



*"Believe Achieve, Succeed"*

*'Under Saint Joseph's guardianship and protection, we will be supported to achieve and succeed in the things the Lord wants us to do.'*

### **21st September 2016**

Welcome back to the academic year 2016 - 2017. Where have the last 3 weeks gone? Our new children in EYFS have got over the shock that school is every day and are becoming familiar with the routines. We have also had children join us throughout the school and we are pleased they have chosen St Joseph's. I hope that they now feel part of our school and parish community. Please join us in making them feel welcome and valued.

### **Building Work**

The summer holidays saw the school undergoing a number of improvements. The year 3 and 4 cloakroom area and toilets have been fully refurbished. What a difference!

We also now have an upstairs room which has been built over the old ICT suite. I don't think any of us could envision what a fantastic space we were going to end up with. A huge thank you goes to the PTFA and the Market Harborough Educational Trust for contributing a substantial amount of money to the project. The work could not have taken place without their contribution to our capital budget.

### **Statutory Assessments**

We are very pleased with the results of our statutory assessments this year. All of the staff and children have worked extremely hard which shows in the results. All of our results are published on the website.

### **Walking Home**

We have had a few issues this week with changes to how children are being collected at the end of the school day. As a result of this no child will be allowed to walk home at the end of the school day without written permission. We would need separate notification if they are to walk home after a school club.

### **Earrings**

We are currently having a lot of difficulties with children who have recently had their ears pierced. In my teaching career I have witnessed a lot of children damaging their ears during PE lessons when earrings have been caught, both with and without tape. As a result of this earrings must be removed for PE. PE is a statutory requirement so it is not appropriate for children to miss these lessons. Please teach your children to remove their own earrings or remove them at home on PE days. I urge you to only have your child's ears pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays.

### **Uniform**

The children are all looking very smart in their uniforms and my constant nagging to tuck shirts in is a familiar call up the corridor. However, hair accessories are beginning to get very elaborate. Please just put simple, plain hair bands and bobbles in your child's hair (no flowers) in blue, black or white.

### **Open Morning**

Please join us for our Open Morning on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. School will be open to visitors between 9 and 11.30am. This is an opportunity for you to come in and see the children's work and of course look at the recent improvements.

### **Dates for Your Diaries**

#### **September**

29<sup>th</sup> Fitness in Schools

#### **October**

4<sup>th</sup> Able Writers  
7<sup>th</sup> School photos (individual)  
7<sup>th</sup> PTFA Quiz night  
11<sup>th</sup> EYFS & Year 1 Library visits  
11<sup>th</sup> Parent's Evening 3.30 - 6pm  
11<sup>th</sup> PTFA meeting @ school 7.30pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Parent's Evening 5 - 7.30pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Harvest Mass, school 9.30  
13<sup>th</sup> Year 6 sports ambassadors @ RSA  
14<sup>th</sup> School Closes, half term  
24<sup>th</sup> School re-opens  
25<sup>th</sup> Year 4 visit to the dentist  
31<sup>st</sup> Closing date for KS3 applications  
31<sup>st</sup> Year 6 Kingswood

#### **November**

5<sup>th</sup> PTFA Bonfire Event  
9<sup>th</sup> Mass in Church  
14<sup>th</sup> Anti-Bullying Week  
14<sup>th</sup> EYFS Film trip  
15<sup>th</sup> Years 3 & 4 Film trip  
19<sup>th</sup> Open Morning  
22<sup>nd</sup> Able maths  
23<sup>rd</sup> Years 1 & 2 Film trip  
24<sup>th</sup> Years 5 & 6 Film trip  
25<sup>th</sup> Non-school uniform

#### **December**

2<sup>nd</sup> Menphys Carol Concert  
5<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Advent Retreat to Alton Castle  
13<sup>th</sup> PTFA discos  
14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day  
15<sup>th</sup> Jack and the Beanstalk, Pantomime at DMH  
15<sup>th</sup> Last Day of School / End of Term  
16<sup>th</sup> Teacher Training Day  
16<sup>th</sup> School Closed