



St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Starting in Style!

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2020 and I would like to wish you all a (belated!) Happy New Year on behalf of the staff of St Joseph's. 2019 was a year of great success, achievement and happiness in St Joseph's and we have started 2020 as we mean to go on. We already have 2 fantastic awards to shout about and we are only into the first month of 2020!

As always in St Joseph's we have the attainment and wellbeing of your children at the centre of everything we do. If you would like to contact us regarding any concerns or questions then please feel free to call the office 0141 570 7380 or email headteacher@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk. I will also be holding a Head Teacher's drop in on the first Monday of every month at 3.15pm.

We are excited about what new adventures, opportunities and achievements 2020 will bring us in St Joseph's and we thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Suzanne Martin
Head Teacher

Other World Religions Fortnight

During the month of January the children have had a focus on Other World Religions.

'Discover Islam' delivered workshops to Primary 1 - 7. These sessions were very informative and interesting and gave the children a clear insight into the Islamic religion.

Each stage has had the chance to explore different religions through a variety of resources and visits. Primary 1 and 2 learned about Religious Festivals and set up investigation stations with a variety of resources which allowed the children to lead their own learning.

Primary 3 focused on Religious traditions and the impact they have on our everyday lives.

Primary 4 and 5 visited the Mosque and the Synagogue allowing them to learn and respect another religion.

Primary 6 and 7 explored the similarities and differences

Masterclasses

Masterclasses are running for 3 consecutive weeks starting on Thursday 26th February. The children will be focusing on life skills such as wiring a plug, First Aid, sewing. We still need parents who would be willing to share their expertise with the children. In previous years the children have really enjoyed the diverse range of skills that parents can share with them. If you can help us in any way, please contact Mrs Leddy via the school office.

January/February
2020



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St Joseph's Primary @StJosephsERC - 16 Jan

P5b enjoyed our visit to Giffnock synagogue this morning to see artefacts that we have been learning about during other world religions fortnight.



Eco School Success!

We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in achieving our 5th Eco School flag! A huge thank you to Miss Fusaro and Mrs Lindsay who tackled the paper work and an even bigger thank you to our Eco Committee for their hard work , ensuring we are all playing our part in taking caring of our environment.



Cycle Friendly School Award

Our Road Safety committee, led by Miss Quinn and Miss McBride have been very busy achieving our Cycle Friendly School Award! Well done everyone for all your hard work and I am sure when the weather gets better we will see lots of our children cycling or scootering safely to school.

As part of the award we are required to produce a School Travel Plan. This plan can be found on our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StJosephs/information/travel-plan/>



Digital Learning - Homework

One of our priorities in our School Improvement Plan this year is to continue on our Digital Learning journey through embedding the use of Google Classrooms and Profiling into daily practice in our school. Many classes throughout the school are currently using Google Classrooms for their homework and GSuite to support learning. This was recognised as having a very positive impact in our Digital School Award. You can access the full inspection report by following the link to our website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StJosephs/information/digital-schools/>

We are aware that it can be challenging giving children access to a device, especially if you have more than 1 child trying to complete homework at the same time! Paper copies are available but we are trying to encourage the children to develop their independence, minimise paper and support their skills for life and work. As always, we know you will support us and we would ask if there are any issues that you contact us directly and we will try to help.

These applications are accessible through your child's GLOW account. Over the next few months P1 will be offering a drop in session on a Friday afternoon for parents and grandparents to show them how to help their child access Google Classrooms. A help clinic run by our P7 Digital Leaders will also be available during these drop in sessions so if you have a digital issue, please bring your device along and our Digital whizz kids will help find a solution!

Please follow the link below for more information.

<https://glowconnect.org.uk/g-suite-for-education/classroom-in-glow/>

Fairtrade Fortnight

This year Fairtrade Fortnight will start on Monday 24th February and finish on Sunday 8th March. Our Fairtrade committee has been working hard with Mrs Gray and Mrs McKendrick to organise lots of events to highlight the importance of Fairtrade. The highlight of the Fortnight for the children is always the Fairtrade Shop that is run by the committee and teachers, we will send out a timetable of events nearer the time . This year's focus will be Cocoa and the role of women farmers.



Parent Council

Our next parent council meeting will take place in **Williamwood High** (Please note the change of venue) on Thursday 20th February at 7pm. We are always happy to see new faces so please pop in.

Our Parent Council Social Committee has been busy organising lots of events for our school community.

There will be an Adults Race Night in St Joseph's church hall on Friday 21st February 7-11pm, tickets are available from the school office. As part of this fundraising event we have been given 2 tickets to see Lewis Capaldi at the Hydro in March to raffle, cost is £5 for a raffle ticket. We would like to thank our very generous parents who provided the tickets.

Road Safety

Please help us keep your children safe when coming to and from school. If children are walking please ensure they cross at a safe place, do not have head phones in and do not cross behind parked cars.

If you drive your child to and from school I would ask that you avoid parking close to pedestrian crossings as this can block the line of vision for children crossing.

Walking to school or parking and striding are always the preferable options and support your child's health and wellbeing!



Celebrating Scotland



This term we have been celebrating everything Scottish. From the Loch Ness Monster to the Gruffalo in Scots, our infant department is having fantastic learning experiences. Scottish Parliament is the focus

in Primary 6 and Primary 7 are looking at sectarianism in Glasgow through the novel study 'Divided City'.

Parent Pay

Just a gentle reminder to check your child's Parent Pay account for any outstanding fees for school trips or after school clubs. If these fees are not paid then the cost will have to come from school funds.

If for whatever reason, you cannot cover the costs please contact us. If you are having issues with Parent Pay or cannot remember your login or password then please contact the office and we can provide you with this information.



Dates for your Diary

February			
School closes Thursday 6 th February			
February Weekend			
School reopens Thursday 13 th February			
7 th & 12 th Feb			
Staff In-Service Days			
Thursday 13 th Feb	Morning	Barclay's Bank working with P6's	P6
Tuesday 18 th Feb	All day	Retreat with Father Stephen at St Joseph's Church	P7
Thursday 20 th Feb	10.40am – 12.30pm	P4 Visit to St Joseph's Church	P4
Thursday 20 th Feb	7pm	Parent Council Meeting at Williamwood HS	All welcome
Friday 21 st Feb	7.30-11pm	Adults Race Night in St Joseph's Church hall	
Saturday & Sunday 22 nd & 23 rd Feb	All Masses	P4 Mass of Enrolment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist	P4
Tuesday 25 th Feb	9am – 11.30am	ER Cross Country Competition at Roukenglen Park	Pupils TBC
Tuesday 25 th Feb	10.40am – 12.30pm	P4 Visit to St Joseph's Church	P4
Wednesday 26 th Feb	Morning	Ash Wednesday Masses	All
Wednesday 26 th Feb	1.30 – 2.20pm	Masterclass week 1	P1-7
Thursday 27 th Feb	7pm	P4 Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Joseph's Church	