



### **Moving over to Arbor**

As you may know, we will be phasing out **Schoolgateway** by the end of September and moving to **Arbor**. An email was sent out last week with instructions on how to set up your Arbor account. Please note that this message may have gone into your junk folder, so if you have not yet seen it, we kindly ask you to check there. We are currently in contact with Arbor to see how this issue can be prevented in the future. If you experience any problems setting up your account, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for support.

### **National Poetry day**

On **Wednesday 1st October**, as part of our celebrations for **National Poetry Day 2025**, your child will be taking part in an exciting workshop called **"Playing with Poetry"**, delivered by *As Creatives*. This is a fun, hands-on poetry workshop aimed at helping children explore language in a playful way. Each class will take part in age appropriate workshop with guided activities exploring sounds, rhythm, rhyme, and the playful side of poetry. To help cover the cost of this fantastic opportunity, we kindly ask for a donation of £3 per child, made payable via the Trips section of your child's Arbor account. We are really looking forward to an inspiring day of poetry!

### **Gold book winners**

Y1: Lois

Y2: Scarlett

Y3: Aoife

Y4: Thomas

Y5: Eloise

Y6: Leo

### **Harvest liturgy**

We will be celebrating our Harvest liturgy on 7<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30am, parents and carers are welcome. This year we will be collecting food for the Hertford and Ware Foodbank and Hertfood (Debbie from Manic Ceramics). They have requested any toiletries and that all food items are long life; tins, dried etc. A collection box will be located outside the office from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September until Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Year 3 Holy Communion**

For any children wishing to do their First Holy Communion who did not receive an application form, please contact Mrs Walker directly on 07711584517.

### **Sponsoring Mrs Lacey**

Mrs Lacey will be participating in the Royal Parks Half marathon on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October and is raising money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Please click on the following link to her fundraising page, [https://www.justgiving.com/page/aileen-lacey-1?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/aileen-lacey-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL). Any donations for this amazing hospital will be gratefully received and will help with the ongoing care for a huge number of sick children. Many thanks.

### **Parking outside the school**

Please be mindful when parking on or around North Road as we have received a number of frustrated messages from local residence. We would like to remind everyone that parking in the bus stop is illegal and buses have been unable to stop due to lack of room. Please do not block pavements or driveways as this can cause accessibility issues to members of the public and residence.

### **School Carpark**

Please **do not park or enter the school carpark when dropping children off for breakfast club or picking up from afterschool clubs**. The gates are open for staff only to access the site. Thank you.

### **Free school meals**

You can apply for free school meals for the new school year. To receive meals for the remainder of this current school year, please email [freeschoolmeals@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@hertfordshire.gov.uk), with your name, national insurance number and date of birth. If your child receives free school meals, you don't need to re-apply for 2025/2026 unless your child is moving from Year 2 to Year 3.

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

The new term dates for 2025/2026 are available on the school website. Please use the following link: [Term Dates | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School](#)

### **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 Summer term. You will receive more information for some of the events nearer the time.

#### **September**

- ❖ 29<sup>th</sup> Buddy week

#### **October**

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> playing with poetry workshop
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> St Francis of Assisi feast day celebration mass time TBC
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Start of Black History month
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> Whole school Harvest liturgy
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> Individual and sibling photos
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> Parent consultations 3:30pm - 6pm
- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> Parent consultations 3:30pm - 7pm
- ❖ 24<sup>th</sup> End of half term pick up at 3:15pm
- ❖ 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> End of term holiday

#### **November**

- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Start of Poppy appeal
- ❖ 10<sup>th</sup> Start of Anti Bullying week
- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Service with Chaplaincy lead at 10:45am
- ❖ 28<sup>th</sup> Occasional day school is closed

## December

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Assessment week
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Decorating day
- ❖ 10<sup>th</sup> KS2 Advent service at the church (PM)
- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Trust Carol Service at St Augustine's Parish Church
- ❖ 16<sup>th</sup> Nursery and Reception Nativity play (AM)
- ❖ 17<sup>th</sup> Rocksteady winter concert 9:30am - 11am
- ❖ 17<sup>th</sup> School Christmas dinner
- ❖ 18<sup>th</sup> KS1 Nativity play (AM)
- ❖ 19<sup>th</sup> End of term pick up at 1:15pm
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> January Christmas holiday

## January

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Inset day school is closed
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Children return to school
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> Start of term mass

## February

- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Parent consultations 3:30pm - 6pm
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> Parent consultations 3:30pm - 7pm
- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> End of half term pick up at 3:15pm
- ❖ 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February End of term holiday

## March

- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Start of book week
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> World book day
- ❖ 9<sup>th</sup> Start of British Science week (Trust schools to collaborate)
- ❖ 16<sup>th</sup> Assessment week
- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> Trust charity week
- ❖ 27<sup>th</sup> End of term pick up at 1:15pm
- ❖ 30<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> April Easter holiday

## April

- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> Children return to school
- ❖ 16<sup>th</sup> Start of term mass

## May

- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Start of Primary SATS week
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> End of half term pick up at 3:15pm
- ❖ 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> End of term holiday

## June

- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> Aspirations week
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> Inset day school closed
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> Sacramental Celebration
- ❖ 19<sup>th</sup> Sports day
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> Assessment week
- ❖ 26<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Primary Football and Netball tournament 10am-12pm

## July

- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Chaplaincy retreat (trip)
- ❖ 9<sup>th</sup> Open evening
- ❖ 14<sup>th</sup> Leavers production (PM)
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> Year 6 leavers mass and assembly

❖ 21<sup>st</sup> End of term

**Please note that these dates maybe subject to change.  
Please read your newsletter weekly to be informed of any changes**