Dear Parent/Carer,

It seems amazing to us, but we are now working hard towards the summer break and the end of this academic year. Where has the time gone? There are lots of great events happening in this last half term.

**DIARY DATES**

**June**
- 3rd: Y6 France residential
- 11th: Y6 visit to Japanese Gardens
- 12th/13th/18th: Options for Father’s Day lunch
- 13th: Y4 & Y5 parents invited to St Joseph’s RCHS ‘Road Show’ 3.20pm in school hall until 4pm
- 14th: Y3 Assembly 2.45pm in the school hall
- 14th: Y3 Sleepover in school
- 15th: Y6 pupils Confirmation Meeting with Bishop
- 16th: Horwich Festival of Racing
- 21st: Sports afternoon at St Joseph’s RCHS
- 23rd/30th: First Holy Communion at St Mary’s Church
- 23rd: Horwich Carnival
- 24th: PSHE week - More details to follow
- 24th: Sponsored crazy hair and ‘cha cha slide’ event
- 25th - 1st: Book Fair in the school hall 3.20-3.50pm
- 26th: Y2 visit to Martin Mere
- 28th: EYFS & Y3 visit to Blackpool Zoo

**July**
- 3rd: Bad weather alternative for sports afternoon
- 4th/5th: Y6 Transition days to St Joseph’s RCHS
- 4th: New intake visits (all day)
- 4th: Moving up - visit new classroom and teacher
- 5th: Y3 Pirate Day
- 5th: Pupil’s reports out to parents
- 7th: First Holy Communion at St Mary’s Church
- 8th: Photographer visit for First Holy Communicants
- 9th: Y1 visit to Skipton Castle
- 10th: Y4 & Y5 invited to St Joseph’s RCHS 10am to watch ‘High School Musical’ in School Hall
- 10th: Teacher/Parents Drop in 3.20pm - 5pm
- 11th: Pupil’s Art Exhibition in the school hall
- 12th: Guitar concert with Mr. Sackey & students 2pm
- 16th: PSA end of year discos TBC
- 17th: Y6 Leavers’ Mass with Fr Richard 9.10am
- 17th: Coffee/Tea and cake to follow
- 17th: Y6 Leavers’ Assembly 2.15pm
- 18th: Whole School Talent Show
- 18th: Y6 Bowling TBC
- 19th: Non uniform day
- School finishes at 2pm for summer

**Y6 VISIT TO FRANCE**

Year 6 pupils left bright and early this morning on their journey to France. The children were excited to be on their way. During their time in France they will be visiting: a goat farm; Grottes at Naours; the Somme; the Albert Museum; Montdidier town trail; a chocolate factory, Etaples World War 1 Cemetery. They are staying in a beautiful French chateau part of the Manor Adventure group.

After learning French in school since Y1 this is a great opportunity for the children to put into practise skills taught by Madam Carr and enjoy the French culture. You are welcome to follow our pupils’ adventures on Twitter.

**SPORTS DAY 2019**

As you can see from the diary dates we have two possible afternoons for our sports event at St Joseph’s High school. The second date offers a further opportunity to run the sports events if there is bad weather or the field is unfit on June 21st.

We are grateful to work in partnership with St Joseph’s and Mrs Harris (PE) to run this event. Pupils taking PE GCSE support us in organising activities, which allows staff to move around with pupils.

Following feedback from last year’s event we will be including a parent’s race. More details to follow soon.

Please note, each child will be allocated two golden tickets. For safeguarding reasons only people with these tickets will be allowed on to the grounds. The aim is enter the gates speedily but keeping to safeguarding regulations.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

Attached to this new letter is a copy of the front page of the monthly newsletter (June 2019) from St Mary’s RC Parish with information about the Sacramental Programme concerning First Communion and Confirmation. Please see Father John, Father Richard or Mrs Davies if you have any queries. All are very happy to help.

Please keep our Y3 pupils in your thoughts and prayers during June 2019 as many celebrate their first Holy Communion.

