



Go, shine in the world and live as Jesus lived, with compassion, honesty and integrity.



# St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

Friday 26th February 2021

## Dear Parents and carers

We hope you had a good half term break with your family. Thank you very much to you all for continuing with your fantastic engagement with online learning. It would be easy to lose momentum as you may think your child will be back at school soon, but every lesson counts! We are delighted that your engagement and support with this has continued. We hope your children are enjoying the even more varied timetables and the extra assembly we are having.

With best wishes Mrs. O'Reilly and Mrs. Jackson

## All pupils to return to school on Monday 8th March...

We are delighted to be able to reopen school fully again for all pupils from **Monday 8th March**. We will be **emailing you a letter about this on Monday 1st March** so please do look out for this. In the letter we will be giving you important information about arrangements for all pupils returning so please read this letter carefully. Contact the school office on **020 7242 7712** or email [admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk) if you have any questions. There are not many changes and therefore children should expect school to feel similar to the Autumn term. We are looking forward to welcoming all our children back!



## Remote Learning...Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been learning about figurative language and how personification, similes, metaphors and alliteration can be used to enhance our writing.

### We are learning to write a comparison poem.

**Task:** write a comparison poem based on the Mousehole Cat. Comparing **the sea during the storm** and **the sea after the Great Storm Cat has been calmed**.

**Steps to success:** ü

**Include a range of high-quality:**

- Adjectives (A)
- Strong nouns (N)
- Powerful Verbs (V)
- Adverbs (AV)
- Expanded noun phrases

**Use figurative language:**

- Personification (P)
- Similes (S)
- Metaphors (M)
- Alliteration (A)

**Sentence types:**

- Double -ly



Example 1

The **storm cat is a ghost**, swaying back and forth like a **magician**, swirling its gusty wand, trying to swallow the **tiny, helpless boat**, into the **deadly deeps** depths of its **raging, blazing belly**. (P/A/S/M)

The **waves are shuddering in the strong winds** lashing against the boat, **like withering leaves**, ruthlessly ordered by the **mean, menacing** storm- cat to wreck the once calm, tranquil arctic waters. (P/A/S)

Example 2

The **tiny boat is like a wild bouncy ball** bobbing **breathlessly in the blustery blue** arctic waters. (P/A/S)

The **turbulent storm is fire**, **furious like an angry child** screaming, screeching, shouting and crying for attention. (P|S|A)

## Keeping in contact is important...

If your child is **unwell** or is **unable to join their daily live streamed lessons** please **phone the school** and let us know the reasons in the same way that you normally would if they would not be attending school.

You have been amazing in supporting your children to access our daily live lessons - the attendance has been exceptional. As we come towards the end of our remote learning journey together, we would like to say thank you to our teachers, parents and children for your ongoing hard work to make our remote learning such a success this term.

If you, or anyone at home, get a positive COVID-19 test, please let us know by emailing the school at: [admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs.camden.sch.uk)

Our school website address is [www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs.camden.sch.uk)

## Important dates for your diary...

**Wednesday 31st March at 3.30pm** - Last day of term

**Thursday 1st April - Friday 16th April** - Easter Holidays

**Monday 19th April** - pupils return to school

**Monday 3rd May** - Bank Holiday - school closed

**Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June** - half term

**Monday 7th June** - Inset day - school closed

**Friday 9th July** - **Academic Review Day** - reports are given to parents on this day at a teacher parent meeting

**Friday 23rd July** - Last day of term

**Thursday 2nd September** - Children return to school



## Our Prayer...

**Loving Father,**

Jesus came to change our lives and transform them with his love.

Help us to become more like him as we grow closer to you and one

another. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## Wellbeing Tip of the Week - Quality time with family or friends

Try to find time to do an activity as a family, such as going to the park, playing a board game, cooking together, or making arts and crafts.

Spending quality time together can strengthen your relationships, help you re-connect and encourage positive communication. Bonding with loved ones increases dopamine levels which help us to feel good and promotes positive wellbeing.

## Important information for Year 6 parents regarding secondary transfer...

You will be informed by your home local authority of the outcome of secondary schools applications on **Monday 1st March**. If you applied online, you should get an email with the outcome of your application during the evening.

It is wise to accept any offer that is made, even if it is not your first choice. Your child will be placed on the waiting list for any schools you listed as a higher priority. Most children end up being offered their first choice even if they are not offered it at first.

If you would like any advice before, please call to speak to Mrs O'Reilly.

### New Secondary School



**Vouchers...** If your child has Free School Meals, then we have ordered supermarket vouchers to cover school lunches for the week beginning 22nd February and week beginning 1st March. You should have received an email on Monday 22nd

February from Edenred this week with a code to claim supermarket vouchers. Please check your emails, including your 'junk' or 'spam' folder. Contact the school office if you have not received the email. These vouchers will stop once children return to school on 8th March and can have their lunch in school.



*Covent Garden Community Centre and Dragon Hall are operating a FOOD BANK, which supplies food parcels and locally cooked ready meals, for all of those in our area. To receive either a food parcel or the ready meals, you need to register to apply - the food bank is done through collection appointments. Parcels are picked up from CGCC @ SEVEN DIALS CLUB, 42 Earlam Street, London WC2H 9LA by appointment ONLY.*

To register for this service please email [Keeley@Dragonhall.org.uk](mailto:Keeley@Dragonhall.org.uk) or head to [www.Dragonhall.org.uk](http://www.Dragonhall.org.uk)



## What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus...

If your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus at home, you must arrange a test for them immediately and inform the school of the result.

1. To arrange a test you should visit [www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](http://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test)
2. **DO NOT WAIT!** Your child should be tested on the same day they are showing symptoms, or the next day at the latest.
3. Please let the Head of School (Mrs O'Reilly) know immediately when you receive the result of your child's coronavirus test by calling the school office on **020 7242 7712**
4. If your child tests positive for coronavirus, you will receive a text, email or phone call from NHS that explains what your result is and what you need to do next.

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)



new and continuous cough

or



high temperature

or



loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)



# Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

*As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.*

## Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



## Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – "it's completely fine to feel like that at the moment" or "I can really understand why you would feel like that"



## Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



## Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



## Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become tearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



## Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your 'goodbye' routine and create a 'hello' greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.

