



St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Welcome back!

After 5 long months we are delighted to have our St Joseph's family back together, welcome back one and all! We hope you had a chance to relax and enjoy some family time over the Summer. All our children have settled into their new classrooms and are adapting to the new routines, we are so happy to have them all back safe and sound! Primary 1 have had an excellent start to their first year with us and have enjoyed learning their first sounds and their first session of Muddy Movers.

We would like to welcome back Mrs Baker, Principal Teacher, who has returned from supporting St Mark's Primary School over the last year. Congratulations to Mrs Stewart who is expecting her second child in September. Mrs Stewart is providing additional support in Primary 7 until September.

We are looking forward to another happy, successful year in St Joseph's where we focus on supporting our children's wellbeing and build positive relationships. We hope you will be with us all the way!

Mrs Suzanne Martin

New Procedures

Handwashing, sanitising and catching coughs and sneezes have been our focus over the past 2 weeks. Our year groups have their own areas in the playground and we now have staggered breaks and lunchtimes in order to reduce the number of children in the dining halls and playground. P5-7 have their lunch from 12.10–1pm and P1-4 have their lunch from 12.40–1.30pm. The feedback from the children has been very positive. They are enjoying having more room in the playground and MUGA and it is not as noisy in the dining hall!

We continue to try and keep year groups in their own bubbles and the children have been fantastic at remembering this rule. Our staggered dismissal times are currently under review and we will update you as soon as there is any change to these.

**Just a
reminder...**



♦ We are a nut-free zone, please do not give your child any snack with nuts in them. We currently have several children with severe nut allergies in our school.

♦ Please send your child in with a water bottle, we cannot provide cups. There are water coolers available to fill bottles.

♦ Please contact the school before 9am if your child is absent.

- ♦ Do not send your child to school for 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea.
- ♦ If your child has a temperature, new continuous cough or has lost their sense of taste and/or smell please do not send them (or any siblings) to school. Book a test and wait for the result.
- ♦ Please provide your child with a cardigan or jumper every day. We need to keep all windows open to ensure appropriate ventilation so it can be a little cooler in our classrooms at times.
- ♦ All children should have a waterproof jacket. We will be outside in all weather!

Aug/Sept20



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Here to learn - Attendance



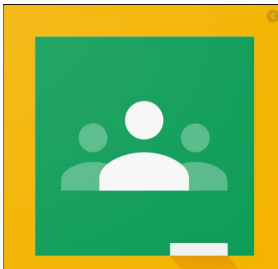
Attendance for session 2019 -20 was 96%. Each year we are challenged by the authority to improve these figures.

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 as 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 appointments during the school day. Can we ask, if possible, that appointments are made for out with the school day.

Google Classroom



We know how skilled you have all become with Google Classroom over the last 5 months so you will be pleased to hear it will be utilized for homework! Your child's password has been renewed as part of GLOW security procedures. Your child will have been provided with their new password by their teacher, if not then please let us know.

P.E

Please see the timetable below for your child's P.E slot this session. Until further notice, all P.E sessions must take place outside as per Scottish Government guidance. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for all weather:

- Shorts (Navy)
- Light blue P.E Tshirt / Polo shirt
- Navy tracksuit bottoms/ leggings
- Navy hoodie
- Appropriate trainers for outdoors. Unfortunately the black plimsolls are not suitable for outdoor P.E as they have no grip when the ground is wet.
- Rain jacket. It is essential they have a waterproof jacket as we will be outdoors in all weather!

