

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School March 2010



We were very fortunate to have our 'Living Eggs' in school recently. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing our chicks hatch and grow.



Our Mother's Day Afternoon Tea was a great success! Not a single scone was left!! We hope that those of you who attended felt a little 'pampered' for a while!



## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2010

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February – school closes normal time for Half Term

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Half Term

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 – return to school

Thursday 1st April – last day of Term – school closes at 2.00pm

### Summer Term 2010

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – first day Summer Term

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Bank Holiday – school closed

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May – school closes normal time for Half Term

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 – INSET Day – school closed

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010 – Half Term

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010 – return to school

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010 – last day of Term – school closes 2.00pm

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010 – INSET Day – school closed

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010 – Occasional Day – school closed

One more INSET Day to be confirmed

### Autumn Term 2010

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September school closed for INSET Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September school closed for INSET Day

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September first day of the Autumn Term

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December last day of the Autumn Term – school closes

2:00p.m

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October school closes normal time for half term

(Half Term Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October)

Return Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010

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Dear Parents,

Only another few days and Easter will be here! Let's hope this lovely weather will continue into the holidays.

The Summer Term is always a very busy one and so I am including some dates for May and June so you can get them into your diaries early!!!

I hope those mums and grans who turned up for their 'Mother's Day afternoon tea' enjoyed being waited on by our boys and girls. It was a nice afternoon and I hope you had a nice 'Mother's Day' to follow!!

Earlier this month we were lucky enough to have the 'Living Eggs' again at the school. I am sure you have heard about them from your child/children. We had seven eggs hatch and we have watched them grow over the past two weeks - they have been cuddled *sooooo* much by the children who were mesmerised by them!!! It was a wonderful experience for all of them.

It was lovely to see so many of you attend our Feast Day Mass of St. Joseph. What a lovely celebration it was. To celebrate this important day we had hoped to organise some fun activities for the children to enjoy on the field during the afternoon.

However the weather forecast did not look too promising and so we postponed the events until a drier spell of weather in the Summer term. We will look forward to doing St. Joseph proud then!

## World Maths Day

All Key Stage 1 and 2 children enjoyed the opportunity to get involved in World Maths Day (or days!!!). Mrs Angelides led the day with a really fun 'Maths Assembly'!! The children all had the opportunity to take part in a Maths quiz. All the winners and indeed participants received follow up prizes.

## Easter Breakfast

The Easter breakfast for the children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will take place at 9:30am on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010 in the School hall. All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 parents are welcome to attend.

## Sports Update

Our Netball team recently proved that hard work and determination pay dividends as they recorded their first victory of the season last week. In a terrific match, St. Joseph's beat St. Clement's School 3-1 and the whole team deserve great praise for their efforts, both in this game and throughout the season.

Unfortunately, our football team are still looking for their first victory of the season. In their most recent game against Hurst Drive, the boys took the lead but unfortunately they eventually lost 3-1. In a tournament at Burleigh School last week, the team acquitted themselves very well, despite losing all three of their games.

## Polling Day—School Closure

Please note that school will be closed on Thursday 6th May since the school is being used as a Polling Station for the election.

In addition to this, Bank Holiday Monday is on Monday 3rd May 2010.

### Walk To School Week

'Walk To School' Week will take place in May (dates to follow). The theme for the event this year is 'Walk Your Way' and aims to encourage children to get to know their journey to school and promote independent travel. All children will receive a leaflet to read with parents, a sticker and a diary. There will be more information regarding this event in the April newsletter.

### Orchestra/Choir Assembly

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 there will be a special assembly at which the orchestra and the school choir will be performing for the whole school. These assemblies are a wonderful opportunity for the children to demonstrate their talents and show everybody what can be achieved through hard work and commitment. Parents of those children who are in the orchestra or choir are welcome to attend this assembly which will begin at 9:15am

### End of Term/Easter Break

School closes for the Easter break on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2:00pm. We return to school for the start of the Summer term on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010.



## Year 1 and 2 Production

The children in Years 1 and 2 have been working very hard on their production in recent weeks. The production takes place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 2:00pm in the school hall. We look forward to a wonderful performance...keep learning those songs, everyone!!

## Lenten Collections

Please keep filling those boxes and return them to the school office straight after the Easter holidays. The money raised will go straight to the Westminster Catholic Children's Society to support Catholic children in our Diocese.

