



## Newsletter | Summer First Half Term 2019

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Welcome back to school for our summer term! As usual, this term is jam packed with events and activities, so here are some important dates, times and information for the various things happening during this half term.

### Elmer's Great North Parade



We can't wait to welcome our very own patchwork elephant, **Joseph**, into school next week! Joseph has been bought for school by the PTFA as part of Elmer's Great North Parade, a fantastic project organised by St Oswald's Children's Hospice, following on from their hugely successful Great North Snowdogs in 2016, which will see Tyne and Wear transformed into a spectacular art trail featuring individually designed Elmer sculptures.

Our children have already spent an afternoon in class creating their own designs for Joseph, which will show what

life at St Joseph's is like. The designs will then be brought together to create one whole-school design which will be painted onto the real Joseph, who will be displayed in the local area before returning to live in school!

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May** will be our Elmer Day, where we invite the children to come into school with a £1 donation towards St Oswald's Children's Hospice to wear their own clothes (the brighter the better!) and take part in Elmer-themed games and activities. We are sure this project will be a huge success and we can't wait to show Joseph off when he is finished!

### SATs week 2019

Year 6 have been working hard all year preparing for their Key Stage 2 SATs, which will take place between Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The children will take tests in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, Reading and Maths. We know the children will all give their very best and we are incredibly proud of all their achievements.

Year 2 will also be completing SATs this term while Year 1 will be completing Phonics screenings – please keep all of the children in your prayers.

### Book Fair

Following our successful book fair last term, we are delighted to have raised £624 to spend on new books for school. We will be choosing what we would like to buy in the coming weeks.

## **May, Month of Mary**

May marks the month of Our Lady, and throughout the month our Mini Vinnies will be leading The Rosary every Tuesday and Thursday at break time. Children are invited to come along to the reflection garden (or school hall depending on the weather) to share some prayerful time with Mary and with God. Throughout May, Mary bags will be sent home so families can spend some time worshipping and can then write a message in the prayer book.

## **Sports Day**

Our annual sports day will take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Activities for EYFS will start at 9:10am, Key Stage 1 will begin at 10:30am and Key Stage 2 will run from 1:15pm. Should the weather mean that sports day cannot be held on that day, it will instead be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July.

## **Sports Events**

Good luck to Year 5 who will be taking part in a tag rugby tournament on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at St Michael's Primary School against St Michael's, St John Boste, St Bede's and Our Lady Queen of Peace. Year 2 will enjoy a Multi-Sports event at St John Boste on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Reception Class will take part in a Teddy Bear's Picnic at Our Lady Queen of Peace on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June, while Year 6 will take part in an Athletics competition on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June at St Bede's.

## **St Joseph's Mile**

The annual St Joseph's Mile, organised by the PTFA, will take place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May and will this year be raising funds towards the installation of a bike shelter next to the school yard. There are limited places still available so if you would like to take part and you haven't already entered, ask your child's teacher for a form as soon as possible. Watch out for Mrs Black on the track – she's been in training!!

## **Swimming**

Year 3 will be taking part in swimming lessons this term beginning on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April.

## **Nursery Admissions**

Letters for Nursery admissions September 2019 will be sent out to parents on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April. The Governors wish to let parents know that a new Nursery Admissions Policy has been ratified for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 which now includes a January intake.

## **First Holy Communions**

During May, our Year 4 children will be celebrating their first Holy Communions over Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of May and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Please keep the children in your prayers at this very special time.

## **Masses and Liturgies**

Below are the dates for the upcoming Masses and Liturgies this half term. Everybody is welcome to join us at these celebrations, which are a huge part of our school life. The children really value the support of their friends and families, and love to see you all there. *Please note the earlier start times of school liturgies.*

## Important dates for your diary

- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Family Mass, 11:00am, Our Lady’s Church
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Yr6 visit to Nissan
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Year 5 Liturgy, 9:10am, School Hall
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 5 Tag Rugby Tournament
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday, school closed
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 Mass, 9:30am, Our Lady’s Church
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Year 1 Liturgy, 9:10am, School Hall
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Key Stage 2 SATs
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May – St Joseph’s Mile
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Year 2 Multi-Sports Event
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Elmer Day, £1 donation to St Oswald’s Children’s Hospice for non-uniform, games and activities
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May - First Holy Communion Mass, 11:00am, Our Lady’s Church
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May – First Holy Communion Mass, 11:00am, Our Lady’s Church
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Half Term
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - First Holy Communion Mass, 11:00am, Our Lady’s Church
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 visit to Safety Works
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 First Holy Communion Celebration Mass, 9:30am, Our Lady’s Church (Photographer to take photos in church from 8:00am)
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Photographer to take photos of Reception Class, Year 6 and the school football team in school
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Hit the Surf
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 residential visit to Dukeshousewood
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 Dance, Music and Drama visit to St Robert’s
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 John Burland concert at Our Lady Queen of Peace
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Reception Class Teddy Bear’s Picnic at Our Lady Queen of Peace
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Year 2 Liturgy, 9:10am, School Hall
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Healthy Me Week
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 and 6 Girls Nissan Skills Foundation STEM day at Gateshead College
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Athletics Competition at St Bede’s
- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Family Mass, 11:00am, Our Lady’s Church
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Year 6 St Robert’s Transition Days
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Back-Up Sports Day (If weather is bad on 26<sup>th</sup> June)
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July – Reception Class Liturgy, 9:10am, School Hall
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Production, 2:00pm and 6:00pm
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Mass, 9:30am, Our Lady’s Church

Date	Celebration	Time	Location
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Family Mass	11:00am	Our Lady’s Church
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 5 Liturgy – The Feast of St Joseph	9:10am	School Hall
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 Whole School Mass	9:30am	Our Lady’s Church
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Liturgy	9:10am	School Hall
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion Mass	11:00am	Our Lady’s Church
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion Mass	11:00am	Our Lady’s Church
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	First Holy Communion Mass	11:00am	Our Lady’s Church
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 First Holy Communion Celebration Mass	9:30am	Our Lady’s Church
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 2 Liturgy	9:10am	School Hall
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Family Mass	11:00am	Our Lady’s Church
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception Class Liturgy	9:10am	School Hall
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Mass	9:30am	Our Lady’s Church