



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

Blaydon



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PROSPECTUS 2011/2012





The Classical Avison Ensemble playing to our children



Pantomime 2010

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Prospectus 2011/2012

School:- St. Joseph's Catholic Primary

Croftdale Road
Blaydon, Tyne & Wear NE21 4BG

Tel No. 0191 414 3108

Local Education Authority:- Gateshead Council

Director of Learning & Children
and Children's Services
Civic Centre, Gateshead NE8 1HH

Tel No. 0191 433 3000

Corresponding Governor:-

Father P Carr
St. Anne's Presbytery
Half Fields Road
Winlaton
Tyne & Wear NE21 5RW

Tel No. 0191 414 2654

Status of School:- Catholic Primary (Voluntary Aided)

Age Range:- 4 - 11 years

Currently on Roll:- 210

Headteacher:- Mr J. Hannah

INTRODUCTION

St. Joseph's Primary School was opened in September 1985. It is a replacement school for the former St Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools sited at West View, Blaydon. These two schools had served the Catholic Community of St Joseph's (Blaydon) and St Anne's (Winlaton) since 1896.

The school, in its own fairly extensive grounds, commands an attractive view across the Tyne Valley, is conveniently placed between the two parishes it primarily serves and is immediately adjacent to St Thomas More Senior School to which pupils normally transfer at 11+ years.

The building of modern design incorporates ten purpose built classrooms, four smaller multi-purpose rooms, an attractive central library area, an ICT suite, an open central garden courtyard, a large school hall and a well-equipped modern kitchen which provides the daily school meal.

Outside facilities provide two large hard surfaced play areas and one grassed play area and two grassed play areas.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

As a Catholic school we aim to create a Christian atmosphere so that we all have the opportunity to grow, to know and love Jesus, nurture our faith and to prepare for the life to come. We strive to promote a sense of awe and wonder in an ever changing world.

We see ourselves as a Christian family: a community of children, staff, governors and parents and parishioners, who value and show respect for each other and for the people in the community in which we live.

Within our family we hope to establish a respectful friendly community within a loving forgiving framework, encouraging confidence, self respect and a social responsibility for the world around us.

We aim to help the children work in a secure atmosphere where they are valued. We will promote a sensitive approach to learning, encouraging the development of the whole child as they grow in their journey of faith.

GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOL

Foundation Members

Mr D Jenkinson (Chairperson)
Father P Carr
Mr D Batey
Mrs C Troke
Mrs A Connelly
Mrs D Butchart

Parent Representative

Mrs N Breen

LEA Representative

Mr S Ronchetti

Teacher Representative

Miss L Shepherdson

Non-Teacher Representative

Mrs J O'Neill

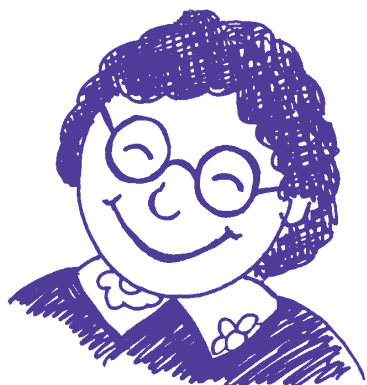
Headteacher

Mr J Hannah

School Adviser

Mrs E Gleave

The School is a mixed Roman Catholic (Voluntary Aided) Primary School for children 4-11 years of age.



STAFFING

Listed below is the current staff of the school, who in addition to their normal teaching duties have accepted an area of the curriculum in which they have a responsibility or display a special interest.

Teaching Staff

Headteacher
Mr J Hannah
Deputy Headteacher
Mr D Godfrey

Special Curr. Interest

Overall Responsibility

KS2 Co-ordinator/RE/
Assessment Co-ordinator

History/Geography

Numeracy/ICT/MFL

Mrs J Geddes
Miss A Cleghorn

SENCO
P.E.

