



**St Joseph's Catholic Infant School, Hazell Avenue, Aylesbury,
HP21 7JF**

Telephone: 01296 484618

Website: www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk

Email: office@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk



JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to 2022...Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year

Another year, and sadly COVID is still very much with us. We have been fortunate enough to have relatively low numbers of cases in school and I would like to say thank you for following the restrictions we have in place and to the children for being so sensible with all the hand washing and occasional changes to the normal routines.



We really hope to get back to more 'face to face' work with parents this year, as it is so much better for getting to know each other and creating strong partnerships.

We will continue to work hard to keep COVID figures as low as possible and keep our children learning through the next two terms.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

We would like to remind you of the class emails for you to be able to contact the class teacher about education and online learning enquiries. Teachers will not be able to respond to emails on a daily basis. They will check emails at least twice a week and will email you at least once a week.

Emails: Main school

Year R: yearR@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk

Year 1: year1@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk

Year 2: year2@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk

Emails: Pre-School

Queries relating to Pre-School Learning can be addressed to room leads or the Pre-School Manager on the email address below. Pre-School staff will aim to reply within 48 hours.

ps@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk

All admission matters or urgent emails relating to information required on that day - such as absence, health matters, change of collection arrangements should be addressed to the main school office email or messages left on the school telephone answering system.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL ADMISSIONS STARTING SCHOOL – RECEPTION CLASS - SEPTEMBER 2022

Parents of children born between 01/09/2017 - 31/08/2018 must apply online via the [Buckinghamshire Council website](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk) for a school place for their child/ren.

The closing date for online applications for school places in Reception for September 2022 via the primary portal is on 15th January 2022.

Applications for a school place for your child must still be completed by the deadline even if your child currently attends St Joseph's Pre-School.

Parents applying on faith grounds, should submit a completed Supplementary Form for Bucks Catholic Schools, along with their child's original Baptismal certificate. These faith documents should be submitted via the school office to support the application by 15th January 2022.

If you need further information regarding the admission process please see the Bucks Council website www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk or contact the school office.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL ADMISSIONS **JUNIOR SCHOOL - YEAR 3 - SEPTEMBER 2022**

Year 2 Parents must make an application online for their child/ren via the Buckinghamshire Council website.

The closing date for online applications for junior school places for September 2022 via the primary portal is 15th January 2022.

Junior School Applications must be submitted online via the [Buckinghamshire Council website](#).

Junior Schools may require Supplementary Information forms. Please check with your chosen schools for the additional evidence needed.

REMOTE LEARNING

Children who are isolating can access remote learning via the school website.

To locate remote learning on the website look for your child's year group under the Learning tab, Weekly Learning.

Here you will find activities and lessons relevant to the age and stage of your child. There are links to online lessons and templates for simple at home lessons.

As our children are very young, they learn best with direct communication and interaction from adults and other children. Whilst some learning is possible to achieve online please remember that your child should not be left unsupervised with access to the internet.

Teaching staff will remain in close contact with you and your child via email and the telephone. TEAMS meetings will be used where appropriate.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

WEAR RED FOR POPPY DAY

Thank you for participating in the 'Wear Something Red' day, on Thursday 11th November in return for a donation to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

We raised £205.00 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. A big thank you to everyone for supporting this important event.



BBC Children in Need Appeal

Thank you to everyone for supporting this good cause. **We raised £146.23 in donations** for Children in Need.



PUPILS MISSING EDUCATION – REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Regular attendance at School is essential if children are to attain their full potential. Please note that all absence from school will impact on your child's learning and result in a reduction in their percentage attendance at school.

We are not able to authorise requests for leave of absence during term time except for exceptional circumstances. It is difficult to define 'exceptional circumstances' as each request will be considered on its own merits, but as a general rule an exceptional circumstance will be of minimal duration - one or two days of absence to cover an unexpected or extraordinary event of an urgent or serious nature.

There has been an increase in parents requesting absence leave for pupils during term time. Please be advised that parents do not have an automatic right to remove their child from school during term time for the purpose of a holiday and are strongly advised not to do so. If permission to take leave is not granted and the pupil is absent, the absence will be unauthorised. All requests for leave of absence should be submitted using the Exceptional Leave of Absence application form available on the school website or from the school office.

To assist you with planning ahead, our school term dates are found in all newsletters and are also available on the school website. Please support us in providing the best education for your children.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

This funding helps schools give a little extra support to children who qualify for Pupil Premium. When you complete and return the Free School Meal and Pupil Premium check request, the school will be notified if your child is eligible. Forms are available on request from the school office.

Please note - this form is issued annually but **you can request and submit one if your circumstances change during the year.**

You will be notified if your child is eligible and the school will use the funding to help children in different ways such as class support, help with uniform costs, resources, visit costs or club fees.

Funding per pupil is limited and will be used at the discretion of the school to best support the pupil's educational attainment.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY LEARNING

Buckinghamshire Family Learning run **free online courses** for parents and carers of children at St Joseph's.

More information of current courses and workshops available can be found on the school website (Learning, Family Learning Bucks). Family Learning also produce regular newsletters with activity ideas for parents. These are also available on our website.

STAFFING NEWS

We welcome new staff to our team/staff who have changed roles:

- Mrs L Goldan who has come back to work with us in Pre-School
- Mrs H Cordell joined us as a Teaching Assistant in Year R
- Ms A Lazaro joined our Midday Supervisor team
- Congratulations to Mrs Smit whose daughter was born in December

PUPIL PROGRESS MEETINGS FOR PARENTS

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Parents Meetings will be this half term and will be a 10 minute appointment with you to specifically discuss your child's learning and progress.

Further information and dates to follow.



Candlemas and Lent

On 2nd February we celebrate Candlemas when we remember when Jesus was presented at the temple and when we renew and bless our class candles.

We will be preparing for Lent this term - the time when we get ready to celebrate Easter.

The children will be making Lenten promises in school. Children can think of things they can try to do to help others and live like Jesus wants us to.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please look out for the termly newsletter from the St. Joseph's Guardians – our ECO and school council. They are working hard with our staff and other pupils to make our world and school a happier, greener and healthier place to live.

SCA (School Community Association)

A big thank you to the SCA for continuing their work during these exceptional times. They have managed to keep raising funds for the school and this is very much appreciated.

We are looking forward to events this year and they can keep you informed of their plans and activities via their Facebook page.

The school will pass details of events run by the SCA to you via Parentmail.

Keep a look out for some favourite events hopefully returning!

COVID-19

To prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and protect others

You must NOT send your child to school if your child:

- Has a confirmed positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- Are waiting for a coronavirus test (or test results)
- Are in self isolation/ quarantine (as per government legislation/guidance)
- Have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) such as :
 - A high temperature
 - A new, continuous cough
 - A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

In all cases, please follow medical advice and check the Government websites for information and guidance.

Guidance is being updated frequently – please check the Government websites for the most up to date information.

Information on the new arrangements (updated 11 January 2022) can be found in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

REVISED TERM DATES 2021/22

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

Please note School and Pre-School dates may differ slightly

	Open on morning of:	Close at end of afternoon of
Spring Term 2022	Wednesday 5 th January	Friday 18 th February
	Monday 28 th February	<u>Tuesday 5th April (Pre-School)</u> <u>Friday 8th April (School)</u>
Summer Term 2022	Monday 25 th April	Friday 27 th May
	Monday 6 th June	Tuesday 19 th July (School) Pre-School TBC

FUTURE INSET DAYS 2021/22

Wednesday 20th July 2022

More information about current term dates and future Buckinghamshire Council term dates can be found on the school website (Key Information >Term Dates).