



Weekly Parent Update - Spring Week 10

Dear Parents,



We looked ahead to the Fifth Sunday of Lent this week, where the Gospel account tells us that Jesus raises his friend Lazarus from the dead. Jesus speaks aloud, for the sake of the crowd gathered around him, "Thank you for hearing my prayer." We have been reflecting on our personal prayer lives this week - from the beautiful, traditional prayers of the Church to the rich prayer traditions that can bring us such comfort and hope, like the Rosary.

Children have been so generous and forthcoming in sharing their prayers for me this week! - I am so grateful for all their kindness. Doctors completed a biopsy on my eye on Tuesday and I am now awaiting results. Thank you for your prayers and support in the meantime.

God bless,
Mr Collins

From the UK Health Security Agency



What can I do to protect myself and my children from meningitis if I am not in the locality affected by the outbreak?

The most important thing you can do is know the symptoms and act quickly if they appear.

Symptoms to look out for include:

- a rash that does not fade when pressed with a glass
- sudden onset of high fever
- severe and worsening headache
- stiff neck
- vomiting and diarrhoea
- joint and muscle pain
- dislike of bright lights
- very cold hands and feet
- seizures
- confusion or delirium
- extreme sleepiness or difficulty waking

If you or someone you know develops these symptoms, seek medical help urgently by going to your nearest A&E or calling 999. If a friend goes to bed unwell, check on them regularly. Early treatment can be lifesaving.

You can also contact your GP or call NHS 111 if you are concerned, but do not wait - call 999 in an emergency.

[Read the full text here.](#)

Spring 2 House Points



Our thanks and congratulations to all the children for their excellent effort and behaviour this half term. The final totals are in:

Canterbury - 1701

Iona - 1813

Lindisfarne - 1990

Walsingham - 1841

Congratulations to Lindisfarne House! Children will be treated to additional playtime and are invited to wear their Green House T-Shirts on Wednesday 25th March.

Great Athlete Day



From all the staff at St Joseph's, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the families who supported our Great Athlete Day fundraiser. We were absolutely delighted by the enthusiasm and effort shown by the children in gathering sponsorship.

Thanks to your generosity, the school raised an impressive £5,447! As a result, we have received a £2,706.60 voucher to spend on new sports equipment for the school. This is a fantastic achievement and will greatly benefit our pupils and help to spread the Great Athlete message of resilience and hope to other schools nationally.

Attendance & Punctuality



EYFS AND KS1

GATES OPEN AT 8:35AM

KS2 GATES OPEN AT 8:45AM

Thank you to all families who continue to support us with ensuring strong attendance and punctuality. The Department for Education (DfE) highlights that good attendance and punctuality are essential for every child's learning, wellbeing, and long-term progress. Even a few minutes late each day can add up over the term and impact learning routines.

Arriving on time helps children to:

- Start the day calmly and confidently
- Join their class for the morning routine and teaching
- Build good habits for the future
- Feel fully included from the very start of the day

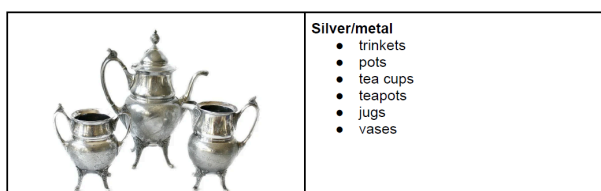
We kindly ask for your support in helping your child arrive at school promptly each morning. If you are experiencing any difficulties that make punctuality challenging, please do speak to your child's class teacher or to Mrs Hua(Deputy Headteacher) who is always here to help.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child has the best possible start to their day.

Reception Needs You...



Reception Needs You...



- Silver/metal**
- trinkets
 - pots
 - tea cups
 - teapots
 - jugs
 - vases

Dear parents,

Reception is currently transforming their learning spaces into calmer, more nature-inspired environments, and we're reaching out to our community for support. Our aim is to create classrooms and outdoor areas that feel peaceful, nurturing, and connected to the natural world!

As part of this project, we're looking for a number of specific items that will help us bring our vision to life. If you have any of the items listed in the attached document and no longer need them, we would be incredibly grateful for your donation. Every contribution, big or small, helps us build a richer learning environment for the children.

If you're able to donate, please email Miss Rycroft at srycroft@stjosephsguildford.com. Thank you so much for your kindness and support.

From the Diocesan Choral Direct - Mr Fraser Ellson



As most of you know, I am walking the entire Camino Frances in April of this year. This is in aid of helping your schools with their music budgets - we've achieved over £200 per school so far! This is the link to my fundraising page: <https://gofund.me/00549fe33>

I will be splitting the pot equally between my nine Diocesan schools and ALL the money raised will be going to this cause (ie: I am funding the trip and travel personally). Let's get fundraising for music in your schools!

Use of Westway



Please be mindful, if using Westway, for drop off and pick up, that it is illegal to park across double yellow lines. It is also inconsiderate to stop in the middle of Westway to drop off your family for your own convenience and block other traffic trying to use the street at the same time. Please help us to be a good neighbour.

Upcoming Diary Dates

Thursday 26th March

Way of the Cross - starting at 9:15am

Friday 27th March

Way of the Cross - starting at 9:15am

End of Term - 1:30pm