



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr C Newstead



21st December 201

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we finish for the Christmas holiday, I am writing to you to keep you informed of progress during the autumn term.

We are well underway towards achieving the improvements set out in our School Development Plan. For 2018-2019 these are:

- 1. To bring about the best possible outcomes for all children.**
- 2. To ensure that the quality of teaching, learning and assessment are effective in ensuring the best possible outcomes for all children.**
- 3. To ensure that leadership and management are highly effective.**
- 4. To ensure that personal development, behaviour and welfare are effectively supported and developed.**
- 5. To ensure that provision for Catholic life, Religious Education and Collective Worship is highly effective.**

Successes so far have included:

- Staff training has focused on staff and pupil well-being, handwriting, spelling, epilepsy, First Aid, subject leadership, Maths, English, Computing, PE, Religious Education, School Inspection, Special Educational Needs, Behaviour, Science, Curriculum and School Admissions.**
- Governors' meetings have focused on evaluating our school, recognising our successes and identifying key priorities for improvement**
- The head teacher's performance management targets have been reviewed by governors and all teachers have had new targets set for this school year.**
- Attendance is currently 96.93% which is outstanding. Year 2 were our best attending class this term and they will be celebrating with a party on Tuesday 8th January at 8:50 am. Furthermore, 91 children have been in school every day this term and will receive a reward for 100% attendance when we return in 2019.**

As in previous years Year 6 SATs results 2018 were among the highest in Knowsley. Our results were also above national averages for all other English primary schools in all subjects at the expected standard or above. Reception Class results were in line with the national average; our end of Key Stage 1

(Year 2) results were above local and national averages at the expected standard or above in all areas and our Year 1 Phonics Screening Check results were well above national results. All our results are available on the school website in greater detail. You can be assured that everyone at St. Joseph's will continue to work hard to provide the best possible education for all of our children.

This term we have participated in a number of sporting activities including girls' football, cross country and football. Our football team have been going from strength to strength and we are currently top of the league!

We all had a great morning watching the performance of Jack and the Beanstalk at the leisure centre. I was even invited to assist Jack on the stage! My performance was overshadowed by the children who took part in the Shakespeare Festival. Midsummer Night's dream was amazing and all the children performed exceptionally well.

Other wonderful shows were the Reception Class show: Whoops a Daisy Angel; Key Stage 1's Children of the World Nativity Play; and, Key Stage 2's production of Scrooge. These events were a great showcase for our children's talents. I am really proud of them all.

Year 6 pupils also enjoyed activities to develop self-confidence, motivation and team building at the PGL residential in October, which was great fun too!

This term, we said goodbye to Mrs McKenzie and Mrs Worsley, welcome to Miss Hanratty and welcome back to Mrs McCarten.

Thanks to those of you who have given money towards the Archdiocese Building Fund (Levy). Contributions have helped us to complete the roof repairs. In the future we hope to further improve the school with internal decorating.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and families. Your responses to the questionnaire were extremely positive with 100% considering that their child make good progress and 100% stating that they would recommend our school. I am very grateful for your contributions towards the Christmas Draw. Money raised from the draw and ticket sales for the school Christmas performances will go to our school fund, which helps us to fund extra events and items, such as the Christmas parties. Thank you also for your thoughtful Christmas gifts.

Finally, I look forward to seeing the children in school again on Tuesday 8th January, from 8:40am, ready to start school at 8:50am.

Enjoy a peaceful Christmas break

C. Newstead