Mrs E Alder
Miss L Shepherdson

Science/Health Education/Music
PE, Foundation
KS1 Phase Learning
Literacy

Mrs J Hepple
Mrs A Hoodless

Art/DT
Learning Support Teacher

Non-Teaching Staff

School Secretary
Mrs M Steel (Administration)

Child Care Assistants
Mrs Y Smith
Mrs J O'Neill (First Aider)

Teaching Assistants
Mrs Hall
Mrs Blakey
Mrs Maughan
Mrs Lewis

Caretaking
Mr R Bullerwell - Caretaker + Assistant

Supervisory Assistants
The school currently employs 5 supervisory assistants employed during the lunchtime period. Four are employed 12.15 – 1.15 p.m. One is employed 11.45 – 1.15 p.m.

Kitchen Staff
Mrs Mitchell – Cook in Charge + 2 meals assistants

ADMISSION POLICY FOR CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOLS IN GATESHEAD 2011-12

SCHOOL	PAN	Parish(es) Served
St. Joseph's RC Primary School Croftdale Road Blaydon, Tyne and Wear, NE21 4BG Tel. 0191 4143108	30	St. Anne's, Winlaton St. Joseph's, Blaydon

This Admissions policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Body of the above Catholic Primary school. The Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for determining the school's admissions policy. The Planned Admission Number (PAN) for the school is given in the above table. The Admissions Policy Criteria will be applied on an Equal Preference basis.

How and When to apply

Applications must be made on the Local Authority Common Application Form. Parents applying to a Voluntary Aided Catholic school should also complete the supplementary information form. All forms must be returned by the closing date set by the Local Authority.

Late Applications

Any applications received after the closing date will be accepted but considered only after those received by the closing date.

Oversubscription Criteria

Children who have a statement of **Special Educational Need** which names our school will be admitted to the school.

Where there are insufficient places available to meet all parental preferences, priority will be given to applications in the following order:

(First priority in each category will be given to children who will have older siblings attending the school in September 2011)

1. Catholic Children in the care of a Local Authority.
2. Catholic Children whose home address is within the parish(es) served by the school.
3. Catholic Children whose home address is outside of the parish(es) served by the school.
4. Other Children in the care of a Local Authority.
5. Children, who are baptised or dedicated members of other Christian Churches as recognised by Churches Together in England (see note 4).
6. Children of other Faith traditions.
7. Other children.

If applicants are seeking admission under criteria 5 & 6 above, they will be asked for a letter of support to confirm their church membership from their minister or Faith leader, or suitable equivalent.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. Definition of Catholic

Children who have been baptised as Catholics or have been formally received into the Catholic Church. All applicants seeking admission under criteria 1, 2 or 3 will be asked to provide evidence that the child has been baptised as a Catholic or has been received into the Catholic Church. A baptismal certificate or a letter from their priest confirming their baptism or reception into the Catholic Church will suffice.

2. Definition of Children in the care of a Local Authority

A child, who is looked after by a Local Authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989(b) at the time application for admission to the school is made and who the Local Authority can confirm, will still be looked after at time of admission to the school.

3. Definition of Sibling

Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

4. Churches Together in England

(See www.churches-together.org.uk for further details on membership)

The Baptist Union
British Antiochian Orthodox Church
Cherubim and Seraphim Council of Churches
The Church of England
Church of God Prophecy
Church of Scotland (in England)
Congregational Federation
Coptic Orthodox
Council of African and Caribbean Churches
Council of Oriental Orthodox Churches
Ichthus Christian Fellowship
Independent Methodist Churches
Joint Council for Anglo-Caribbean Churches
Lutheran Council of Great Britain
The Methodist Church
United Reform Church
Wesleyan Holiness Church

Tie-breaker

Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion, distance from home address to the school entrance will be the deciding factor. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Right of Appeal

Where a parent has been notified that a place is not available for a child, every effort will be made to help the parent to find a place in a suitable alternative school. Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the Chair of Governors at the school address.

Home Address

It is the parental address which will be used in applying the admission criteria. This means that, when stating your choice of school, you should give the parental/guardian address at the time of application. The address of childminders or other family members who may share in the care of your child should not be quoted as the home address.

Waiting Lists

If your child has been refused admission, you can request that your child's name be placed on the school's waiting list. If places become available, we will consider all relevant applications based on the waiting list which will be maintained for the full academic year.