St Joseph's Primary 2020		PE Timetable				Location	Term
						Gymhall	1-4 Aug'20 -June'21
BLOCK	TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
1	09.00	P7a	P6b	P3a	P1a	Assembly	
	09.50						
2	09.50	P7a	P6b	P3a	P1a	Assembly	
	10.40						
3	10.55	P7b	P4a	P3b	P1b	P5b	
	11.45						
4	11.45	P7b	P4a	P3b	P1b	P5b	
	12.35						
5	1.25	P5a	P6a	P4b	P1c	P2a	
	2.15						
6	2.15	P5a	P6a	P4b	P1c	P2a	
	3.05						

Parent Council

This session our Parent Council meetings will be slightly different! We will be holding an initial meeting of last year's Parent Council on Tuesday 8th September at 7pm through Zoom. This meeting is to establish the best and most accessible approach to our Parent Council meetings over the next session. We will ensure the new format of meeting is conveyed to you prior to our Parent Council AGM which is currently scheduled for Tuesday 22nd September.

We hope that you will consider being part of our Parent Council, in whatever form it may take, as we need our parents/carers to help drive the improvements and progress in our school.

Home lunch

Following the advice and guidance from East Renfrewshire Council we would discourage children from going home at lunchtime.

Contacting the school

You can get in touch with us in the following ways:

- by phone to the school office - number 0141 570 7380
- by email headteacher@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk

If you get in touch with us, we will do our best (if your query is not resolved straight away) within 1 day - to acknowledge you have been in touch and to confirm what further response you should expect from us or within 7 days - to have looked into and responded fully to your query.

However, please bear with us if it is not possible to respond as quickly as we might like e.g. due to staff absence or where a more complex issue needs to be looked into.

Contacting teachers

As you will understand, teachers are busy with classes during the school day - they need to be able to focus on class work as a first priority. Phone calls can't therefore be put through directly and in most cases, many issues can be dealt with in other ways.

Please remember it is extremely helpful for the teacher and whoever is handling your call / request to have a general idea of what you wish to discuss. This helps them work out how best to respond.

Phone calls - if you have a query or comment which can more easily be dealt with by phone, a message can be given to your child's teacher.

Notes - please also feel free to send in a note to your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns using their diaries.

Mrs Leddy	Principal Teacher responsible for Primary 1,2 and 3
Mrs Baker	Principal Teacher responsible for Primary 4 and 5
Mrs Wynne	Depute Head Teacher responsible for Primary 6 and 7
Mrs Wright	Principal Teacher responsible for Pupil Equity Funding
Mrs Martin	Head Teacher responsible for all pupils and staff

First Communions



We are delighted that our Primary 5 children will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday 12th September. The format of the celebration will be slightly different this year and will take place over four Masses but the significance and importance of the Sacrament will not be diminished. Please keep our Primary 5 children in your prayers as we make our final preparations.

Mobile Phones

Can we ask that if your child is bringing a mobile phone to school that it is switched off when entering the school grounds and handed over to the class teacher as soon as your child enters the building. Phones can be collected by the children just before they leave the building at the end of the school day. Phones should not be switched on until your child has left the school grounds unless they are contacting someone regarding being picked up or notifying them of their whereabouts. We hope this will prevent any issues arising.

Safety at school

Thank you! To all our very sensible parents who have ensured their child has been tested or remained at home during the last few weeks. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. Your support and vigilance is much appreciated.

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. We politely request that parents observe the Scottish Government guidance on social distancing of 2metres. Where this is not possible we would suggest wearing a face mask.

