



NEWSLETTER

We are growing together on our journey of achievement with Jesus in our hearts, heads and hands.

www.stjosephsbracknell.co.uk

17th September 2021

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to enjoy the sunshine and warmth for the past few weeks! The children have all settled in extremely well to their new classrooms and there is an air of quiet determination across the whole school as they have begun their new year's learning in earnest. We are now benefitting from the extended transition prior to the summer holiday as no time has been wasted.

We have a been delighted to welcome our new pupils to Reception Year at the start of term and they have been a joy – coming into school and enjoying exploring their new setting. The staff are all very impressed with how mature they have all been. Please join us in welcoming them, and their families, to our school community; Aria, Aryana, Bertie, Bjorn, Charlotte, Chriselle, Dylan, Edward, Edward, Eesha, Emilia, Evelyn, Francesca, Gabriel, Georgie, Kuba, James, Jan, Jordan, Kristian, Krystian, Luca, Matej, Philip, Primrose, Robert, Sadewli, Salvador, Sofia, Theodore.

We have also welcomed several children higher up the school: Alexander (Y2), Logan (Y3), Mason (Y5) and Hannah (Y5). Welcome to all of you and your families too.

We are also delighted to welcome new members of staff

Mrs. S. Martin - Teaching Assistant in Year 1
Mrs. S. Choudhury - School Direct Teacher trainee
Miss. D. Homes - School Direct Teacher trainee

Congratulations! The children have elected their house captains from Y6. We wish the Y6 children every success in being excellent role models in our school.

House	Pupil
St. Patrick House Captains	Ashil Christina

St. Bernadette's Captain	Nuala Enzo
St. Francis' House Captain	Holly Xavier
St. Anne's House Captain	Nadia Matthew

The children have also elected members from their class to represent them at School Council Meetings. Mrs. Broadbridge will be holding School Council Meetings on a Wednesday.

Year Group	Names
Y6	Anna and Billy
Y5	Aiden N and Elsie
Y4	Keziah and Peter
Y3	Thomas and Olivia
Y2	Samuel and Lili

Covid-19 Update

An updated risk assessment plan as well as the Management Outbreak Plan can be found on the [school website](#). Our school has already had some positive cases and we are following Public Health Advice.

Children who are close contacts are allowed to attend school. There is therefore a high probability that we may have to enact our '[Outbreak Management Plan](#)' and we would reinstate some of the more rigorous measures we implemented during the lockdowns. We will keep all families informed of any changes required.

Under GDPR, the school is unable to give details of any positive case. NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify their close contacts. However, if you think your child is a close contact but has not been contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace then they should take a PCR test via – '[Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-](#)

19) - [GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)) or by calling 119. Further guidance can be found at [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Important Information: If your child experiences a cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell or any cold like virus symptoms such as sore throat, we ask that your child has a PCR test prior to returning to school. The school will require proof of a negative result prior to returning to class.

Remote Learning: If any child is required to self-isolate and they are well enough, work will be placed on our online remote learning programme MS TEAMS. Please liaise with your class teacher.

Parent Information Pack: The teachers have prepared a PowerPoint capturing the information you may wish to know about school expectations as well as an update on your child's curriculum this term. This information will be sent home via ParentMail and is also available on the [school website](#).

Reception and Y1: The teachers in Reception and Year 1 would like to invite their parents to attend a MS TEAMS meeting on Monday 20th at 4.30pm to talk you through their expectations. All parents in Reception and Year 1 are very welcome to attend – Year 1 parents please refer to MS TEAMS and Year R parents please check your emails for invite and accept.

These PowerPoints (PDF) will also be available on the [school website](#) as well as sent home via Parent Mail.

Year R WISH LIST: If you have any of the items below and you would like to donate them to a good home, please consider giving them to our Reception class. We appreciate anything that you can spare. Thank you.

- faux fur shawl
- chunky jewellery
- shoes (kitty heels)
- old handbags
- men's hats for boys

- men's blazers
- colourful umbrellas

School Census Day – On the 7th of October 2021 the school give a detailed report to the DFE. Part of this information is the number of children who take a school meal in KS1. The funding for the free school meals provided in KS1 (the amount of money given to the school by the Government to cover the free school meals for YR, 1 & 2) is based upon the number of school meals served on this particular date. The more meals – the more money!

We have changed the menu to beef burger or Quorn burger in a bun with chips, sweetcorn, and baked beans; pudding is shortbread, fresh fruit or yoghurt for this date. Please consider letting your child have lunch on this day – every meal taken will bring an extra £400 into the school funds!