Please note that answering a request from parents on Monday 8th July the photographer Tempest Studios will visit school at 9am to take photographs of the First Holy Communicants. Photos will be taken individually and as a group. More information will follow nearer the date.
PSA
Also attached to this newsletter is a letter from the PSA inviting pupils and parents to take part in the Horwich Races and carnival.
The PSA are a fantastic group offering valuable funding which is given directly to the children in our school but most important if offers fun and social activities for children, parents and staff all working together. We have been pleased at the growing number of parents attending meetings. We are keen to continue to run events promoting links with families and community.
The PSA has recently purchased badminton kit and also equipment for the children playtime. Thank-you to everyone that supports PSA work and events.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA
Members of The Knights of St Columba from our parish visited school on 22nd May and presented prizes to the winners of two recent art competitions. We would like to thank the Knights of St Columba for their support and sponsorship of our pupil chaplains.

ST JOSEPH’S RCHS ROAD SHOW
St Joseph’s Head teacher, Mr McCabe, is visiting St Mary’s school on Wednesday 13th June and invites Y4 & Y5 parents to join him for a meeting when he can share information about the many great opportunities and teaching and learning that St Joseph’s has to offer. St Mary’s RCP has a long and fruitful partnership with St Joseph’s and would recommend parents to come along to this roadshow to listen and ask any questions you may have.

SATS
We are very proud of our Y6 & Y2 pupils who took part in Statutory Assessment Tests during May. We are pleased with the way all the children approached the assessments, working hard and trying their best. Most of all we are pleased with their sensible approach and behaviour.
We would like to thank all the parents, school staff and volunteers who supported the children. It was a team effort in making sure the children were well prepared both academically and emotionally. Teaching is from day one, results are a whole school effort, mostly of course our wonderful Y6 & Y2 pupils!

UNIFORM PRICES
During the past 2 years, Touchline has absorbed the rising cost of supplier price increases, labour and delivery charges to name but a few. Unfortunately, due to further increases Touchline are no longer able to absorb any further cost. As a result, Touchline will increase its prices slightly where necessary.
The increase in prices for school uniform will be effective for any new orders placed after 1st June 2019. Prior to this date, orders were processed with the previous prices. Please be assured that Touchline will continue to provide a top-quality service for all your uniform requirements, including the printing of names on garment labels. New order forms are available in the school foyer or you may order online using a secure website, choosing to deliver to school or direct to your home address. If you have any queries please to not hesitate to contact the school office.

PE KIT BAGS
Listening to pupils and parents, school are selling larger PE kit bags measuring 48cm x 40cm. These new bags are burgundy with the school logo on it. A sample bag can be viewed at the school office. The cost is £5.00 per bag and can be ordered through Mrs Travers/Mrs Martin.

SCHOOL BAGS
We have really appreciated parents and children supporting our request that all pupils (EYFS-Y6 inclusive) only bring regulation St Mary’s book school bags to school. This decision was made due to the array of large bags being brought into school which really are not necessary. Bags can be ordered in school or via our online uniform shop at a cost £7.50 which is comparable or cheaper than alternatives. It has been noted that straps can break. School bags are only needed to carry reading books, homework folders, letters and school diaries in. Larger bags cause health and safety issues. Pupils can trip over them; they take up a large amount of space in our relatively small classrooms and have on occasions caused pegs to break. Also pupils can become competitive as to the type of bag that they have. Our regulation school bags can be both safely and neatly stored. Children’s pencil cases are not required. The decision was made with all best intentions for the children. We really appreciate your support in this matter.

BAGS 2 SCHOOL
Recent collection raised £66 for school. Thank-you to everyone who brought in clothes to recycle.

St JOSEPH’S PENNY
An enormous thankyou to the children, families and staff for your enthusiasm and hard work in raising money for our annual collection for Caritas. This year St Mary’s RC school raised £376.

SILVER TRAIL
The Silver Trail raised £87 for Caritas and Cafod. Two very worth while causes.

8.45AM PLAYGROUND ROTA

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