



Friday 17th February 2023

Dear families,







It has been another fun and educationally packed half-term here at St Joseph's! Here is an overview and update of what's to come....

ATTENDANCE: As you know, good attendance is completely aligned with good outcomes for children. It allows the children to be settled in school and to not miss any key learning. Our average attendance for the year so far is 93.8%. The national average is currently 93.5%. We are therefore just slightly above national average.

We do, however, have a small number of children with very poor attendance. I must remind parents that it is a **legal responsibility** for parents to get children to school whenever they are fit enough to attend. It is also a **legal responsibility** for parents to inform school if their child is unable to attend on a given day. Also, children need to be on time for school. Our school day begins at 8.45am.

**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS.
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY**

CLUBS: A reminder of the After School Clubs we are running each night. If your child hasn't signed up already, forms are available from the office. It's a great opportunity for children to get involved in a variety of activities for only £1 per session.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UKULELE YEARS 3 & 4 	 FOOTBALL YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6	DANCE YEARS 1 & 2 	 CHEERLEADING YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6	MULTI SKILLS YEARS 3 & 4 
 KARATE YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6				

VISITS: We have enjoyed a number of visits this term.

Nursery and Reception enjoyed their visit to 'The Angel of the North' and other local landmarks as part of their Geography work. They made some fabulous models of the Angel of the North back in school.

Year 3 visited Newcastle Quayside as part of their Art and Design work.

Year 3 and Year 5 went to Mass at St Bede's Church.

Years 2 and 3 had a wonderful morning at Safety Works. After a brisk walk through Hodgkin Park, they arrived ready to learn from the assembled team of experts. Now they know how to be safe online as well as around dogs, trains, water and in the home.

Year 4 and 5 also visited Safety Works and experienced a range of workshops.

Year 4 will be visiting Segedunum as part of their History work on The Romans.



FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS: If your child qualifies for benefits related free school meals, you should have received your voucher. **If you think your child should qualify for this, please approach the office to make an application.** This is an easy process. With the cost of living crisis, it is important that everybody gets their entitlement. It also provides extra funding for the school.

PARENTS EVENINGS/ PROGRESS REVIEW: Parent/Carers are invited in to school to discuss their children's progress. Letters will be sent out after half term with further information.

NURSERY – TUESDAY 28TH MARCH AND THURSDAY 30 MARCH

RECEPTION TO YEAR 6 – TUESDAY 28TH MARCH AND WEDNESDAY 29TH MARCH

LIVING EGGS: We are excited for the arrival of our living eggs on Monday 13th March. We will have a delivery of 10 eggs and look forward to watching the chicks hatch and grow.



SAFER INTERNET DAY: Children participated in a 'Safer Internet Day' assembly in school to highlight the importance of using technology safely and responsibly.

The theme of the assembly was 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.'? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

Please talk to your child about staying safe online.

STAFF TRAINING DAY: School will be closed to children on Monday 27th February.

I can now confirm that I am not expecting that any NEU members at St. Joseph's will take up their legal right to strike on this occasion. Therefore, all classes in school will be open as usual on Tuesday 28th February, 2023.

Please continue to look at our school website and also Bishop Bewick's website, for any updates and vacancies within the trust.



<https://stjosephsrcprimary.co.uk/>

<https://www.bishopbewickcet.org/>



On behalf of the staff, we wish all families and children a safe and enjoyable half term.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Brown

Mr P Brown
Executive Head Teacher