Pupil Premium - Application is quick and easy – just click [here!](#) We are aware that the pandemic has had a detrimental effect on many people and their homelives. If you are in or now find yourselves in a new financial situation then please talk to us confidentially. You may qualify for Free School Meals due to your income and benefit situation. Being eligible, not only entitles your child to a free school lunch, but it also enables the school to access additional funding to support your child. This includes support for clubs and trips. NO other child is ever aware of any other child's financial situation.

Please note that Pupil Premium is NOT the same as the automatic Universal Infant Free School Meals - all YR – Y2 children receive Pupil Premium is an additional benefit for your child and the school.

Application is quick and easy – just click [here](#).

Class Assemblies: Due to Covid 19, we have taken the decision not to invite any parents to class assemblies this term. Instead, each class will record a class assembly, and this will be shared with pupils and parents via MS. Teams.

Class	Assembly Focus	Week beginning
YR	Welcome Assembly	27 th Sep
Y1	Black History	18 th Oct

Y2	Harvest	4 th Oct
Y3	Diwali	3 rd Nov
Y4	Remembrance	11 th Oct
Y5	Anti-Bullying	15 th October
Y6	Rhos Y Gwaliau	13 th Dec

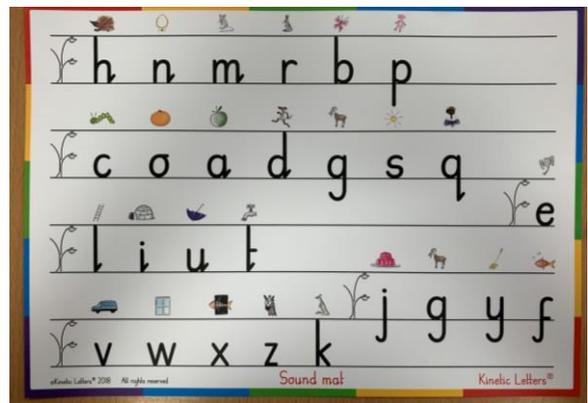
St Joseph's Book Week: 18th – 22nd October 2021

St Joseph's will be hosting a book celebration during the week of **18th – 22nd October**. This will include a visit from a theatre company who will be performing 'Treasure Island'. We will also be dressing up as our favourite book characters on Wednesday 20th October so start planning those outfits now - bonus Dojo if you can source the book to match your costume! We will also be hosting a cake sale to raise much-needed funds for new books for the library. More details to follow at a later date.

Focus Authors: This year, each class has a focus author which will change each term. This is to celebrate and promote outstanding, modern literature. Each class has their own library which contain some of the author's books. Please consider buying a book by your child's class author and enjoying it with them. Once you and your child have enjoyed reading books by these authors, please consider donating them to the class library so that many more children can benefit from them.

Yr R: Britta Teckentrup
 Yr 1: Rachel Bright
 Yr 2: Johnny Duddle
 Yr 3: Alex Milway
 Yr 4: Cressida Cowell
 Yr 5: MG Leonard
 Yr 6: Peter Bunzl

Handwriting: Kinetic Letters: The school have introduced a new and exciting handwriting scheme called Kinetic Letters. Children will be practising their handwriting on a regular basis which includes physical activities to strengthen their bodies as well as finessing their writing skills. If you would like to support your child with practising the correct letter formation, please see the photo below which demonstrates the font we will be teaching in school.



Behaviour Policy: In our Autumn's parent information, we state that when it comes to behaviour – 'No news is good news'. Most children do go home talking about incidents that happen in class and in the playground and we would like to clarify how the school deals with behaviour incidents. If an adult has been involved in dealing with a behaviour incident you may not be informed as the behaviour is considered as a Level 1 incident. If the teacher feels that parents need a to know about an incident that is not serious, an email will be sent home. If an incident is considered more serious, then parents will be invited to have a meeting to discuss the behaviour. Please see the information below. Movement to different levels may be progressive or depending on the seriousness of the incident may skip levels.

- Level 1
- Appropriate ignoring of low-level behaviour
 - Positive verbal warnings
 - Reasoning – talking with child about why the behaviour is not acceptable
 - Moving the child within the classroom
 - *Parent does not need to be informed and incident will be logged in orange behaviour file

Level 2

Thinking Table/Chair for reflection in class
Verbal warnings and stating consequences
i.e. Restricting/loss of playtimes
Keeping child in class at breaktime
Keeping child in class at lunchtime
Keeping parents informed and involved informally via an email

Level 3

Involving parents formally to meeting to discuss behaviour (1-1, MS TEAMS)
Verbal warnings and stating consequences
i.e. Restricting/loss of playtimes
Keeping child in Headteachers Office at breaktime
Keeping child in Headteachers Office class at lunchtime
Withdrawal from classroom
Pastoral Support Plan for concerning behaviour
Working with outside agencies e.g., Behaviour Support Team
Pastoral Support Plan for pupil at risk of an exclusion

Level 4

Formal fixed term exclusion

Level 5

Formal permanent exclusion

Please note: Although we try to keep a very close eye on the children, an incident may happen which adults may be unaware of. Please email any concern to the class teacher so that we deal with all incidents according to the school policy.

