



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## NEWSLETTER: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Dear Families

On behalf of all staff and governors, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school. It has been another successful year for St. Joseph's and your children have, as ever, been a joy. They really are a credit to you!

We wish our Year 6 children every success for the future as they move on to St Bede's and Tanfield. I speak for every member of staff when I say that it has been a great pleasure to watch our pupils grow, develop and flourish during their time with us at St Joseph's.

We also wish Mrs Haveron, Mrs Hull & Mrs Quiney every success in all their new adventures. Thank you, for your great service to St Joseph's. Between the three of them, Mrs Haveron, Mrs Hull and Mrs Quiney have clocked up an amazing 47 (ish) years of service to school. What an incredible achievement and what stamina! Thank you, for your energy, enthusiasm and your never-wavering dedication to pupils, families and your colleagues. The whole school celebration assembly this morning reflected the high regard and deep affection in which you are held. You will all be greatly missed! We send you on your way with huge appreciation for all you have done for St Joseph's. Good luck in all you do!

Mrs Hull, Mrs Quiney and Mrs Haveron would like to say a huge thank you, to everyone, for all the lovely gifts and well wishes.



Thank you, to all staff, in whatever capacity you work at school.

It takes a whole team to make a school successful and I am grateful to each member of our team for the contribution they make. Thanks, also, to governors for giving your time so freely. You have all deserved a well-earned rest!

We would also like to thank our Neighbourhood Wardens (Dave & Tom), who have supported us with plants, compost and much more helping to keep St Joseph's and the Stanley Community looking its best and litter free. The Judging for Northumbria in Bloom has taken place. Keep your fingers crossed for us!

We are very proud of the banners Year 5 designed to show how we should protect the local area. With the help of a local artist, The Forge Northeast and Stanley Town Council, they saw their artwork digitalised in preparation for Northumbria in Bloom. The class thoroughly enjoyed working with this project and they were overjoyed with the final design. Their banner really shows how a little effort can transform the environment.



Please see below a letter from Nick Hurn with regard to school meal price changes from September 2023.

Dear Families

### **SCHOOL MEAL CHARGES, September 2023**

I write with important news about changes to the school meals service in St Joseph's. We know that times are hard right now financially. We are all dealing with unprecedented cost inflation at home and it's no different for our schools. The huge cost increases we are experiencing across our supermarkets means that all our school kitchens are faced with them too from our suppliers.

Food inflation is at an all-time high, at around 30%, and with global supply issues this isn't likely to change in the near future. We have tried really hard to minimise any impact to our families and communities and will continue to review our costs and menus to provide affordable choices.

Unfortunately, the increases are simply too big for the school to cover and therefore in September school meal prices will be increased to £2.65 per day from £2.40 per day, for pupils in KS2, and £3.18 from £2.88 for nursery pupils, we've tried so hard to keep costs as low as possible so can reduce that increase to just £1.25 and £1.50 per week. We are doing our utmost to minimise the impact to you and although our costs have increased by 30% we are only increasing school meals by 10%. The remaining 20% increase is being covered by the school budget, however the school is not receiving any additional income from the DfE to cover the cost of school meals.

Our wonderful Catering Teams do everything we can to make 'school dinner time' as enjoyable as possible and we are constantly considering our menu choices. All of our menus are fully compliant with the government's School Food Plan. All of our Catering Teams will ensure that all children have a popular and healthy meal choice every day, with options to meet the needs of all age groups and those with notified special dietary requirements.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr Nick Hurn, OBE.  
Chief Executive Officer

### **Changes to Start & Finish Times**

Following consultation, the start and finish times of the school day will change from September 2023. Please note, there will be no 'soft opening'. Registration will take place at 8.45am.

Please find details below:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Start time</b>	<b>Finish time</b>
Nursery	Morning session 8.45 Afternoon session 12noon All day starting time 9.00	Morning session 11:45 Afternoon session Finish 3pm All day finishing time 3pm
Reception	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:15 pm
Year 1	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm
Year 2	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm
Year 3	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm
Year 4	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm
Year 5	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm
Year 6	School opens at 8.45 with immediate registration	3:20 pm

# Free Fun and Food Summer 2023

Join the Wear Rivers Trust this Summer for  
2 hours of activities and a packed lunch!



Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July: Minibeast hunt and wildlife session

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August: Dens and campfire

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August: Woodcraft session

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August: Large parts challenge

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August: Flowers and nature session

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September: Games and orienteering session



To book a place follow the links on:

[Fun & Food – Wear Rivers Trust \(wear-rivers-trust.org.uk\)](https://www.wear-rivers-trust.org.uk)

Or Email

[Education.Team@Wear-Rivers-Trust.org.uk](mailto:Education.Team@Wear-Rivers-Trust.org.uk)

Location:

Quaking Houses Village Hall,  
Stanley, DH9 7HQ