Application Information

It is very helpful to have an early indication of the number of children to be admitted to the Reception class in the following September. However, it must be stressed that formal written applications for admission must be made on the form provided by the Local Authority and returned to them by the stated date. Places will then be allocated by strict application of the above criteria, with no reference to the date of application. Parents will be notified as to whether or not their child has been allocated a place on (date to be agreed with the LA).

Religious and Moral Development

St Joseph's is a Catholic School, seeking to encourage the child's deeper love and understanding of our faith and foster a desire to follow Jesus. The family, the school and the Catholic community of our parishes are three main areas of development for our children. Religious Education although part of the Curriculum is far more than a subject to us at St Joseph's, it influences all aspects of school life and relationships. We hope that by developing this Catholic emphasis we are building a caring attitude in school which will be evident in all our relationships between Staff and children. The school follows the 'Here I Am' scheme which has the full support of the Bishops in England.

In addition to timetabled Religious Education Lessons each day begins with either a classroom act of worship or collective assembly.

Example, instruction and practice within the context of family, school and parish create an all pervading atmosphere of Catholic attitudes and values.

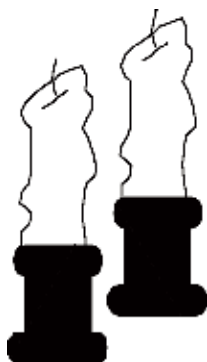
Withdrawal from Religious Education

The Governors are required to remind parents of their rights of withdrawal of pupils from religious worship and education. Parents are also reminded that the school exists to give a Catholic Education to its pupils.

It is therefore expected that parents be in sympathy with the aims and objectives of school.

Ethos and Values

As a Catholic school, we feel that the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is a major strength of our school. It underpins the education of our pupils and establishes a caring, orderly and self disciplined learning community. We seek to encourage the children to give and expect to receive respect, encouraging the children to work together and to willingly take on responsibility. They learn to share and value the achievement of others. The moral development of our children flows from a firm spiritual base.



A wide range of visits and visitors is arranged throughout the year and the school has an involvement in the European Comenius programme. Through this programme the children share aspects of their cultural heritage with children from other countries and through their studies of other religions and cultures they are well prepared for life in a multicultural society.

Pastoral Care

We see every child as a unique individual and the school works to achieve a genuine family atmosphere, where all members care for, love and respect each other. The children have many different needs, physical, emotional, spiritual and academic and the school works towards supporting the children through all their needs. The school view parents as partners in the education process and strong links between home and school is encouraged. The teaching staff is in loco-parentis and exercises the care of a reasonable parent at all times.

Our school is committed to developing strong links with parents. All staff promote a caring relationship with children throughout the school.

Special Educational Needs

All classes are of mixed ability and the teachers plan work to match the individual needs of the children, using a range of materials and resources. Pupils' progress is monitored carefully by each teacher, starting with Assessment on entry into school.

When particular learning difficulties are identified the children are placed on the special educational needs register. The children are then given appropriate support.

Parents will be informed and invited to come to school to discuss the possible help available. Parents permission will be sought if outside agencies such as the Educational Psychologist, Speech Therapist and other medical services are needed.

The school benefits from the services of a Support Teacher who is available to assist children experiencing difficulties.

Individual Education Plans are drawn up with the co-operation and involvement of parents and children.

The school's SEN policy is reviewed and evaluated on a yearly basis by the SEN co-ordinator (Mrs Geddes and link Governor Mrs C Troke).

If formal assessment is required, parental consultation takes place at every stage.

Sex Education

The school's policy on Sex Education is that it should be where possible, integrated into the Curriculum fully. All questions will be answered honestly and sensitively helping children to cope with emotional changes and the challenges of growing up. The school ensures that all teaching matches the maturity of the child and fits into the general and moral attitudes of the school. The education information we give must be in the context of a Christian Community with Christian values based on the moral principles and teaching of the Catholic Church. Parents can request that their child is withdrawn from any specific sex education talks.

