St Joseph's Primary School

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1st October 2026

Parent Update

Where did that month go! As we fly headlong into October, I just want to share a few updates on goings on around St Joseph's.

Welcome to our P1 families

Our 60 Primary 1 pupils are coming towards the end of their first full week in St Joseph's. They have made a fantastic start to their school journey and have quickly settled in to all the routines of school life. They have met their P7 Buddies, attended their first assembly, had their lunch in school and many are attending Happy Kidz and Breakfast Club each day. They are a wonderful group, full of smiles, energy and fun and we are delighted that they are part of team St Joseph's! P1 parents enjoyed a lovely social evening together last Thursday in the school hall. Many thanks to our PTA for organising.

PTA News

Hallowe'en Costume Swap



The Hallowe'en Costume Swap will take place in the 'Shelter' on Friday 9th October. If you would like to donate a costume, please leave it in the school from Monday 5th October. These can be dropped in at the office or passed on to your child's class teacher. Costumes will be available for a small donation to school funds from 1.45pm.

PTA Annual General Meeting

The PTA AGM will be held in the school on Monday 12th October at 7pm. All parents are very welcome to attend.

Dance with Duffy



Our Annual Dance with Duffy school fundraiser will take place on Tuesday 13th October. This is a real highlight of the school calendar and one of the most enjoyable days of the year. The boys and girls will join our amazing Mrs Duffy for a day of epic dancing in the Parochial Hall and all to raise money for school funds. Children have received their sponsorship forms which contain details of how to sponsor them online using a QR code.

World Mental Health Day



We will be celebrating World Mental Health Day with a range of fantastic wellbeing activities on Thursday 8th October. It will be a non-uniform day for all pupils in the school, and we will participate in fun activities ranging from martial arts classes to Spanish singing and dancing and a special 'fun zone' in the school hall. Pupils will also participate in a range of wellbeing activities in their classes throughout the day. A huge thanks to our wellbeing team led by Mrs Magee for coordinating the day.

Midterm Break

School will be closed from Monday 26th – Friday 30th October for the autumn break. School will reopen for all pupils on Monday 2nd November.

Minor Works Update

We are constantly doing our best to improve the security and appearance of our school campus. We are lucky to have a very capable building supervisor in Mr Fay who is supported in his work by a very committed cleaning team. For such an old building, the school is in relatively good condition, but we are constantly trying to improve things for our pupils. In the next few weeks, we are installing a brand-new front door which will improve the security and appearance of our Holland Drive entrance. We anticipate some disruption while the new door is installed. I will share details of entrance and exit points for impacted pupils once installation dates are confirmed.

We are also continuing to improve the look of our school hall. It was painted during the summer holidays, and we are now going to add some artwork on the walls inside to modernise this space. We will share the pictures with you once complete.

Uniform Hub

In a new initiative, a permanent 'Uniform Hub' has been placed by the front door of the school, next to the Book Swap Boxes. This is a large waterproof box containing lots of uniform spares that have been donated to the school. There are preloved jumpers, ties, shirts, trousers, skirts and PE kits inside and you are free to have a rummage for spares at any time. If you have any old uniform items that you would like to donate to the box, please pass them into the office. Your generosity will be much appreciated. Unclaimed lost property items will also be added to the box periodically.



Key dates until Midterm Break

Event	Date	Notes
World Mental Health Day – Non-Uniform	Thursday 8th October	All day
PTA AGM	Monday 12th October	19:00
Dance with Duffy	Tuesday 13th October	All day
P7 Parent / Teacher Meetings	Tuesday 20th October	All day
Hallowe'en Disco (P1 – 3)	Thursday 22nd October	13:00 – 14:00
Hallowe'en Disco (P4 – 7)	Thursday 22nd October	18:30 – 19:30
Midterm Break	26th – 30th October	All day
Back to School	Monday 2nd November	All day

Kind regards

Mr Donnelly