After School Activities: This term we will trial an after-school Football and Cross-Country Activity Club for Y4, 5, & 6. The cost will be £5 per session. If any session has to be cancelled your child will be secured a place in the Early ASC so you do not have to change any collection plans. If you have already paid for the Early ASC, then you will not be charged again – this one payment will cover ASC and the Activity. For an additional payment, your child will also be able to attend the Late ASC, if required.

Bicycles and Scooters Please encourage your children NOT to ride their bikes or scooters on school grounds. They should dismount on passing

through the gates and push them to the bike/scooter shelter and likewise push them to the gate on leaving. There are just too many people around for it to be safe practice in the car park and playground.

Smart tags: The green journeys have started again. It has been great to see that pupil have either found their tags or popped into the school office to collect a new tag. If anyone needs to change school or has a replacement tag, they can use this link to request an update.

Change of school, tag ID, mode or distance -
<https://www.ecorewards.co.uk/update-account>

Registration – follow link on page
<https://www.ecorewards.co.uk/bracknell/schools>

Change of school, mode or distance -
<https://www.ecorewards.co.uk/update-account>



Wellbeing: From blogs and tips on back to school to topping up on resources, there's so much information out there. We have included some key resources below which may be of interest.

1. Pearson's back-to-school toolkit gathers everything from Pearson all in one place to support you with the weeks ahead.

[Explore the back-to-school toolkit](#)

2. Schools across the country report that fostering positive wellbeing for staff and students is a top priority, especially given the impact of the last 18 months. Alongside guides for back-to-school and Covid-19 anxiety, our Wellbeing Zone is filled with **free tools and support** to help the school community all year round

[Visit The Wellbeing Zone](#)

3. Relaunch of the little blue book of sunshine. A mental health booklet 'The little blue book of sunshine' has been relaunched. this book offers lots of practical and useful advice and aims to help children by sharing tips on dealing with many problems such as anxiety stress body image and relationships.
4. Berkshire West CCG website.
littlebluebookofsunshine-2020-final.pdf
[\(berkshirewestccg.nhs.uk\)](http://berkshirewestccg.nhs.uk)
5. Kooth: www.koothplc.com
6. Childline: www.childline.org.uk



As ever, please remember, as we start the new school year, that you can e-mail us at any time if you have any worries or questions. We will always do our best to find an answer for you as quickly as possible.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs. J. Dunlop,
Headteacher

Charity collection for Frimley Park Hospital

Children's department: If you have any old children's DVDs (must have a rating of U or PG), please can you donate them to both ward and the A&E department. Please leave them in a box in reception next to the school office.

Governor Roles: We will be in need of new Governors join our school Governing Body. If you feel that a role on the board would be of interest to you, please keep a look out for adverts which will be sent out shortly.

Online Workshops

Helping children to overcome anxious thoughts and worries 2 x 1-hour sessions looking at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happens when children become anxious • The impact that COVID has had on children's mental health • Techniques for helping children deal with their fears / worries 				
Anxiety T	Tuesday 21 st and 28 th September 2021	7 – 8 pm	14 spaces	
Anxiety S	Friday 1 st and 8 th October 2021	9.30 – 10.30	13 spaces	
Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way 2 x 1-hour sessions looking at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain an insight into your own parenting style • Learn or revisit positive ways of managing behaviour • Build on a positive relationship with your child • Strategies to deal with unacceptable behaviours 				
MB11	Thursday 23 rd and 30 th September 2021	7 – 8 pm	6 spaces	
MB12	Monday 11 th and 18 th October 2021	9.30 – 10.30	14 spaces	
Supporting Children to get a Healthy Night's Sleep 1 ½ hour session looking at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The different sleep issues facing our families • Tips on how to get a good night's sleep. • Help children develop good sleeping habits 				
SLEEP 5	Monday 27 th September 2021	9.30 – 11am	4 spaces	

If you would like to book a space or have questions please email your name, school and contact number to Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

You will be expected to attend **all sessions** of your chosen course which will be delivered via Zoom. You will be asked to complete an enrolment form and once this is completed you will be sent the zoom link.