A Sex Education policy is available for parents. Our Sex Education programme spreads across different areas of the Curriculum fitting into 'Here I Am' 'Religious Education Syllabus and Science work in the 'Life and Living Processes' Attainment Target and the All that I am PSHE programme. Parents are involved with discussions about policy and regular update meetings are held to keep parents informed. All materials are shown to parents at these meetings.

The school has been awarded the Healthy School Award.

CURRICULUM AND ORGANISATION OF EDUCATION AND TEACHING METHOD

Charging and Remission Policy determined by 1988 Act

It is the school policy to provide educational visits and links with outside organisations and institutions. The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, trips and residential experience can make towards the pupils' education.

The Education Act prohibits the charging for activities during school hours although the Governing Body invite parents to make voluntary contributions to cover costs. No child will be excluded through inability to contribute. If an event is well under subscribed the activity may have to be cancelled.

School Policy on Entitlement

The school curriculum policy encompasses all the requirements of the National Curriculum and is broken down into half-termly blocks, which ensures progress in all subjects through the two main Key Stages. Most subjects are taught in a cross curricular way which means that themes are selected and may cover many aspects of the core and foundation subjects. Each term emphasises either Science, History or Geography within this planned framework and staff organise a range of experiences to enhance the curriculum work.

As a school we have re-organised the way in which the curriculum is delivered to the children so that we can improve the childrens' learning, giving adequate balance to subjects taught as well as adopting the QCA schemes of work for all subjects. Our whole school policy on curriculum entitlement ensures that your child is offered a quality curriculum with adequate breadth and depth in and between subjects.



The school delivers the Curriculum within the framework of a thematically based whole School Entitlement Policy. Parents are welcome to discuss any details concerning this policy either with the class teacher or head teacher.

AIMS

The School aims -

- * to ensure that each child reaches his/her full potential
- * to help the children develop lively enquiring minds leading them to question and discuss
- * to give children the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in all areas of the curriculum
- * to help children to work in co-operation with their peers showing courtesy and good manners and consideration to others.

The school teaches the core and other foundation subjects divided into two key stages.

To achieve this the school aims to help pupils:-

- * achieve a high standard of achievement, satisfaction and enjoyment in all areas of the curriculum.
- * grow in self-confidence, have a sense of personal worth and be able to adapt to the changing world in which they live
- * develop a set of moral values, understand the world in which they live, respect the views of others and tolerate opinions and beliefs whether racial, religious or political.

Statement

All subjects are taught following the National Curriculum. Policies and Schemes of work are available for parental perusal and available on the internet. Subjects are taught as an individual subject or in a cross curricular way linking to a theme or other areas of the curriculum, which enhances the knowledge and understanding of the children. The teachers use a variety of methods to introduce the

work to the children e.g. group work, whole class or individual planned work.

ORGANISATION OF CLASSES

All classes are mixed ability groupings. All classes are mixed ability groupings. There are no more than 30 pupils in each class.

English

All children have experience in the following areas Speaking/Listening/Reading/Writing/Spelling/Hand writing. English is taught through the 'National Primary Strategy' and children are encouraged to communicate their ideas through speech, creative writing, poetry and prose.

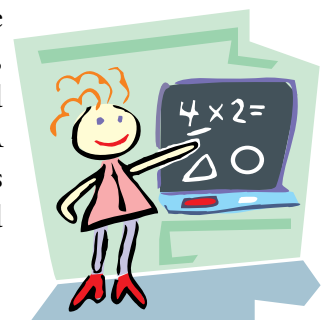
Children are encouraged to read both for pleasure and information.

Various resources are employed to deliver the many facets of the English Curriculum. These include Oxford Reading Tree with a varied provision of Home Readers.

The school also has a well stocked library to which all children have access.

Numeracy

The Mathematics Curriculum is delivered through the National Primary Strategy. Emphasis is put on mental calculation and our aim is to provide children with mathematical concepts and skills. This includes the ability to solve problems, understand shapes and predict likely results. A wide variety of resources and text materials is used throughout the school.



ICT

The ICT facilities are very good now that we have a designated ICT suite. Children have timetabled lessons in the computer suite as well as access to a computer in the classroom. The school is linked to the Internet and enjoys the added facility of video-conferencing. A policy for the use of the internet is used, which is circulated to parents.