## Summer Uniform

Children should all return from their Easter break in Summer uniform. However, there are a couple of things that I would like to remind you about concerning summer uniform. Firstly, boys should not wear high-necked T-shirts under their polo shirts. Vests are fine but the T-shirts do make their uniforms look rather untidy. Secondly, no white plimsolls are permitted, only the regulation black. Girls can wear white shoes or sandals (which can be open-toed) but white trainers are not permitted. In addition to this, can I please remind you that only stud earrings are allowed for the girls, no loops or hoops.

## Vouchers

Thank you to those of you who have already sent in vouchers for the *Sainsbury's Active Kids* and *Tesco's for Schools and Clubs* schemes. We (or should I say you?!) have made a very good start which we hope to maintain...and even better in the weeks to come. Ask friends, family....even the person in front of you in the queue to help boost our total!

## District Sports

District Sports practices will commence directly after the Easter break from 3:40 - 4:30pm as follows:

Tuesday - Years 3 and 4

Thursday - Years 5 and 6

As I'm sure you know, last year, we reluctantly relinquished our crown as 'Small Schools' winners, a position that we had held for five consecutive years!! Obviously, we are keen to regain the trophy this year so it would be wonderful to see as many children as possible at these practices. Of course, only a small number of children can actually be selected for the team but everyone who attends the practices is considered a vital member of the squad. Even if not selected, the benefits in terms of health, fitness and competition cannot be underestimated.

## Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations take place on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 from 1:30 - 7:00pm. Those of you who have not yet made an appointment to see the class teacher and discuss your child(ren)'s report can do so by signing the appointment sheet after school on any day. Please remember that these appointments are only seven minutes in duration and in fairness to all concerned, appointment times must be adhered to.

## Year 4 Action Aid Day

On Friday, the children in Year 4 are holding their fund-raising event for their Action Aid child/community. The children will be selling cakes and juice at morning/afternoon break for just 50p. A yummy treat at a bargain price! Enjoy!!

## Key Stage 1 SATs

There will be a meeting for all Year 2 parents on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 regarding the Key Stage 1 SATs. This will take place in the School Hall at 2:45pm.

## Key Stage 2 SATs

The Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) for Key Stage 2 take place between Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010. This year, Key Stage 2 children will not be tested formally in Science, although we will be administering our own Science tests towards the end of the year. The children have been working really hard in recent weeks in the lead up to the tests and we wish them all the best of luck...you can only do your best, children. Could all Y6 parents ensure that the children get lots of rest and sleep in the coming weeks to ensure that they are in 'tip-top' form for the week of the tests. Optional SATs for Years 3-5 will take place during the following week.

## School Trips

Year 5 enjoyed a wonderful trip to the British Museum earlier in the month and this week Year 3 had a fabulous day at the Celtic Harmony Camp. Year 1 went on a super trip to the Toy Museum in Bethnal Green. Morning Nursery and Reception enjoyed a wonderful day at Capel Manor, which Year 2 will also be visiting next Tuesday. Year 6 will also be heading to the RAF museum in Hendon before the Easter holidays. Such trips are always eagerly anticipated by the children and are of great educational value. Thank you to the teachers and our school secretaries for the time and effort that they put in to ensure that these trips are a success.

### School Field/Garden After School

Could I take this opportunity to remind parents that children are not permitted in the school garden or on the school field after school has ended unless they are taking part in practices. Your children are not supervised during this time and we ask parents to make sure they remain with you at all times. Please remember that the garden and field are strictly out of bounds at this time.

### Year 4 Growing Club

Now that Spring has finally arrived (and long may it continue!!), our Year 4 'Growing Club' has once again begun. Many thanks to Mrs Baker, Mrs Aylott and Lee Barnett (our visiting 'expert'!) who work with the children on a weekly basis to help them plant the various crops and nurture them. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010, the harvested vegetables will be entered into a competition to be staged in Cedars Park involving over 20 other local primary schools. What a great day this promises to be...especially as England will be in the World Cup final later that evening!!

### School Garden

Spring has sprung and Summer is now threatening to 'put in an appearance' at the moment! This of course means that our thoughts once again turn to our fabulous School Garden and the joys that it holds...one of those being its maintenance!! With this in mind, we will be holding a gardening morning on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April (9am—12 noon)...all volunteers more than welcome...and no expertise required...just barrow-loads of enthusiasm!!!