



**St Joseph's Catholic Infant School, Hazell Avenue,
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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

Month of the Rosary.

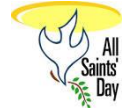
October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. This month the children have been learning about Mary and the special way we can pray using Rosary beads.



Feast of All Saints - 1 NOVEMBER

This is the day when we celebrate all the saints, known and unknown. This feast day is celebrated in Churches around the parishes.

Due to a late change to our planned INSET day we are not able to hold a Mass in school. We will however hold a special assembly with the children to commemorate this day. If you wish to take your child to a local Mass on this day you may do so but please remember to notify the office of your plans.



Starting School – Reception 2023 Admissions Information Meetings

On Wednesday 2nd November at 9.30 am and 7.30 pm we will be opening the school for prospective parents applying for a Reception 2023 school place to come and look around the school and learn more about the admissions process.

This will be an opportunity to meet staff and governors, who will be available to answer questions and share information.

To book a place please contact the school office by email office@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk or phone the school on 01296 484618.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A reminder that children should wear winter uniform after October half term.

For children in **Year 1 and Year 2** the Winter uniform is as follows:

Blue Jumper/Cardigan with School logo

White cotton long sleeve Shirt (not a white polo shirt)

School Tie

Grey Trousers/ Grey Skirt/Grey Pinafore

KS1 Science Dome

It was wonderful to have exciting events back in school and the children really enjoyed the day and learned a lot about the different dinosaurs (Year 1) and aspects of space, planets and the moon landing (Year 2).



WEAR RED FOR POPPY DAY

We will be supporting The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal again this year and will be selling poppies in school for a donation after half term.

We are also asking the children and staff to wear red on Friday 11th November and invite your donations to support this year's poppy appeal.

The children will also take part in a poppy seed scattering prayer session during this day with a one minute silence and prayers.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL ADMISSIONS JUNIOR SCHOOL - YEAR 3 - SEPTEMBER 2023

Year 2 Parents must make a junior school application online for their child/ren from **4th November 2022**. The closing date for online applications for school places for September 2023 via the Buckinghamshire Council primary portal is on 15th January 2023.

Junior School Applications **must be submitted online** via the [Buckinghamshire Council website](#). The junior school you are applying to will be able to advise what supplementary forms and additional evidence they will require.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL ADMISSIONS STARTING SCHOOL – RECEPTION CLASS - SEPTEMBER 2023

Parents of children born between 01/09/2018 - 31/08/2019 must make an online school application for their child/ren from **4th November 2022**.

The closing date for online applications for school places in Reception for September 2023 via the Buckinghamshire Council primary portal is on 15th January 2023.

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

If you are applying on faith grounds, please submit a completed Supplementary Form for Bucks Catholic Schools, along with your child's Baptismal certificate. These faith documents should be submitted via the school office to support your application.

You must apply for a school place for your child by the deadline even if your child currently attends St Joseph's Pre-School.

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

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

(All Classes)

On Tuesday 8th November, JS Photography will be visiting our school to take individual photographs. Photographs will be available to order online - more details to follow.

There will be an option for siblings in School to be photographed together.

PAKISTAN FLOODS DISASTER APPEAL

We raised an amazing £236 for the CAFOD Pakistan Floods Disaster Appeal on our 'wear an item of green' day.

Thank you for all your donations for this important cause.



MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Please note we are only able to administer prescribed medication in school for your child, and that parental consent forms must be completed. If your child needs prescription medicine which is required to be administered three times a day, this can be managed at home by parents.

Parents should be aware that when children are given prescribed medicine in school, two members of staff are needed to administer it and we cannot guarantee staff availability.

Harvest Celebration 2022



Thank you for the many donations of tins and packets for The Vineyard Church food bank for distribution to families and those in need in our local community. We collected 83.6 kg of donated items for the Aylesbury Foodbank. Thank you to everyone for your support of these good causes.



