



Head Teacher: Mrs C. McDermott

19<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,



### News and Key Dates for Summer Term at St. Joseph's Juniors.

#### Father Tony

It was announced by the Parish Council at Mass on Sunday that Father Tony will be retiring at the end of April. We are very sad to see him go but are very grateful for his support and dedication to our schools and parish over the last 30 years. He will be a big miss around school but we hope as he is remaining in Birtley that we will still get to see him. The bishop has yet to announce who his replacement will be but as ever Deacon Peter Lavery will be here to support us as well as priests from the St Benedict's Partnership. Father will be in school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> (led by Y3) & 27<sup>th</sup> April (led by Y6) to celebrate Mass at 9.00am as usual but after that I am not sure what the arrangements will be. All three parish schools are meeting to discuss arrangements for an appropriate celebration for Father Tony. I will of course endeavour to keep you informed.

#### Y6 SATs (Standard Assessment Tests)

- SATs week begins on Mon 14<sup>th</sup> May. **It is essential that your child attends this important week.**
- Assessment week for classes 3, 4 & 5 will be week beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

#### Visits/events organised so far this term (other dates & individual letters to follow)

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> April - Y4 to visit the Live Tales Theatre, Newcastle to take part in a writing workshop.  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> April - pupils representing our school will be going to St Mary's Cathedral to attend the Good Shepherd Mass and present a cheque for £300.00 to the bishop for St Cuthbert's Care.  
Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> April - visitors from The Sill National Landscape Discovery Centre to present a river study workshop for Y5 ahead of their visit to the Breamish Valley on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May.  
Tues 8<sup>th</sup> & Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May - Singing Festival at Cardinal Hume for Y5. Parents are invited to attend on the afternoon of the 9<sup>th</sup> May.  
Sat 19<sup>th</sup> May - First Holy Communion Day for Y4 (Mini Vinnies and School Choir also to attend).  
Sat 9<sup>th</sup> June - Mini Vinnies to attend parish Mass for the Housebound.  
Tues 19<sup>th</sup> June - Primary Festival for Y6 at the Youth Village.  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> June - Northumbrian University to deliver workshops for Y5&Y6.  
Tues 10<sup>th</sup> July 2.00pm - annual Singing Concert for Y3 & Y4  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> July 2.00pm - annual Singing Concert for Y5&Y6  
Fri 13<sup>th</sup> July - William Shields Music Festival - Y5 to perform in Pitman Pilgrims concert at Whickham.  
Tues 17<sup>th</sup> July - whole school visit to the Great North Exhibition

#### Sports Coaching and Competitions (please ensure your child has a full P.E. kit in school every day)

Swimming lessons - Tuesday afternoon for selected pupils from Y4 & Y5.  
Badminton - coaching sessions on Thurs afternoons for Y5.  
Funzone - After School Club on Mondays 3.30-4.30pm.  
Golf - coaching for all years and After School Club to begin Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May.  
Athletics - coaching sessions on Thursday afternoons for Y5 & Y6 and After School Club open to all years.  
Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> May Bike Skills - session for Y5 ahead of a bike ride along the Derwent Walk on 25<sup>th</sup> June.  
Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Kwik Cricket Competition for Y6 at Gateshead Fell.  
Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May - 'Go Run for Fun' event at Saltwell Park - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May.  
Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June - Mini Tennis Competition for Y4 at Cardinal Hume Secondary School.  
Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> June - Tri Golf Festival for Y5&6 at Kingsmeadow School.  
Fri 8<sup>th</sup> June - Kwik Cricket Competition for Y5/6 Girls at Gateshead Fell.  
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Mini Tennis Competition for Y5/6 at Cardinal Hume.  
Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> July - Kwik Cricket Competition for Y5 at Gateshead Fell.  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> June - Athletics Competition - District Sports 5.30pm at the Riverside, Ch-Le-St.  
**School Sports Day - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July (1.30pm) on the school field.**

#### Y6 Homework Club

For all of Y6 every Wednesday leading up to SATs week - last session will be Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May.

### Holidays & Training Day

School will be closed...

May Day Bank Holiday - Mon 7<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term holiday - Mon 28<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June,

Training Day - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

School closes for Summer holidays on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

### Y6 Leaver's Events

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00pm - Leaver's Musical Performance

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm - Leaver's Mass and Awards Presentation.

### Annual Reports to Parents

A report informing you of your child's progress and future targets will be sent home on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

### School Website

As always, for more news, information and key dates check out our website:

[www.birtleystjosephsjuniors.org](http://www.birtleystjosephsjuniors.org)

Kind regards

*Christina McDermott*

Head Teacher