Science

The school emphasises individual and group skills of planning, decision making, investigating and communicating results, as well as observing, classifying, recording and hypothesising. We use a variety of schemes and support materials.

Design Technology

Technology encourages the children to understand the importance of Design Technology in relation to the world in which they live. Our children are encouraged to explore and investigate, to identify their needs, develop their own ideas and evaluate the effectiveness of their designs with everyday products. The work is mainly of a practical nature. The school makes full use of the facilities of the City Learning Centre near to the school to undertake projects in Design Technology and ICT.

History and Geography

In this area of the curriculum we aim to develop the child's interest in the world around them and relate the past to the present by learning how other people lived, comparing it to our own way of life. We aim to broaden the childrens' understanding of historical and geographical factors which affect themselves. They also extend their factual knowledge of the local area, the European Community and other areas of the world.

Geography is also an important vehicle in developing a greater awareness in children of the richness and diversity of other cultures.

Music

Children are encouraged to listen to and make music, developing their skills in appreciating various

types of music. It is our aim to develop singing, composing and listening skills in Music learning notation and creative music making. A number of children receive lessons in Guitar, Drum and Trumpet.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

TABLES OF RESULTS

ASSESSMENT AND RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Each year a report is prepared in the summer term by the teacher on every child. This includes achievement and progress in the National Curriculum subjects, as well as behaviour, attitude, attendance and punctuality. These are given to parents in the summer term and a special meeting is arranged for parents to discuss this report with the class teachers. Parents can comment on the report if they wish.

The children are assessed throughout their years in school and take part in National Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) at 7 and 11.

These tables show the most recent statutory assessment results of Year 2 children and Year 6 children at each level in the 2010 school year.

SCHOOL RESULTS

KEY STAGE 1

This table shows a summary of the National Curriculum assessment results of pupils in the school (2010) and nationally (2009) at the end of Key Stage 1, as a percentage of those eligible for assessment.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT

	w	1	2	2C	2B	2A	3or	Disapplied	Absent
Speaking and listening*	0(2)	3(11)	90(65)				7(21)	0(0)	0(0)
Reading	0(3)	10(13)		23(12)	23(22)	20(24)	23(26)	0(0)	0(0)
Writing	0(4)	17(15)		27(21)	30(28)	17(20)	10(12)	0(0)	0(0)
Mathematics	0(2)	7(8)		10(16)	37(26)	27(27)	20(21)	0(0)	0(0)
Science	0(2)	10(9)	70(67)				20(22)		

KEY STAGE 2

These tables show a summary of the National Curriculum results of pupils in the school (2010) and nationally (2009) as a percentage of those eligible for assessment.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT

	w	1	2	3	4	5	6	Disapplied children	Absent children
English	0(1)	0(1)	4(4)	4(15)	70(49)	22(30)	0	0(0)	0(0)
Mathematics	0(0)	0(1)	4(3)	4(15)	59(46)	33(33)	0	0(0)	0(0)
Science	0(1)	0(1)	0(2)	11(11)	63(48)	26(38)	0	0(0)	0(0)



Art

We see Art as a means of communication not bound by written or spoken language. As such it provides pupils with a unique means of expression and should provide a context for spontaneity and creativity – which is not taught in other areas of the school curriculum.

As a means of developing this cultural experience we offer the children the opportunity to visit museums, art galleries and theatres. Artists are invited into the school to work alongside the children. Time is given to the children during Art Club to develop their art experiences.

Healthy School

The school promotes health education to all pupils and has achieved our Healthy School Award and the



Gateshead's Healthy School team visits the school

Gold Smoke Free School Award. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on school premises.



Mr Hannah, our Year 4 class teacher, accepting our Third International School award from the BBC newsreader George Alagiah

European School

The school was the first school in Gateshead to receive the accreditation award 'Schools in Europe' and also holds the International School award. Links have been developed with French, Irish, Portuguese, Austrian and Spanish schools. Teachers visit European schools to learn about their teaching methods and pupils benefit from undertaking European project work with their partner schools.

