



Believe



Achieve



Succeed

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

**Dear Families,**

Welcome back to a new school year at St Joseph's. A warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us this term, in Foundation and other classes across the school. It has been wonderful to see the children looking so smart and full of smiles as they settle into their new classes.

**The start of the year is always a good time to share a reminder about some of our key information, which I have included below:**

#### Homework

All homework for Year 1 to Year 6 will be set on Mondays, to be completed by the following Monday. Completed homework should be uploaded on to Class Dojo. If you would like a paper copy of the homework, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Curriculum Overviews will be emailed to all families on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. These overviews will include information about your child's homework project for this term. We can't wait to the children's creative ideas again this year.

#### Uniform

The children have returned to school looking extremely smart, wearing their school jumpers, cardigans and black shoes. Please remember that all children, apart from Foundation must wear a tie to school. Children with long hair should ensure that their hair is tied back. Watches can be worn to school, but they should not have alarms set or be linked to a phone. Small stud earrings can be worn to school, but these must be removed on PE days. Finally, PE kits should be in school every day so that children can have access to them, should they need them. If a PE kit is brought home, please bring it back to school the following day.

#### PE Days

**Foundation:** Thursdays

**Year 1:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**Year 2:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**Year 3:** Tuesdays and Fridays

**Year 4:** Mondays and Thursdays

**Year 5:** Wednesdays and Thursdays

**Year 6:** Swimming on Mondays and PE on Fridays

#### Attendance and Punctuality

The school gates open from **8:30am**. The classrooms open from **8:40am** and all children must be in class by **8:50am** when the gates will be close, and lessons will begin. Please arrive promptly at school to make sure that your child does not miss any learning time.

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 will finish the day at **3:10pm** and Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 at **3:15pm**. **Thank you.**

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please phone the School Office by **9am** to speak to a member of staff or leave a message on the answer machine.

Thank you for continuing to be such a supportive and caring community. We are looking forward to another exciting year ahead, with many opportunities to **believe, achieve and succeed** together.

**God bless,  
Mrs Dabbs**

**Our prayers...**

We thank God for a wonderful, restful Summer break.

We pray for previous Year 6 children as they begin Secondary school, may they enjoy all of the new challenges and opportunities ahead of them.

We pray for all of our families, children, staff, Governors and everyone within the St Thomas Aquinas Trust, may they have a wonderful year.

**A message from Fr Chris...**

**Our Lady of Victories:** From the weekend 16/17 September 2023 we are returning to Mass at 10am on Sunday morning. We are also hoping to start children's Liturgy of the Word as soon as we can. It is for children of school age who have not made their First Holy Communion and will follow school term dates. However, we do need volunteers to help. If you can please help, contact Fr. Chris ([parishpriest@olvic.com](mailto:parishpriest@olvic.com)). We will have to complete a DBS check and follow Safer Recruiting procedures as this involves working with children. Thank you.



**St Joseph's Parent and Carer Voice**

It's time for our annual parent survey and we really appreciate the time that you give to share your thoughts with us. Following the questionnaire last year we strived to improve our communication about the Curriculum so that you know more about what your child is learning in school. As a result, we introduced our termly curriculum overviews for parents, accompanied by the termly homework project. The homework projects have been a wonderful success and it has been great to see the children so proud of their fantastic creations. Thank you for your phenomenal support. We would really appreciate your help by completing this year's questionnaire. Your feedback is crucial to us as we constantly strive to be the best that we can be! Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/SRLnc4FQG0>

