



Newsletter



Welcome or Welcome Back

5/9/17

I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer with your children. The children look smart and most are happy to be back. I did notice a remarkable number of big smiles on parents' faces in the playground this morning! The new starters in Foundation settled in well. They aren't the only starters we have, five new staff started at St Joseph's today. The new teachers in Year 2, 3 and 5 respectively are Mrs Knowles, Mr Langley and Miss Elder. Two new Teaching Assistants also started today, Mrs Nott in Year 1 and Mrs Percy in year 6. Please do what you can to make them feel welcome in St Joseph's.

Welcome to Class

This year we will be giving you an early opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and to have the routines and expectations for each class explained to you. A letter from Mr Dyson will explain the meetings in more detail. The first meeting is this Thursday for Year 4 parents. The other dates for these

3pm meetings are

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
13 th Sep	8 th Sep	14 th Sep	7 th Sep	12 th Sep	11 th Sep

Neil Maslen, the new headteacher of St Boniface's College, will attend the Year 6 meeting. He will be happy to talk with parents of boys from years 4, 5 or 6 after school to explain how he intends developing the school.

Gates

Those of you who come into school from the Chapel St entrance will have noticed the hard work carried out by Mr Samuel to get the gates looking as good as new. Rust and ageing paintwork was spoiling the first impression that visitors to the school would get. Now, however, they should get the feeling that they are entering a school that cares about its appearance.

Safety

The safety of your children is the number one priority at school as much as it is at home. There are a number of ways parents can help to keep the school as safe an environment as possible. New parents will not be aware of these, and the start of the year is a good time to give a little reminder to other parents.

- **Cars on site** - Please do not drive onto the school site to drop off or collect your child.
- **Smoking** - The whole school site is designated as a non-smoking area (including vapour cigarettes)
- **Dogs** - No dogs are allowed on the school site.
- **Access to the school buildings** - The only access to the building by non-school staff should be through the main reception area. If needed, parents can speak with staff as the class is brought in from the playground but should not go into the cloakroom areas or classrooms unless invited.
- **Drop off and collection** - Apart from Breakfast Club children, no other unaccompanied children should be on-site until a teacher goes out on duty at 8.40am. School ends at 3.30pm. Please collect your child promptly, but don't expect to come onto the site to wait to collect before 3.20pm. If you make an arrangement for another parent to collect your child please let the school know. We cannot let children go with another adult just because they say they have permission from a parent. If parents of year 5 or 6 children want their child to walk home alone please let the teacher know. We do not recommend children below year 5 being allowed to make their own way home after school.
- **Reporting Absence** - If your child is not going to be in school on any day please phone or email the school before 9.00 on each day of absence. Recent safeguarding advice is for house calls to be made either by school staff or Educational Welfare Officers if the whereabouts of a child is not known. A lot of time and worry can be saved by one simple phone call.
- **Photos** - We allow parents to take photos at school events however, for very good reasons, some children cannot have their images shared on social media at all. Please do not share images of children, other than your own, on social media sites.