St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Back in the swing!

October 2020

It has been a busy few weeks in St Joseph's and we are already into October! If you have been following us on Twitter (@StJosephsERC) you will have seen some of the amazing learning experiences that our children have had over the last few months. Campfires in P7, Dinosaur invasions in P2, lots of muddy adventures and even the Tour de France! We are very grateful to our staff for all the time and effort they have put in to ensuring your children feel happy and engaged returning to school.
This month we are looking forward to lots of ***spooktacular*** goings on but we will need your help! Read on to find out more…..

Mrs Suzanne Martin
Head Teacher

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Parents' evening

This year our first Parents Evening will be slightly different. Unfortunately we cannot have parents in the school building so we will be providing you with a report on your child during a 10 minute phone call with your child's teacher. We will be sending out a Forms next week requesting your preferred day for this phone call. There are 4 dates available and all calls will take place between 3.15pm and 5.15pm. Once you have selected your preferred date we will contact you with your allocated time. If you have more than one child in school we will ensure that all sibling calls will be on the same date at appropriately spaced intervals.

The dates for Parent Evening calls are:

Tuesday 3 November
Wednesday 4 November
Tuesday 10 November
Wednesday 11 November

As always, your child's work will be sent home prior to Parents' Evening phone calls to allow you time to look over their learning journey so far.

As part of your child's learning journey, they will write their own report card, this will be given to you by your child after your meeting. It is important that you read, discuss and complete this report card in order that your child receives feed-back from you and their teacher on their progress. Report cards should be sent back with your child once completed.

You will be asked to write 2 stars. These are 2 things that you think your child has worked hard on or made progress with.

You will be asked to write 1 wish. This should be something you think your child needs to work on with support and encouragement or a new skill that you feel would benefit your child.

Pupil Voice in St Joseph's

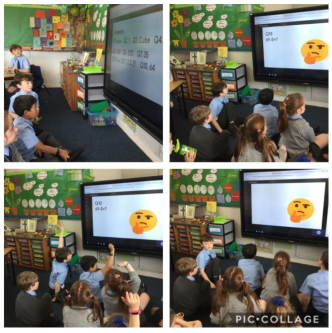
The opinions, ideas and experiences of our children are very important to us, we want to ensure the children are leading the learning and making their school the best it can be! This session, every child will be part of a committee, please see list of committees below, which will meet on the first Thursday of each month starting on 5 November.

Rights Respecting Schools	Fair Trade	Eco	Pupil Council	GIRFEC	Road safety	Pastoral	Digital Leaders	Enterprise	Press	Library	Houses

Our children will be evaluating St Joseph's using the 'How Good is OUR School?' tool and will write their committee action plans to address and strengthen any areas that may require some work.
https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Documents/HGIOURS-Part2.pdf

Maths Week Scotland

We had great fun during maths week this year. Lots of interesting and engaging activities were taking place from Primary 1 to Primary 7. Primary 6 virtual challenge, STEM challenges, pizza making, measuring and of course ,Jack Hartman all provided opportunities for the children to develop their numeracy and maths skills in different contexts.



Parent Council

Our Parent Council AGM was held on Tuesday 22 September. Please see the new office bearers positions below:

Chair	Mrs Samantha McConnell
Vice Chair	Ms Sharon Constable
Secretary	Ms Katrina Adams
Vice Secretary	Vacancy
Treasurer	Mrs Jackie McHendry
Vice Treasurer	Mr Ian Anderson
Social Secretary	Mrs Stacey Hogg
Vice Social Secretary	Mrs Kirsty MacDiarmid
Uniform Rep	Mrs Katrina Adams

Thank you!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our parents and families for supporting us by maintaining social distancing and clearing the school gates after collection. Your cooperation has ensured that our children are not unduly stressed or anxious about end of day collections.

We have asked the children about the new end of day procedures and they have told us that they are very happy and not worried at all!

Spooktacular St Joseph's

This year we will be making sure our children have a fangtastic Halloween. There are many plans in place for Friday 30th October !

Dress as a Superhero! All children (and staff!) will be asked to dress up as their favourite superhero. No villains or scary costumes, we don't want to scare any of our infants!

Witchy Windows! All classes will be asked to decorate their class windows for Halloween. Mrs Martin will be judging the best window!

Pumpkin Patches. This is where we will need your help ! Every class will be allocated a Pumpkin Patch outside, children will be asked to carve a pumpkin with their parents/carers and bring it in on Friday 30th to display in their class patch. Parents can also drop pumpkins off in their child's patch between 9am and 12pm (please avoid break times). There will be a prize for the best class Pumpkin Patch.

Primary 1 and 2 will have their annual Halloween Howl in their classrooms.

All classes will have a chance to go on a wicked walk in the afternoon through the Pumpkin Patches and peeking in the Witchy Windows. Our Parent Council will also provide some tricks and some treats at the end of their walk.

We wish you could join us for this exciting day but we promise there will be lots of photographs on Twitter!

Playground Improvements

Over the last 3 years our Parent Council has worked tirelessly to raise funds to help improve our school for our children. This month we see the fruits of their labour and your generosity pay off. On 26th October Scotplay will break ground in our upper playground. They will be installing 3 pieces of equipment for the children., the orangutan, roll n rope and monkey bars. Our Parent Council has covered the costs of this installation, nearly £9000, and I am sure our children will be delighted! We hope to add to this equipment over the next few years as you can see from the designs below.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Stage
23rd October	All Day	Flu Immunisations	Whole School
w/c 26th October		Scot Play Installation in Senior Playground	
26th October to 11th November		House Captains selling Poppies for Poppy Scotland – suggested donation £1.00	Whole School
27th October	Afternoon	P7b Bikeability Refresher in Playground	P7b
28th October	Afternoon	P7a Bikeability Refresher in Playground	P7a
30th October	All Day	Halloween Howl – Fun Day for All	Whole School
Sunday 1st November		All Saints Day	
Tuesday 3rd November	All day	P7b Bikeability Training. One-off training.	P7b
Wednesday 4th November	All day	P7a Bikeability Training. One-off training.	P7a

Parents Portal

We presently have just over 80% of parents registered for Parents Portal. If you have not already done so please follow the instruction and register as soon as possible.

Future correspondence will be issued via this new system ie data check, consents and report cards.
If you are experiencing difficulty please contact the school office via email
schoolmail@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk

https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/parentsportal

ParentsPortal.scot Login

https://myaccount.signin.mygovscot.org/CASServer/login?service=https%3A%2F%2Fmyaccount.signin.mygovscot.org%2Fidp%2FAuthn%2FRemoteUser&RelyingPartyId=https://parentsportal.scot/shibboleth&LACode=PARPT

Useful Links

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-