



### **Reading challenge**

Our reading challenge has started (email sent 4<sup>th</sup> March) and will run for 8 weeks. We will celebrate the children's achievement with 'The Big Reading Picnic' during the summer term (dates tbc). For more details and a copy of the letter that was sent, please click on the following link, [Reading Challenge | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)

### **Travelling book fair**

The travelling book fair will be visiting the school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The hall will be open for parents to bring their children between 3.30pm - 4pm on these days. The school will receive a percentage of the funds made to purchase books for classes.

### **Attendance**

If your child is unwell and will not be attending school please contact the school on the first day of absence **before** 9.00 am, which is when our register closes. Please contact the school on every further day of absence, again before 9.00 am. Please be aware that **unauthorised absence includes**, (however this list is not exhaustive):

- parents/carers keeping children off school unnecessarily e.g. because they had a late night or for non-infectious illness or injury that would not affect their ability to learn.
- absences which have never been properly explained.
- children who arrive at school after the close of registration are marked using a 'U'. This indicates that they are in school for safeguarding purposes, however, is counted as an absence for the session.
- shopping trips.
- looking after other children or children accompanying siblings or parents to medical appointments.
- their own or family birthdays.
- holidays taken during term time, not deemed 'for exceptional purposes' by the headteacher, including any arranged by other family members or friends.
- day trips.
- other leave of absence in term time which has not been agreed.

### **Gold book winners**

YR: Cecilia

Y1: Roll over to next week

Y2: Oliver

Y3: Hermione

Y4: Esme

Y5: Alfie

Y6: Mikelya

## **School pick up**

We understand that on rare occasions there are reasons that prevent parents from collecting children at 3.15pm. We ask that if this is the case that parents inform the school in a timely fashion. As a school we do not have the ability to book children into afterschool club. This must be done directly with LBV and must be done prior to 3.15pm.

## **Booking your child's lunch via Swift Kitchen**

Please book your child's lunch via swift kitchen if your child is having school lunch. There are a large number of children receiving school lunch with no booking. To help avoid food waste and disappointed children, please book their lunch by 8:30am every morning. You can also book a term in advance.

## **Afterschool Club – Little Blue Van**

As the afterschool club is run by an external company, the school cannot book children into the club. Please contact Little Blue Van directly, on 07770 963701/07790 444704 or by email, [martin@littlebluevan.co.uk](mailto:martin@littlebluevan.co.uk)

## **New Term dates for 2025/2026**

The new term dates for 2025/2026 are now available of the school website. Please us the following link:

[Term Dates | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)

## **Term dates for 2024/2025**

These are now available on our website. Please use the following link:

[Term Dates | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School \(stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk\)](#)

## **School email addresses**

Breakfast Club - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

Absences, illness, medical appointments, collection of children, lunches - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

Breakfast Club queries - [diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:diary@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

General enquiries not listed above – [admin@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs255.herts.sch.uk)

## **Dates**

Here are some dates for your diary for the Spring term. You will receive more information for some of the events nearer the time.

### **March**

- ❖ 18<sup>th</sup> Travelling Book Fair 3:30pm - 4pm
- ❖ 19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph's Day Mass 11am parents and carers welcome
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> Travelling Book Fair 3:30pm - 4pm
- ❖ 26<sup>th</sup> LIFT Reading

### **April**

- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> End of Term collection at 1:15pm
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Easter Holidays
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> Return to school
- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> LIFT Maths

### **May**

- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> LIFT Reading
- ❖ 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Half Term

**Please note that these dates maybe subject to change.**

**Please read your newsletter weekly to be informed of any changes**