

# St Joseph The Worker R C Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Evelyn Clayton B.A.Hons QTS



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to welcome the children back to school at what is going to be an exciting and action-packed term for them. I also hope that you have had an enjoyable summer holiday!

Thank you for ensuring that your child has the correct uniform. The children look very smart and they have shown pride in their appearance which is a wonderful way to start the new academic year.

Last week wasn't easy for the children to stay focused in their classrooms with the exceptionally warm weather. However, stay focused they did! They have all settled well in their new classes and are already working very hard.

I particularly want to comment on our amazing pupils in nursery and reception! They have had a fabulous start and are making good progress already. I would also like to welcome our new families and hope to meet you all soon over a cup of tea or coffee.

## ATTENDANCE

As you are aware we want to make sure that as many children are in school as possible this term to take part in learning activities, we know that being at school every day helps children make friends and socialise as well as improving physical and mental health and well-being.

Sometimes you may be unsure as to whether your child is well enough to be in school. With Autumn and Winter just around the corner, many children get colds, mild coughs, and sniffles. If this happens it is usually ok to send your child into school. However, if your child gets a high temperature of more than 38 degrees C then they should not attend. A useful guide for parents has been published by the NHS called '[is my child too ill for school?](#)'

If you are noticing your child is becoming a bit worried about coming to school it may also be of use to you to read the [guidance on mental health issues affecting pupil's attendance](#). Most of the time children and young people can experience heightened emotions as part of the normal process of growing up and in these cases, school is the best place to be to help them improve how they feel. Often the more time they have off school the more anxious they can become.

Salford City Council also has a wonderful webpage offering support for children who are struggling to come to school or are experiencing mental health issues, [Miss Out, Miss School](#). There are also online courses for parents that can be accessed. Please take a look at the flyer attached.

If you wish to contact school about any issues related to your child's school attendance, health or well-being our pastoral lead **Miss Chilton** would be happy to listen. Please make an appointment via the school office.



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## **BUILDING FUND**

Our new heating installation was completed over the summer break. Every classroom now has new radiators to ensure children have a comfortable environment to work in. We also hope to be more energy efficient to reduce our costs and our carbon footprint and play a small part in caring for our common home.

As a Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic school, we must make a 10% contribution to all investment made in the school building and grounds. Historically, this would come from the donations made at church. Sadly, these funds are no longer enough to pay for basic repairs and maintenance of church buildings let alone schools.

The heating project has only been made possible by us being part of the Diocese of Salford School Building Fund. Annually we must meet our 10% obligation, which this year is £22.00 per pupil and this allows us to access funding to make improvements. We are currently bidding for funding to improve the school kitchen which hasn't been updated since the school was built.

We are asking parents, if they are able, **to make a single contribution of £10 per family** or any other affordable amount to help pay for our membership of the building fund. We understand that times are hard with energy and food prices continually increasing however any small contribution would help us as a school continue to be able to access funding and improve the school for our children.

Voluntary contributions can be made via your Parent Pay account and can be paid at your convenience over the course of the academic year. Alternatively, you can send a cash contribution to the school office. Your help is greatly appreciated!

## **PARENTS EVENING**

Parents' Evening will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in the school hall. You will receive an email closer to the date to select your meeting time. We make you aware of this date as early as possible to ensure you have plenty of time to arrange childcare as pupils should not attend Parents' Evening.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Please find attached dates that have already been planned into the school calendar. As you can see we are very ambitious and want to provide as many experiences as possible to enrich the curriculum. We also want to support parents. We know that children learn best when school and home work closely together.

We will be delivering a range of parent workshops over the coming term. We will let you know these dates as soon as they are confirmed. In the meantime please note opportunities for you to visit school be it an assembly, a service or for stay and pray.

As always, I thank you in advance for your ongoing support in getting your child into school every day and I hope he or she has a successful and enjoyable time in school this year.

Yours sincerely,

E Clayton  
Headteacher

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**Communication  
Friendly**

**MUSIC  
MARK** SCHOOL  
MEMBER



**I can**

helps children  
**communicate**  
REGISTERED CHARITY 216931

**fms's**  
Financial Management Standard in Schools



**sing up**  
Silver Award

