

# *St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford*

*"Let us protect with love all that God has given us"  
(Pope Francis 19.03.2013)*



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20<sup>th</sup> January 2023



*We praise you, Lord, for all your creatures, especially for Brother Sun, who is the day through whom you give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour, of you Most High, he bears your likeness.  
(Canticles of the Sun, St Francis of Assisi)*

Dear Families,

The days are certainly getting longer and we all enjoy the cold, crisp mornings with the winter sun. These have to be the hardest couple of months for getting to school on time and wanting to just stay in bed. These bright days are most welcome to raise all our spirits.

As always, the school is a busy place with lots happening in our broad and balanced curriculum. The year group curriculum overviews are on the website to let families know what is happening in the classrooms.

The teachers and the leadership team have been looking at attendance against pupil attainment. There is a strong correlation between a lack of pupil progress and absence. We now have all our special focus pupil groups up and running and all staff and pupils are working hard to mitigate the impact of COVID on learning. Given all the hard work put into planning this, it is very disheartening when children cannot attend. We strongly encourage pupils to be in school and we will be meeting with families where attendance is a concern.

In the newsletter there is an update on our poly tunnel, the school discos are on the horizon and there is information on our new barrier to help keep children safe. Have a lovely weekend and we are all looking forward to Spring!

Warm wishes  
Jess Tweedie  
**Headteacher**



The SCHOOL DISCOS are back again!

FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY

EYU and Year 1 from 5.00-6.00pm

Years 2 and 3 from 6.15 to 7.15pm

FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

Years 4,5 and 6 from 6.15-7.15pm

Tickets will be available on the door for each Disco - £3.00 for 1 child, £5.00 for 2 children.

There will also be TOKENS to buy to exchange for food and drinks in the CAFÉ (no cash will be accepted for food and drink).

Our “resident” DJ will entertain your children whilst they dance and have fun – also NEON FACE PAINTING will contribute to the excitement!

Whilst your little ones have fun – we need volunteers to help on “the door”, selling tokens, helping in the café and helping with face painting. Don’t be shy – join in the fun, volunteer and make new friends.

Contact Sarah Hiner on 07515162226, (EYU), Veronica Meacham, Chris Cavendish, Maria Isabella Sereni, or leave your name in the School Office.



### **Adult Cycle Safety – Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service**

Cyclists are being encouraged to sign-up for a free training session, designed to build confidence and improve safety awareness, particularly on the approach to roundabouts and at busy junctions. The two hour ‘adults cycling with confidence’ training can be booked by emailing:

[Roadsafety.education@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Roadsafety.education@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

The session is practical and participants should come with their bike, safety helmet, and appropriate clothing. The next sessions will take place on:

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 10am-12pm. Meet at Seacourt Park and Ride, Botley Road, OX2 0HP

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, 12pm-2pm. Meet at John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Headington, OX3 9DU

See link for more details:

<https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cycle-safe-training-for-adults/>

### **Car Park Safety**

Last week we had a barrier installed across our car park entrance. This makes our car park area safer for children and adults crossing the area at drop-off and pick-up times. Parents/carers dropping at the KS1 gate must bring their children all the way to the KS1 gate to ensure that they are handed over safely. The barrier will be closed each day between 8:40am-9:20am and 2:55pm-3:20pm.

### **Years 3 and 4 Intra-School Cross Country Run**

Last Friday in the glorious winter sunshine, Years 3 and 4 took part in an intra-school cross country run. The cross-country route weaved around the school grounds on our running track. It was lovely to see all children taking part and there were a few red faces at the end, but also lots of smiles; all the children were really proud of their achievement and enjoyed taking part! I do hope the children continue to enjoy running!

Mrs D Montes





### Polytunnel Progress

You will have noticed the poly tunnel is now standing proud in the corner of the field (behind the outside classroom). It is nice and big and will take a whole forest school group. This week children taking part in Forest School sessions have spent some of their time working placing ground sheets, spread bark chippings for the floor surface and helped move in scaffolding planks which will form bed borders. We are looking forward to plenty of planting in the spring!



### St Joseph's Pupil Profile

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been **Truthful** and **Eloquent** this past fortnight

1MA – Miss May	<b>Kajetan</b>	1ML – Miss Mleczko	<b>Brian</b>
2C – Miss Cook	<b>Nicholas and Milanello</b>	2S – Mrs Smith	<b>Ibrahim</b>
3D – Mr Dillon	<b>Gabriel</b>	3M – Mrs Montes	<b>Mark and Andi</b>
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter	<b>Irene and Gabriel</b>	4R – Mrs Ravenhill	<b>Ines and Jake</b>
5I – Mr Ingram/Miss Macfarlane	<b>Joash and Raphael</b>	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	<b>Saood and Zachary</b>
6H – Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	<b>Ben and Basel</b>	6T – Mr Turner	<b>Alessia and Johnny</b>

### Learning Charter Champions

Congratulations to the following pupils, our **Learning Charter Champions** this past fortnight

1MA – Miss May	<b>Griffen</b>	1ML – Miss Mleczko	<b>Evan</b>
2C – Miss Cook	<b>Xzavier</b>	2S – Mrs Smith	<b>Evie H</b>
3D – Mr Dillon		3M – Mrs Montes	<b>Mason</b>
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter	<b>Emily</b>	4R – Mrs Ravenhill	<b>Kuba</b>
5I – Mr Ingram	<b>Seth</b>	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	<b>Sabina</b>
6H – Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	<b>Angela</b>	6T – Mr Turner	<b>Daniel</b>

### **Practical Help and Signposting**

Sadly, things at the moment are difficult for many of our families. Bills all seem to be rising, and everything is getting more expensive. We want to make sure that all our families have support in place if it is needed. Even if your child is not eligible for Free School Meals, we may be able to help with uniform from our vast stock of good-quality second-hand items, we are able to refer to local Food Banks and signpost families to other sources of help, advice and support.

If you are struggling, please contact our home/school link worker, Mrs Kate Stratford. Her contact details are below. Mrs Stratford will be happy to talk to you in confidence to see what support we can offer.

Mrs Kate Stratford

Home/School Link Worker and Deputy DSL

Tel: 01865 763357

Mobile: 07500 802732

Email: [kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

### **Dairy Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Group/Class</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	All year groups	Road Safety Week
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Y3 – Y6	Cross Country Event
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	EYFS – Y3	School Disco – see information above
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Year 3	Open Top Bus Tour
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 3 and Year 4	Indoor Athletic event
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y4 – Y6	School Disco – see information above
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Choir	Young Voices Performance (Wembley OVO arena)
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February (to be confirmed)	Y5/6 Girls Football Squad	Football tournament at Oxford City Football Club
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>Half Term break for all pupils</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>INSET day (staff training - no pupils in school)</b>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	All year groups	School resumes for all pupils
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February (to be confirmed)	Y5/6 Football squads	Mixed football tournament at Oxford City Football Club
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5	Cycling Proficiency training
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>School finishes for all pupils at 1pm</b>