



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher Miss Rachael Griffiths

Dear Parents/Carers,

## End of Year Newsletter

I can barely believe that the school year is coming to an end. What a year it has been! This year marks our first year as part of the Mater Christi Multi Academy Trust and we have gone from strength to strength. I wanted to write to you all to share our successes and to keep you informed on what is happening in school from September.

### SATs Results

This year saw the return of SATs after a 2 year break due to Covid-19. Our Year 2 and Year 6 children and staff have all worked incredibly hard to show the progress they have been making and I'm very pleased to say that both year groups did us proud! For the first time in many years, St Joseph's has performed brilliantly. As other schools both locally and nationally are reporting lower than average results, St. Joseph's has achieved national average scores across all three areas of reading, writing and maths! A HUGE thank you to the staff who have worked their socks off to get the children to the national standard and beyond. Also, a MASSIVE well done to our children who showed great resilience and determination.

### Positive Relationships Policy/Behaviour

At St. Joseph's we want all of our children to feel safe in an environment where they are free to learn and be themselves. This year has seen a rise in fixed-term exclusions due to our zero -tolerance approach to negative behaviours, particularly fighting and other forms of harmful behaviour. We are hopeful that next year will see less and less exclusions as the children adapt to our behaviour policy. We truly appreciate the parental support we have had with these sanctions.

As the new school year approaches, we will be continuing with our Positive Relationships Policy where we have turned the focus to those good behaviours that happen every day and celebrating our children for being READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE. We really are very lucky to have such wonderfully behaved and well-mannered children 😊

### New School Uniform

It was a joy to see so many parents collecting their child's new school uniform this week.

Our new uniform marks a new era for our school. From September, a smart uniform will always be expected, including school shoes. Our uniform plays a huge part of our school identity and outwardly represents our school in the wider community.

### Staffing for September

There have been a few staffing changes for September due to some current members of staff moving on for promotions! Mrs. Beaumont has been asked to help at another school for 3 days per week from September, so we have recruited a new member of temporary staff. We welcome Mr. Bellhouse to our school family.

Mr. Bellhouse will be teaching our Year 4 class full-time from September and the class will get to meet him this week!

We also welcome back Mrs. Bibby who is returning from her maternity leave. We have really missed her and are happy to welcome her back.

Miss Critchley will be job-sharing with Mrs. Bibby in Year 1. She is very excited to finally be using her teaching qualification!

Please see the table below for the September staffing structure.

<b>Nursery</b>	Mrs. Anna Shaw
<b>Reception</b>	Miss Emma Roberts
<b>Year 1</b>	Mrs. Sarah Bibby/ Miss Eleanor Critchley
<b>Year 2</b>	Mrs. Elena Butcher
<b>Year 3</b>	Mrs. Jo Garnock-Jones
<b>Year 4</b>	Mr. Matthew Bellhouse
<b>Year 5</b>	Mrs. Kay Towey/Mrs. Liz Brown
<b>Year 6</b>	Mrs. Rebecca Hamilton/Mrs. Rebecca Riley

### **Walking Bus**

Due to the funding coming to an end, it saddens me to inform you that there will no longer be any walking buses from September. School will continue to provide every child with toast or a bagel for breakfast, but these will be served in class during registration time.

### **Wedding Bells**

It's not that often that we get to celebrate a St. Joseph's family wedding, but this summer we have 2! MASSIVE congratulations to **Mrs. Riley** and **Miss Hayley Moorcroft** who are both getting married over the holidays. We would like to offer them all our love and wish them every happiness on their special days!

### **Goodbyes**

We are extremely lucky to have such wonderful staff here at St. Joseph's and every now and again we have to say goodbye to allow them to move onto bigger and better things. This year sees quite a few staff taking on new and exciting challenges.

**Miss Woodcock** has done a fantastic job covering for Mrs. Bibby this year. It makes me sad to see her leave our school family, but happy knowing she is moving on to a permanent teaching post of her very own. Well done, Miss Woodcock!

**Miss Wilkinson** has spent a year with us supporting our Year 6 class. She has gained so much experience that she has secured a full-time teaching post and class of her very own! Enjoy the start of your teaching career!

**Mrs. Jancarova** has made the decision to move back home to the Czech Republic. We are going to miss her and her lovely smile ☺ We wish her all the best with her exciting new chapter!

**Miss Jackson** has secured a permanent post at Morecambe Road school and we couldn't be happier for her. She will be greatly missed by us all, but we wish her all the very best.

**Mrs. Ardelean** has been a welfare assistant and volunteer in our Year 1 class but has secured a full-time teaching assistant post at Our Lady's. We are so proud of her and what she has achieved.

And finally...

**...Mrs. Lee**

As I mentioned earlier, we are incredibly lucky to have the most amazing staff here at St. Joseph's and it is always sad when someone leaves. This year we have to say a fond farewell to Mrs. Lee.

After 26 years at St. Joseph's, Mrs. Lee is retiring to spend quality time with her husband, children and grandchildren. Words are not enough to express how much she means to us all here and how greatly missed she will be. From teaching classes, to helping families, Mrs. Lee has been a tower of strength and a ray of sunshine to so many. It has been an honour and a privilege to call her 'family' and I know that I speak on behalf of all the staff when I say, 'Good luck and we all love you!'

**THANK YOU ☺**

Finally, I'd like to say thank you to each and every one of our parents, carers and pupils who have continued to support our school this year. You all make St. Joseph's what it is and for that we are truly thankful. Here's to a new year and more wonderful things to come!

Yours sincerely,



Miss Rachael Griffiths

Headteacher