



**St Joseph's Catholic**

**Middle School**

*The family of St. Joseph's loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus*

**Monthly Newsletter – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Statement to Live By**

**Sharing Special Time**

Dear Parents and Carers,

May was an exciting time at St Josephs. Firstly, our year 6s coped extremely well with their external assessments. Their results will arrive in school on or around the 11th of July. We also celebrated Accession Day in Church and it was a pleasure to hear our students sing so well. Since we reintroduced singing after Christmas the students have really embraced the songs we have chosen. We also celebrated the coronation with an assembly lead by 5S. We also have had lots of students representing the school in Sports competitions. These continue this during this half term.

As we go through this final half term, I would like to thank all those parents and carers who have supported the school throughout this academic year. Thank you for your support with all our events but also your help with encouraging your child's attendance, punctuality, and their approach to learning. This support really makes a difference to how our pupils approach their learning and to wider school life.

Mr. N. A. Wood  
Headteacher

**Please see the following Catholic Life News:**

**Whole School Liturgies**

This week 8C shared a beautiful Liturgy with the whole school, celebrating World Ocean Day. They were all brilliant and the Go Forth message of how we can care for our Oceans was superb. Thank you 8C!

At the end of term 8W will be celebrating a liturgy with the whole school based upon 'New Starts' This is scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Raising Awareness Fund Days:**

Soon 6H will be organising a charitable event for the 'Save The Chickens.' It is a wonderful cause chosen by the children of 6H to ensure all chickens live in healthy conditions. They want to raise chicken welfare, end battery farming and stop beak trimming. 'Save The Chickens,' is a fundraiser for compassion in world farming.

7M are having a fundraiser for 'Wrong Trouser Day,' This is where, wearing the wackiest bottom wear can help raise awareness and funds for children's hospitals and hospices across the U.K. Everyone has a chance to take part in this national event. Simply wear the weirdest trousers you own (or raid your parents' wardrobes), keeping the rest of your school uniform as normal, and get ready to raise some awareness (and a few eyebrows) as you show off your look and donate for the "right to look wrong."

5S are planning a fund raiser for World Sight Day. World Sight Day is a global event that focuses on bringing attention on blindness and vision impairment. The pupils can wear their own funky or favourite hat/cap and a pair of sunglasses.

Dates and details for the above fundraising events will be shared in due course.

### **Mass**

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 11.30, 7S will be celebrating Mass in the school chapel. Afterwards they will be sharing a pizza lunch with Fr Jeff, Mr. Woods and Mr. Secker. All are welcome.

Staff will be celebrating Mass in the school chapel on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00. All are welcome.

Year 8 will be celebrating their leavers Mass on 20<sup>th</sup> July. More details will follow.

### **PE Uniform:**

A growing number of pupils are not wearing the correct PE uniform on a regular basis and are wearing shorts that are inappropriate for school.

If your child has a PE lesson or a sports club, they should come to school in the following:

- school PE top
- school shorts or navy/black leggings

**No other type of shorts are permitted.**

If your child fails to wear the correct uniform, they will be given spare clothes from our stock and asked to change. If there is no suitable stock, parents will be contacted and asked to bring the correct uniform in to school.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Y8 Awards Evening: Save the Date**

Our Y8 Awards Evening will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July in the school hall. This is a lovely evening that celebrates each and every Y8 pupils time at St Joseph's and we encourage every Y8 pupil and at least one of their parents/carers to come along and celebrate with us.

Letters will be sent to Y8 parents with all necessary information in due course.

### **Y8 Leavers' Meal:**

Our Y8 pupils will be celebrating the end of their time at St Joseph's with a meal at Vercellis, Hexham on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July. A letter was sent via Weduc, please email [parentcontact@sjms.bwcet.com](mailto:parentcontact@sjms.bwcet.com) if you have not received this.

### **The Big Tynedale Bake – Summer 2023:**

We are taking part in The Big Tynedale Bake which is to raise money for the very worthy Tynedale Hospice at Home.

We are asking for parents and carers to bake cakes, traybakes, cupcakes and anything else you can think of for us to sell in school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We would love it if you would not only bake and donate, but join us for tea or coffee at our bake sale at 10.00am in the school hall.



### **Sports:**

Before May half term 70 of our pupils represented St Joseph's in the Tynedale Athletics Competition. Well done to everyone involved and a special mention to the 16 pupils who qualified for the Area athletics on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

The first week back after the May half term was another busy sporting week. On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June our Y5/6 boys and girls cricket teams competed in the Tynedale Cricket Festival at Stocksfield Cricket Club with our Y7 and Y8 teams competing the following day.

In school, on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June, Hexham Rowing Club came in for an exciting talent identification session with our Y8 pupils. All pupils got to experience the rowing ergometers in the school hall where pupils raced to complete 100 metres in the quickest time possible!

The 8 boys and 8 girls listed below were the top performers in the year group and have been offered the opportunity to join the rowing club. A future Olympic champion may have taken their first steps towards a career in rowing!!

