

School Street
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Head Teacher: Mrs C. McDermott

12th September, 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, on behalf of all of our staff and governors, may we welcome all parents/carers both 'old' and 'new' back at the start of a new school year. I'm sure that this academic year of 2017-18 will be as 'outstanding' as last year and that we will continue to strive to provide a rich and varied curriculum which enables all of our children to thrive in their own personal development and to achieve their full potential. Last year's Y6 class achieved an excellent set of results - as always, we achieved above and beyond the expected average attainment levels - once this data is validated it will be published on our website, alongside both national and local comparisons.

A few reminders...

Dinner Money - Dinner money **must** be sent in for the whole week on a **Monday** morning, in an envelope or wallet/purse clearly marked with your child's name. It is the responsibility of parents to arrange provision for their child's lunch - if dinner money is not received on a Monday, a text will be sent asking you to bring in a packed lunch.

Birthday Cakes - could we please ask that birthday cakes are kept for home celebrations and that if your child would like to bring in a class treat to mark their special day, that this is restricted to small individual bags of sweets. Thank you.

P.E. Kit - please ensure your child's P.E. kit, including outdoor trainers (separate to what they might wear for school) & plimsolls are in school **every** day. Please note the only pieces of jewellery the children are permitted to wear are wrist watches & stud earrings - which must be removed for swimming and P.E. lessons.

Parking - please be mindful of our neighbours and ensure that you park responsibly when dropping off or collecting children from school.

On the reverse of this letter you will find an overview of the R.E. curriculum for Autumn term. Also attached for your information and convenience, are a list of **key dates** for the Autumn term which I hope you will find useful (please also check the calendar on our school website which is regularly updated). If you have any other queries please don't hesitate to contact Miss Helen Thompson, our School Business Manager, on 0191 410 2231.

Yours sincerely,

Christina McDermott
Head Teacher



Key dates for the Autumn Term 2017.

Visits/Meetings/Events/Sports Competitions

- Mon 11th Sept** - Fun Zone after school club begins for 6 weeks (3.30-4.30pm)
Tues 12th Sept - Bikeability training for Y5 begins (every Tues morning for 6 weeks)
Tues 12th Sept - Swimming Lessons for our Y3 children from 1.30 - 2.30pm for the whole of the Autumn term.
Wed 13th Sept - Show Racism the Red Card workshops for Y5&Y6
Wed 13th Sept - High 5 Netball after school club begins for 6 weeks (3.30-4.30pm)
Wed 20th Sept - Gateshead Schools Cross-Country Championships
Thurs 21st Sept - First half of the football season begins (every Thurs for 5 weeks)
Thurs 5th Oct - Change 4 Life Sports Festival
Thurs 12th Oct - Y3 visit to Centre for Life, Newcastle
Mon 16th & Tues 17th October - 3.45 - 5.45pm Autumn term Parents' Evenings
Thurs 7th Dec - Jesse Tree at 2.00pm in church for Y3
Wed 13th Dec - Y3 & Y4 Christmas Production (2.00pm & 6.00pm)
Thurs 14th Dec - Y5 & Y6 Christmas Production (2.00pm & 6.00pm)
Thurs 14th Dec - Flu Vaccinations
Mon 18th Dec - Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party
Tues 19th Dec - Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party
Wed 20th Dec - Alice in Wonderland at the Northern Stage for Y3&Y4
Fri 22nd Dec - Carol Service in Church at 1.30pm. Children must be collected from church at 2.30pm.
Break for Christmas Holidays. Children return to school on Tuesday 9th January 2018.

Class Masses/Eucharistic Services

- Fri 15th Sept** - 9.00am Mass led by Y5
Fri 22nd Sept - 9.00am Mass led by Y4
Fri 29th Sept - 9.00am Mass led by Y3 **followed by Macmillan Big Coffee Morning.**
Fri 6th Oct - 9.00am Mass led by Y6
Fri 13th Oct - 9.00am Mass led by Y5
Fri 20th Oct - **10.00am Harvest Mass in Church for all 3 parish schools**
Half-term Holiday: Monday 23rd - Friday 27st Oct
Fri 3rd Nov - 9.00am Mass Y4
Fri 10th Nov - 9.00am Mass led by Y3 **Armistice Day**
Fri 17th Nov - 9.00am Mass Y6
Fri 24th Nov - 9.00am Mass led by Y5
Fri 1st Dec - 9.00am Mass led by Y4
Fri 8th Dec - 9.00am Mass led Y3
Fri 15th Dec - 9.00am Mass led by Y6

Please note: Additional details of visits/events & sport competitions etc will be sent out to those classes involved. Letters about more 'After School' clubs to follow.

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR MORE DATES

www.birtleystjosephsjuniors.org