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.**

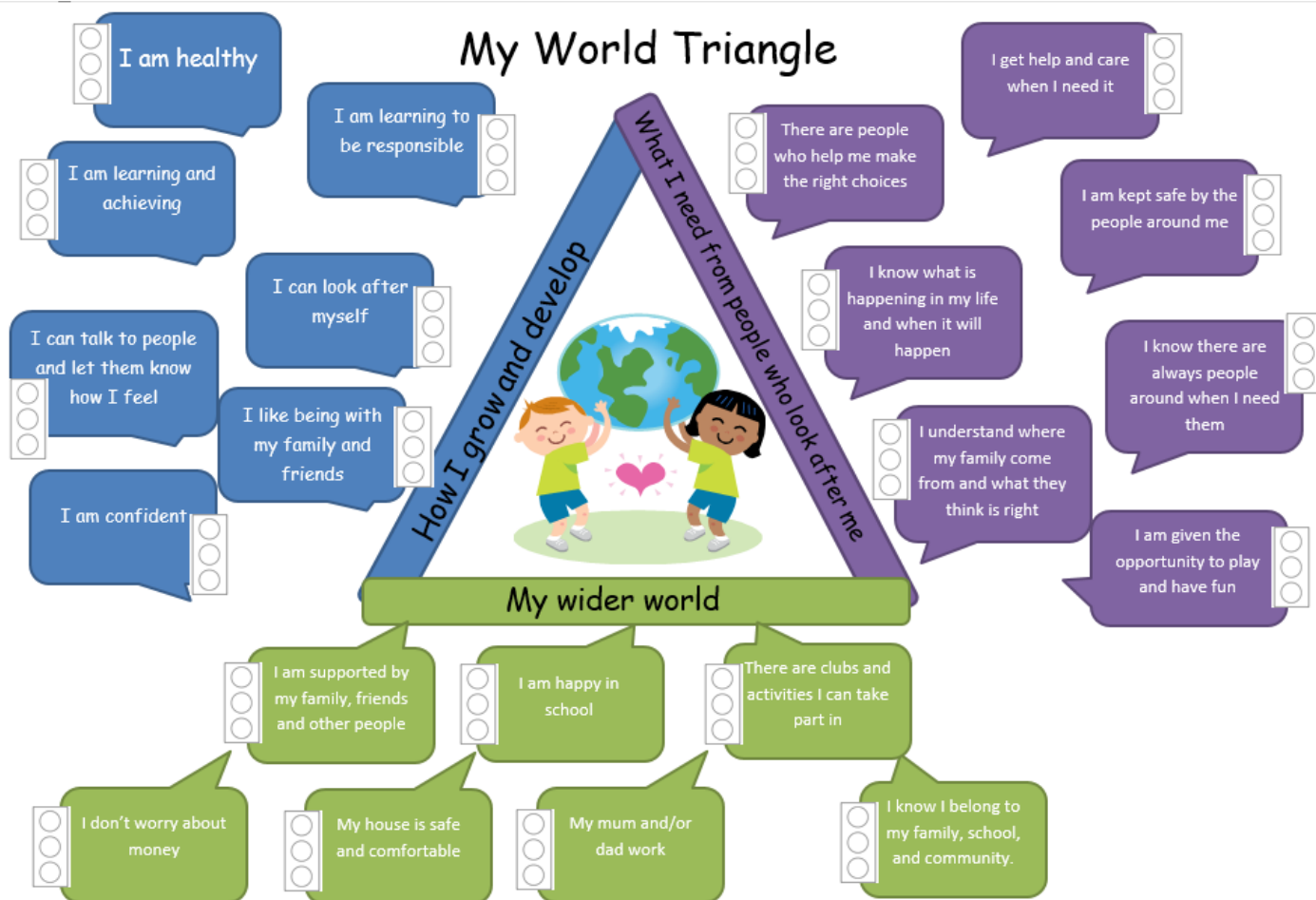
Road markings outside the school are visible and there for a reason. Please do not park on or near the drive-ways of our neighbours. Double parking increases the risk to our children when they are crossing the road, please refrain from doing this.

Dogs are not permitted in the school playground.

Health and Wellbeing

As part of our recovery curriculum there is a particular focus on our 'My World Triangle'. Our children have used this over the last 3 years and are familiar with the approach. This session we will be delivering a series of lessons based on this model. We will follow up on any amber or red traffic lights and, where necessary, we will liaise with parents and support agencies. Our children have also been learning about resilience through the resilience alphabet as outlined in our School [Recovery Plan 2020 21](#), you can access this material by clicking on the link below.

[Resilience alphabet](#)



At the start of each term your child will complete the My World Triangle and traffic light each statement. We want to ensure we meet the needs of all our children and to do this effectively we must have a clear understanding of all factors that may impact on them.