



**St. Joseph's
Catholic Infant
& Junior Schools**
Birtley



Tuesday 7th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Little Liturgical Prayer:

Please remember that our Year 3 Little Liturgical Prayer starts at 9:05am (or as close to 9:05am as possible!) on Wednesday 8th March. We look forward to seeing you in school.



Easter Disco:

We have now finalised the details of an Easter disco and an invitation will be sent out in due course. Tickets will be available for purchase on SchoolGateway. Once tickets have been purchased, our children will then receive a 'physical ticket' to give them entry to the disco.

Date/Time/Location

- Tuesday 28th March 2023
- St. Joseph's, Birtley, Catholic Club
- Infant disco - 4:00pm-5:15pm (*We appreciate that Kensho Karate may be conducting their gradings this week – but we will work with them to ensure the children attending can attend Karate and the disco*)
- Junior disco - 5:15pm-6:30pm



A small tuck shop will be available for children to purchase snacks and drinks with all proceeds going to school to support the development of our reading areas and to pay for the hire of the DJ. Children will be required to be dropped off/picked-up and the disco will be supervised by staff members.

Industrial Action:

The next set of industrial action dates occurs on 15th and 16th March (two consecutive days).

At present, our Reception and Year 3 classes will be closed on both days (Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th). Year 6 will be closed on Wednesday 15th March, only.

School Meal Charges:

Please remember that Gateshead Council's Catering Services charge for school meals is due to rise to £3 per meal, from 1st April (after the Easter holidays). We will update SchoolGateway to reflect the new price rise. Please note that this is outside of school control and the increase is due to rising costs across the food sector. To view the menu – please click: https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/media/28431/School-menu-2022/pdf/School_menu_2022_11h5p2utirmtn.pdf?m=637956670200370000

A sad farewell:

Next week, we bid farewell to Mrs Alexander, our Year 3 teaching assistant, as she leaves us for a much-coveted role at Beamish Museum to work as part of their education team. Mrs Alexander has a passion for history and is very excited to start with the museum, in April. We look forward to keeping in touch with her as she embarks on her new position! Good luck!

The Big Walk:



As part of our Lenten fundraising – CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) has proposed 'The Big Lent Walk' campaign. Please don't forget to sponsor your child and don't forget to send in your sponsorship money to JustGiving!
<https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/stjosephsbirtley>

Football Team: Good luck to the Junior football team as they embark on the Chester-le-Street Schools' Tournament!

Side by Side Arts: We are delighted to share that we are going to be working with Mr Angus of Side by Side Arts, who will be supporting music delivery across our schools. As part of this offer, he is also available to teach children in paired or private lessons in a 'peripatetic' capacity. Further information will be sent out in due course regarding payment and instrumental options. Please note that the peripatetic offer is a non-statutory part of provision, and should parents/carers wish for their child/ren to access peripatetic lessons, then you will pay Side by Side Arts directly. We think this is a fantastic opportunity to further enhance our whole-school music provision and we look forward to seeing the fruits of their work across the schools.



Dates for the Diary (Please note that dates are subject to change):

Wednesday 8th March – Year 3 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am

Thursday 9th March – Mr Taylor for KS2 Bible Story – 1:15pm

Thursday 9th March – Football team matches @ Kibblesworth

Tuesday 14th March – Year 1 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Industrial Action:

Wednesday 15th March – School closed to Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 only

Thursday 16th March – School closed to Reception and Year 3 only

Friday 17th March – School Mass at Church – 10am

Tuesday 21st March – Year 2 Multi-Skills Festival at NUFoundation, Newcastle

Wednesday 22nd March – Year 6 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am start

Wednesday 22nd March – Year 5 Visit to Gibside

Thursday 23rd March – Football team matches @ Kibblesworth

W/C Monday 27th March - Shakespeare Week

Don't forget to send in your sponsorship money to JustGiving!

[The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development \(CAFOD\): The Big Lent Walk \(enthuse.com\)](https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/stjosephsbirtley)

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Tuesday 28th March – Reception Little Liturgical Prayer – 10am start – in Church (KS1 only)

Tuesday 28th March – Junior Dance Festival @ Sage, Gateshead

Tuesday 28th March – Easter Disco @ St. Joseph's Catholic Club (Times TBC)

Thursday 30th March – Football team matches @ Edmondsley

Friday 31st March – Year 5 to lead Stations of the Cross – 2pm – in Church (KS2 only)

Wednesday 19th April – Year 4 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am start

Thursday 20th April – Football team matches @ Ouston

Tuesday 25th April – Year 2 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Wednesday 3rd May – Year 3 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am

Tuesday 16th May – Year 1 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Wednesday 24th May – Year 6 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am

Tuesday 6th June – Reception Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Wednesday 14th June – Year 5 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am

Tuesday 20th June – Year 2 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul – TBC

Tuesday 4th July – Year 1 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9am

Wednesday 12th July – Year 3 Little Liturgical Prayer – 9:05am

Visit: [St Joseph's Birtley Bulletins \(stjosephsbirtley.co.uk\)](http://stjosephsbirtley.co.uk) for more information