European Day is celebrated each year with displays, assemblies, a quiz on Europe and a European treasure hunt.



Mr Hannah visits a Spanish School

Sport – A Statement of Policy

Physical Education is an integral part of the school curriculum and provides all pupils with opportunities to experience and recognise progression in all areas of their development.

Our PE programme offers carefully structured challenges presented at the appropriate state of an individual pupil's development and provides for a sense of achievement and a sense of personal well-being.

Aims

Our balanced programme of activities taught through a variety of teaching styles aims to give all children the opportunity to:

1. Develop a variety of physical skills appropriate to their individual ability.
2. Develop responsible attitudes towards and a knowledge of health, hygiene and safety.
3. Help pupils develop skills of communication and the ability to work independently and with others.
4. Appreciate their own and other movements through observation, assessment and evaluation of performance.

5. Be aware of the need for safety and the element of risk to themselves and to others in certain activities.

Our school encourages traditional team sports which include rounders, cricket, football, mini-rugby, netball and soft-tennis. These team sports are played throughout the year weather permitting. The time allocated to these sports is approximately two sessions per week (1hr). Many of the traditional team sports are offered outside of school hours in clubs which run weekly. Each club runs for approximately 1-1hr 30 mins per night. Matches are played as extras as required, friendly or league.

Facilities Available

School Hall/playing field/2 netball courts

Sports Hall – twice a week used for Football/Netball

Football field – available on request.

Our School Hall is used most nights for Sports Clubs.

Other activities available include Dance and Art Clubs.



Sports Day 2010

School Uniform and Dress

School Uniform is both recommended and encouraged. It has been chosen for its practicality and availability. We expect children to come to school in full uniform and have tidy haircuts. Make-up or jewellery is not allowed.

Boys

Dark grey trousers, red sweatshirt, red or white Polo type shirt.

Girls

Dark grey skirt, red sweatshirt and red or white polo shirt.

A red school sweatshirt is available with school badge. (Only school sweaters are to be worn). Also a red/white polo type shirt with badge. These can be ordered in school twice over the school year. We ask the children to wear shoes for school and not trainers and jewellery cannot be worn for Health and Safety reasons. Girls can also wear trousers during the winter.

The headteacher has the right to prohibit the wearing of certain types of clothing or particular items which are considered on safety or other grounds to be unsafe for wear in school. We ask for parents' full support in these matters.

All uniform should be clearly marked.

Physical Education Wear

Parents are expected to provide sports shoes, shorts and sport vests/tops – in a drawstring bag. The school PE uniform is black/navy shorts and white top. (No Bermuda shorts or cycling shorts).

School Bags

It is essential that the children do not bring large sports bags to school as we are unable to have them in our corridors due to Fire regulations. They cannot be placed on pegs as they are too heavy. A small bag will be acceptable.

School Sessions

Parents are advised that children should not arrive on school premises until after 8.40a.m. In times of inclement weather the doors will be opened and the children can go to the school hall at 8.40 a.m. Children should be collected promptly at 3.15 p.m. unless staying for a particular reason i.e. club.

Key Stage 1

8.55 – 10.30

10.45 – 11.55

Lunch 12.00 – 1.15

Reception Lunch 11.45 – 1 p.m.

1.15 – 2.15

2.15 – 2.25 playtime

2.25 – 3.15.

Key Stage 2

8.55 – 10.30

10.45 – 12.15

Lunch 12.15 – 1.15

1.15 – 3.15

no playtime

Teaching time

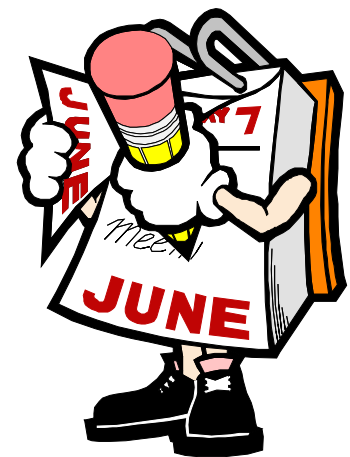
For pupils at K.S.1 21.30 mins

For pupils at K.S.2 23.30mins

Holidays

A holiday list will be circulated each year to parents. All holidays and school closures from September to August will be listed. The list will normally be available early in the Summer Term. Copies are retained in school and are available to parents.

