children with special needs. Staff need access to the car park to start their day and it is unsafe for children to be walking within the car park especially at these busy times. Please pass this information onto any carers who do the school run for you.

### Snacks/Parent Pay:

Many children are coming to school without a snack for morning break and do not have sufficient funds in the Parent Pay account to buy anything from Tuck. Whilst the Kitchen Staff will never see a child go without a lunch they are not permitted to give free snacks to children so please ensure they either have a snack or money in their Parent Pay account.

### School Toilets after School Hours:

Can all parents who utilise the playground after school hours please remember that access cannot be given to the school toilets after 3.05pm. All visitors must be accounted for and therefore we cannot have adults or children popping in to use the toilets.

## Reconciliation

Our Primary 4 children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in St Joseph's Church. Please keep our children in your prayers.



## P7 Retreat

Thank you to father Stephen and SPRED who hosted a very engaging retreat for our Primary 7 children in St Joseph's Church. This retreat provided an opportunity for our children to further explore the themes of their Pope Francis Faith Award.



# Dates for your diary

Date	Time	Event	Stage
6 <sup>th</sup> March	11am-12noon	Ash Wednesday Service	All Children
7 <sup>th</sup> March	All day	World Book Day	All Children
7 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	P4-P7 Dance Club	P4-P7
7 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	P6/P7 Football	P6-P7
7 <sup>th</sup> March	6.50-8pm	P4 Sacrament of Reconciliation @ St Joseph's Church	P4 Children & Families
7 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45am - 12.30pm	Swimming Lessons	P6
7 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am, 10.55am & 9am	Visits to Clarkston Library	P1, P2 & P3
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Afternoon	Bikeability	P6
8 <sup>th</sup> March	7pm-10pm	Parent Committee Family Night	Ticketed Event - Sold Out
10 <sup>th</sup> March (Sunday)	2pm - 6pm	Lenten Retreat @ St Francis, Port Glasgow. Mass @ 4.30pm	P4-P7 children invited. Must pre-register
11 <sup>th</sup> March	9am - 10.40am	Glasgow University visiting	P7
11 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Coding Club	P6/P7
11 <sup>th</sup> March	4pm - 5.30pm	Netball Tournament @ St Ninian's	Netball team
11 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Italian Culture Club	P4/P5
12 <sup>th</sup> March	1.30pm	Come and see my learning	P1
13 <sup>th</sup> March	8.15-8.45am	Lenten Mass in School	All welcome
14 <sup>th</sup> March	1.30 - 3pm	Masterclass Week 1	All Children
14 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	P4-P7 Dance Club	P4-P7
14 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	P6/P7 Football	P6-P7
14 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45am - 12.30pm	Swimming Lessons	P6
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Afternoon	Bikeability	P6
18 <sup>th</sup> March	All day	Grant Trainor - Camps Police Visit	P5-P7
18 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	Coding Club	P6/P7
18 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Italian Culture Club	P4/P5
18 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Netball Club	P6/P7
19 <sup>th</sup> March	10am	Feast of St Joseph's Mass @ St Joseph's Church	All Children
20 <sup>th</sup> March	8.15-8.45am	Lenten Mass in School	All welcome
20 <sup>th</sup> March	2.15 - 2.45pm	P2 Stage Mass	P2
20 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	P6/P7 Football (last week)	P6-P7
20 <sup>th</sup> March	6pm - 8pm	Dance Competition @ Barrhead High School	P4-P7
21 <sup>st</sup> March	10.45am - 12.30pm	Swimming Lessons	P6
21 <sup>st</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	P4-P7 Dance Club	P4-P7
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	7pm - 9pm	St Ninian's HS Quiz Night	All welcome - tickets on the door
25 <sup>th</sup> March	11-11.30am	P4-P7 Lenten Confession with Father	P4-P7
25 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	Italian Culture Club (final week)	P6/P7
25 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10 - 4.10pm	Coding Club (final week)	P6/P7
25 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Netball Club (final week)	P6/P7
27 <sup>th</sup> March	8.15-8.45	Lenten Mass in School	All welcome
27 <sup>th</sup> March	All Day	Visit to Glasgow University & Kelvingrove Art Gallery	P7
28 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45am - 12.30pm	Swimming Lessons	P6
28 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30pm - 4.15pm	Coding Club @ St Clare's PS	Parents to collect at 4.15pm
28 <sup>th</sup> March	3.10-4.10pm	Dance Club (last week)	P4/7
28 <sup>th</sup> March	1.30-1.35pm	Masterclass	All children

**Friday 29 March School Closes for Spring Break.  
School re-opens on Monday 15 March**