AIP MEAL ORDERS - RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

The **new Autumn 2022 hot lunch menu is now available** for meal orders starting from Tuesday 1st November after the half term break.

Please continue to order school hot meals via your online ParentPay account and check your on-line account regularly to see the meals you have ordered for your child. You may wish to discuss the meals ordered with your child as some children do like to know what meal has been chosen for them

A Big Thank You to the team of Community Volunteers from Equitable Life

A group of volunteers from the Finance Team at Utmost Life & Pensions (Equitable Life) in Aylesbury recently spent a fun and rewarding afternoon volunteering at our school as part of their community service focus.

One team did a great job of painting the Gazebo and another team helped paint the staff toilets. A couple of groups made light work of weeding and flower bed preparation, as well as weeding our Prayer Garden outside 1S classroom.

We are very grateful for all their help and for the huge amount of work undertaken by the team of volunteers.



Macmillan Cancer Support - Cake Sale

A big thank you to everyone for supporting this event.

We will let you know the final amount raised for Macmillan Cancer Support in the next newsletter once the funds raised from the sale of used school books are added to make the final total.

Birthday Treats - a growing concern

We have noticed a growing trend across the year groups - giving out sweets outside the class doors. We have many children with allergies and at this busy time of the day it is not always safe/acceptable for children to be eating items that their parents have not given consent to. It also puts parents in a difficult position if they have to refuse an item because their child has an allergy or dietary requirement. We must therefore ask that you **do not give out** sweets/food items to children on the school site. We appreciate many of you wish to celebrate your child's birthday and your children want to share something with their classmates. Parents and children really wishing to do something are advised to consider small inexpensive stickers as an alternative.

OCTOBER IS WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

International Walk to School Month is a month long awareness campaign held in October every year which celebrates the benefits of walking (and cycling/scooting) to school.

The benefits that walking, cycling and scooting bring are more important than ever. They are the most accessible ways to reduce traffic congestion and pollution, while also improving the mental and physical wellbeing of pupils. That is why we are encouraging everyone who can to 'Get Active' on their journeys to and from school.

We understand that it might not be possible for everyone to walk the whole way to school, but why not '**Park and Stride**' – that is, park the car further away from the school and walk the last bit of the journey. Why not use the 5/10 minute Walking Zone map which can be viewed on the display board at the front of the school to find a place to park? Why not park a little further away from school and walk the last 5 minutes of the journey?



TERM DATES 2022 - 2023
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

| | Open on morning of: | Close at end of afternoon of |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Autumn Term 2022 | Tuesday 6 th September | Friday 21 st October |
| | Tuesday 1 st November | Tuesday 20 th December |
| Spring Term 2023 | Wednesday 4 th January | Friday 10 th February |
| | Monday 20 February | Friday 31 st March |
| Summer Term 2023 | Monday 17 th April | Friday 26 th May |
| | Monday 5 th June | Thursday 20 th July |

INSET DAYS FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23:

Friday 2nd September 2022

Monday 5th September 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Monday 24th April 2023

Friday 21st July 2023

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

School Grounds Project

As part of the curriculum and developing awe and wonder for God's wonderful world, our children often work in the school grounds. We study the local environment and the wildlife around us - bugs included!

The outside is a valuable learning resource.

We take part in planting bulbs, scattering poppy seeds to commemorate Remembrance Day, weaving willow, designing and making bird feeders and insect hotels and many more activities.

We need your help.



What Can You Do?

- Donate any small child-sized gardening equipment (non-electrical) that is in good working order. E.g. spades, forks, rakes, buckets, trowels, watering cans.
- Donate any spare bulbs, seeds or small shrubs - if each child gave just one bulb that would be 215 new flowers in our grounds!
- Keep to the paths and take care not tread on new shrubs and areas planted with bulbs and seeds.
- Talk to your child about respecting plants and nature and draw their attention to the beauty of Gods world.