	Boys	Girls
1 <sup>st</sup>	Harry L 8C	Chloe W 8W
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lloyd M 8W	Shannon C 8D
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Max C 8D	Aimee S 8D
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jake E 8D	Caoimhe H 8W & Sophia B 8D
5 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel B 8W	
6 <sup>th</sup>	James M 8C	Ava L 8C
7 <sup>th</sup>	Hayden P 8C	Poppy D 8C
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sam B 8W	Abi N 8W

On a beautiful sunny day 16 St Joseph`s pupils represented Hexham in the Wentworth Track. All pupils performed fantastically; some have now qualified for the County Athletics at Gateshead Stadium on Saturday 24th June.

You can see the videos on our St Joseph`s Facebook page.



## **Sporting Superstars**

**The following pupils were nominated by their PE teacher for their hard work in their PE lessons in the month of MAY Well done to all pupils!**

# May Sports Superstars

5M – Joe  
5S – Leila  
6D – Henry  
6H – Tabatha  
7M – Hannah  
7S – Bea  
8C – Poppy  
8D – Max  
8W – Chloe

## SVP Club

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June SVP Youth Group delivered some cakes and biscuits they had baked themselves to a local care home. The residents were very pleased to meet the pupils and enjoyed their treats! Well done to the SVP pupils for thinking of, planning and carrying out this thoughtful act of kindness.



## Eco Club

This term the ECO club has been planting trees and flowers around the school. There are two conifers outside the main entrance, some petunias outside Pastoral Room 10 and they have planted some sunflowers and meadow flower seeds in pots which will soon be strong enough to plant outdoors.



## Summer Performance Night:



Please see the flyer from Education Early Help Assessment Team – West Locality



**Upcoming Events at a Glance:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Father’s Day Stall</b>
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>The Big Tynedale Bake</b>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>Summer Fair 1.30 - 3.00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Y4 Rounders Afternoon – 1.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Partnership Transfer Day – details to follow</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Parents’ Evening – Y5 September 23</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Y6 Residential trip to Lockerbie Manor</b>



<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Summer Performance Night 6.30pm</b>
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Y8 Awards' Evening</b>
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Y8 Leavers' Mass</b> <b>Y8 Leavers' Meal</b>
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>End of term</b>

**PTA News:**

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 - Summer Fair 1.30 - 3.15pm- donations needed of toys, games, cuddly toys, tombola items, gift bags, bric a brac and cakes

14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 - Leaver's Disco 7.00 - 8.30pm - All welcome

**STAYING SAFE ONLINE - HOW OLD IS YOUR CHILD ONLINE?**

Has your child (or you on their behalf) signed up to access social media/or a game online but have said that they are older than they are so they can have an account? For example, did your 9-year-old join TikTok and put their age as 13, or did you create their account and put your own age? If so, please read some of the implications outlined below that you should think about.

If TikTok thinks your child is 13 when they join but they are in fact 8, then by the time your child reaches 13, the app will think they are 18. This puts your child at risk of viewing content that is not age appropriate and may mean your child will view adverts aimed at adults. In addition, now the app thinks your child is an adult, they will have access to all functionalities (whereas some apps place restrictions on access to under 18s for example to direct messaging).

The following article from OfCOM explains in further detail how to keep your child safe online:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/news-centre/2022/risks-of-children-using-false-ages-on-social-media>

The ParentZone website provides more details on age rating for various app and websites:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

**STAYING SAFE ONLINE – RESPONDING TO ONLINE CHALLENGES:**

Nationally, there are more and more reports of online challenges popping up on social media platforms. While not all pose potential risk, it is important as a parent/carer and guardian to know how to handle an online challenge you may be concerned about.

**What are Online Challenges?** Online challenges are social media trends where people take part in or mimic games, activities or dares. They typically originate on social media platforms like TikTok, YouTube, and Instagram before spreading to other platforms. Some challenges or online trends are reported by the press first. They tend to use the term 'viral', which can give the impression that the challenge or trend is more popular than it actually is.

**Advice for parents.** Talking to your child about online challenges can seem daunting, especially if they don't come to you on their own. Having an honest conversation with your child about their online habits is the best way to clear up confusions.

See link below for more detail.

[https://ineqe.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/OnlineChallengesAdvice\\_INEQE\\_2022-1.pdf](https://ineqe.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/OnlineChallengesAdvice_INEQE_2022-1.pdf)

### **Uniform:**

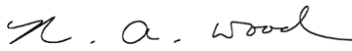
It is expected that all students will wear the correct uniform at all times. At present students are allowed to wear their PE uniform to school on the days that they have PE.

### **Our Prayer**

Jesus, Bread of Life,  
feed our faith,  
help us to share fairly,  
to find joy in our differences,  
and to love one another  
as you have loved us.  
Amen.

Amen.

God bless



Mr N Wood