Children are only allowed two weeks holiday during term time (10 days) in an academic year. Anything over this will be counted as unauthorised absence. We ask that parents particularly avoid taking holidays during April and May, due to SATS preparations and assessments.



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Pupil Attendance

If your child is absent for any reason, please inform the school on the first day of absence. A note explaining absence must be presented on the child's return if school have not been informed by telephone.

Year 2009/10	Percent
Authorised absences	4.4
Unauthorised absences	0.1

Behaviour/Discipline

Within the School's Behaviour policy school rules exist to ensure the safety and welfare of the school. We aim to establish a good relationship with our children based on trust and love. Good order, conduct and behaviour are insisted upon as an essential pre-requisite of good tone and learning within the school. An inter-house points system provides opportunity for reward or sanctions and a stimulus to effort and good behaviour. Children are encouraged to show courtesy and good manners and have respect for property.

Extra-Curricular Activities

St Joseph's encourages children of all ages to take part in extra-curricular activities. Many of the traditional sports are offered outside of school hours.

Football/Cricket/Cross-Country/Rugby/Dance/Science and Art Clubs are offered. Each club runs for approximately 1- 1hr 30 mins per night.



Year 6 visit Killhope Mine



Year 6 Victorian Day

Educational Visits

Visits to places of historical, geographical, cultural, artistic interest will take place linking with the School Curriculum and learning topics.

School Meals

Our School Meals are prepared on the school premises and must be paid for at the beginning of the week. Cheques should be made payable to Gateshead Council.

Packed lunches are permitted but parents are asked to adhere to the school's Healthy Eating guidelines.

Free School Meals

Applications through Housing Benefits at Council Offices, Blaydon.

Access to School

In the interest of safety we would ask that you do not park in the school car park during school hours.

We remind parents that the zig-zag lines outside of school are also there for your children's safety and ask that you do not park on them. Car parking near to the school is at a premium we ask that when you park your car you do so with consideration to local residents.

Staff Development

All staff attend courses linked to their areas of curriculum and to the priorities set out in the school improvement plan.

Governor Development

Governors take an active role in the life of school and have in recent years become more actively involved in the curriculum. To further this work the governors attend courses throughout the year.

Medical Matters

In case of your child becoming ill or having an accident we will contact you immediately.

We ask all parents to provide us with an emergency contact, so that they can be notified in such circumstances.

If children are ill please keep them at home until they are well again or their doctor says they can return to school. This is particularly important for the case of infectious diseases. In case of sickness and diarrhoea 48 hours should elapse between the last occurrence and child returning to school.

We also ask that you do not send medicines or tablets to school. However, you or a nominated responsible person may come to school to administer these at lunch time or playtime if it is necessary to do so.

However, in the case of a child having a more serious condition such as diabetes or asthma, the appropriate amount of medicine or an inhaler may be kept in school with the Headteacher's permission.

Access to Documents

Documents required to be available are kept by the Governors and Headteacher and are available on request. These include: A Curriculum Statements and Statutory Instruments, OFSTED Reports, Schemes of Work, Complaints Procedure, RE Syllabus, full copy of Charging Remission Policy and Governors Reports and Minutes.

Complaints Procedure

Any complaints under Section 23 of Education Reform Act in respect of the Curriculum should be brought first to the attention of the Headteacher. Complaints not resolved at school level must be sent in writing to the Director of Education and signed by the complainant. A meeting will then be arranged at which the parents may appear and present the complaint. The parents will then be advised by letter of the outcome of the hearing and advised how to take the next steps if still not satisfied.



Year 5 Trip to Beamish Wild



Year 1 doing PE at St Thomas More



Greggs Cancer Run 2010



Some of our infant children with a selection of our Christmas Shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child appeal.



Children singing for the residents of Valleyview Care home



Year 5 attending the Gateshead Eco-village competition



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

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