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Newsletter no. 1

9th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

A warm welcome back to all of our lovely families. As you are all aware, we start the new school year on a very sad note. Alongside all members of our community, we mourn the sad loss of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. We held a special collective worship today, where we remembered and celebrated the life of the Queen, reminding children of her service to the country and her faith which supported her through her reign.

A Big Welcome!

I would like to personally welcome our many families that have joined the St Joseph's family this year. We know you will be delighted with your decision, and I am sure you have already been made to feel welcome by our staff and parents. The children have settled amazingly well and (fingers crossed) we know that this will continue through this year. As a member of our community, you automatically become a member of the 'Friends of St Joseph's', and further information about how you can get involved will follow soon.

After school clubs

We hope to inform families of the offer of extra curricular provision soon (we are still waiting for confirmation from one of the coaches). We are looking at ways to complement this programme and would like to know if any parents, carers, grandparents or other friends of the school have a suitable level of skill or relevant qualification and would like to offer their services to run or support an extra-curricular activity. We will consider all suggestions – it would be nice to have any people come forward who can do gardening or art as well as sporting support. If you think that this is something you would like to get involved in, please contact the school office.

Summer school activities

Thank you to the staff who led the Summer School activities in weeks 3 and 4. The feedback from parents and children has been extremely positive!

Important dates for the term

Alongside this letter, you will receive the dates for this term. As with previous notifications, year group specific events are colour coded for ease! There are a number of further events that need confirming, including extra curricular activities, and these will be shared with you on a regular basis.

Staffing

Sadly, we say goodbye to Miss Hussain today. Due to circumstances, she is unable to continue in her role as Teaching Assistant at St Joseph's. I would like to thank Miss Hussain for her hard work, dedication and bright personality which impacted so positively in her time here. Details of the vacancy will be shared as soon as possible for anyone interested.

School volunteers

Thank you so much to the volunteers from NHSBSA who have transformed some of the fences and furniture outside school. Despite the miserable weather, I am sure you will agree they have done a sterling job!

Uniform

A big thankyou for the donations of uniforms from many of our families. These were left out in the hall this morning, with a number of families benefiting from your kindness. Thank you.

Google Classroom

A reminder to parents that most year group communication, including homework, will go through the Google Classroom platform. Some younger pupils will not have received their log in details yet, and these will be with you soon. Google classroom should only be accessed using pupils' log in details. Mrs Toward produced a guide on using Google classroom which can be accessed [here](#).

Communication during the mourning period

Following guidance from the Government, we have been advised that during the 10 days mourning period, all non-essential communication, including social media, will be paused as a mark of respect. Staff will still communicate essential news through Google classroom, and emails will be sent through the school office with other information.

Take care!

Mr P Craig

