



Weekly Bulletin ~ Bwletin Wythnosol

Autumn Term ~ 24th September 2021

This Week's Prayer

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Training Dates

Friday 26th November 2021

Tuesday 21st December 2021

Wednesday 22nd December 2021
[in lieu of Platinum Jubilee]

Thursday 6th January 2022

Monday 25th April 2022

Wednesday 20th July 2022

Calendar Activities

Monday 27th September

Open Evening 5:30pm-7.30pm
(subject to Covid arrangements)

6th – 15th October

Years 8, 9 and 11 First Assessment Weeks

18th October

Year 7 Wellbeing Day

Friday 22nd October

School closes at 3.30pm

Monday 1st November

School re-opens

Data Checking

As parents/carers you will appreciate the importance of keeping individual contact details up-to-date in case there is a need to contact you in an emergency. If any contact details, dietary or medical needs have changed since the summer term, then please let us know immediately so that records can be amended accordingly. This can be done by writing to us or sending an email to mailbox@st-joseph.wrexham.sch.uk.

Mr Wilkinson

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones can only be brought into school under special circumstances. Parents/Carers need to write a letter addressed to the Headteacher requesting permission and stating the reason for bringing the phone into school. If granted, a mobile phone contract will be issued as various conditions need to be met including handing the phone to reception at the start of the day in an envelope marked clearly with the pupil's name and form, otherwise the contract will be retracted. Thank you.

Clubs and Activities

Activity	Time	Teacher	Place
Lunchtime in the Chapel	Mon – Adoration/ Noonday Prayer Tues - Justice & Peace Wed - Check in with the Chaplains Thurs - Fiction & Flicks Fri - Taize Prayer 12.30pm-12.45pm	Chaplains	Chapel
Art Club [KS4]	Tues and Wed 3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Taylor	Art Room
Extra Maths [Intermediate KS4]	Tues 6pm-6.30pm	Mr Donlon	Google Classroom
Additional Maths	Thurs 3.30pm-4.15pm	Mr Tait	MA4
Extra Maths [Intermediate KS4]	Wed and Thurs 3.30pm-4.15pm	Mrs Jobson	MA2
Band	Wed 3.30-4.30pm	Mr Sammons	Social Court
School Choir	Tues and Thurs 12.55pm	Mr Sammons	Music Room
Physical Education Sports Clubs	<i>Termly rota available soon</i> Badminton Mon-Fri 12.25pm-1.20pm Football Tues 3.30pm-4.30pm Netball Tues 3.30pm-4.30pm [7,8] Netball Thurs 3.30pm-4.30pm [9,10 & 11]	PE Teachers	Sports Hall / Gym / Outside
Design Technology [KS4]	Thurs 3.30-4.30pm	Mr Lambert & Mr Farrell	TE2

We are looking into the possibility of resuming Study Plus sessions which usually run from Monday to Friday 12.30pm-1pm and Monday to Thursday 3.30pm-4.30pm. We will keep you updated.

Year 7, 8 and 9

Over the coming weeks pupils in Years 7-9 will sit either a CAT or MidYis assessment. These will take place in ICT lessons and will be taken online. These assessments are a normal part of school life, and do not require any advance preparation or revision. The outcome of the assessments will not be shared with you, but will be used to inform teacher planning and possibly literacy and numeracy interventions.

Year 9 Football (Under 14's)

Next Wednesday, 29th September is our first football fixture for some time! This will be a home match, and the first round of the Welsh Cup! Parents are welcome to attend and support the team – please adhere to social distancing whilst on the premises. We wish the Year 9 team the best of luck!

Bags2School

Do you have any old clothes you wish to dispose of? Now could be the time for a wardrobe sort out! Watch this space for a date when you can send in or drop off your unwanted clothing and raise money for the school and the same time.

Lost Property

As mentioned previously, lost property is currently on display for pupils to retrieve their lost items. This will be available each day Monday to Wednesday next week. If you want to look through, parents/carers can come next Wednesday at 4pm.

Lateral Flow Tests

Pupils should be taking two Lateral Flow Tests per week. These tests help identify asymptomatic cases of Covid-19. School will receive a delivery of test kits next Tuesday 28th September, and these will then be distributed to pupils. Remember – if a child has any of the 3 main symptoms of Covid-19, they should refrain from school and arrange a PCR test. Many thanks for your continued support.

Vaccination of 12 to 15 year olds

I **do not have any** information regarding the Welsh programme of Covid-19 vaccinations for children. The latest information available is at gov.wales/covid-19-vaccination-12-15-year-olds If, or when I receive information, this will be passed on to you. Many thanks to those parents/carers who have written to me.

School Transport

Please can you ensure that pupils have their bus pass and face mask with them in order to board the bus. Pupils may be denied travel if they are unable to present these on all journeys.

If you have not applied for school transport please go to the local authority's website at https://www.wrexham.gov.uk/english/education/Transport_Policy.htm and apply via the Council's online Citizen's Portal. Please note that alternative travel arrangements will have to be made until confirmation has been received from the Council that your child can travel on a school bus.

Travel Arrangements

Please can Parents and Carers ensure that pupils are fully aware of their end of school travel arrangements before coming to school to avoid our Reception Staff having to pass messages to pupils throughout the day. Thank you.

Attendance Matters

This week's whole school attendance is **90.6%** which is below our stretch target of 96.5%.

There is still a lot more work that needs to be done with the form families to reach the required level. It is disappointing to see results from 8 Romero and 10 Kolbe– let's see better results next week please!

Mrs Ellis

Year	Cassidy	Devereux	King	Kolbe	Romero	Year Average
7	98.5☺	92.9	95.7	96.3	95.9	95.9
8	99.2☺	93.4	90	90.3	79.7	90.5
9	94.2	96.5☺	94.8	90.5	94.8	94.2
10	94.4	87.3	83	79.8	81.8	85.3
11	92.9	91.4	83.8	85.3	93	89.3
Family Average	95.8	92.3	89.5	88.4	89	

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Changes to contact tracing and self-isolation from this September

As we return to school, there are some new arrangements in place when someone tests positive for COVID-19. These changes have been made possible by the vaccination programme and the significant reduction in numbers being hospitalised and suffering severe illness due to COVID-19 over recent months.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 using a PCR test, NHS Test, Trace, Protect (TTP) will contact you, using the details provided when the PCR test was ordered. They will ask questions designed to identify recent close contacts of your child, and for contact details - if you know them - of the individual or their parent/guardian. TTP will then get in touch with these close contacts to provide instructions or advice.

Those who are under 18 or fully vaccinated are no longer required to self-isolate if they are identified as close contacts. But they will be contacted to let them know that they've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. They will also be offered two PCR tests and provided with information and advice on how to minimise the risks of onward spread. If your child is identified as a close contact, they can still attend school unless they develop symptoms or are advised otherwise by TTP. Please continue to let us know if your child tests positive.

If a child tests positive, only a minority of their classmates will be identified as close contacts. But if there is a pattern of cases TTP may ask us to update you on the situation and remind you of key steps, including advising you to keep an eye out for new symptoms your child may develop, and to stay away from vulnerable family and friends in the short-term.

We do expect that there will be cases of COVID-19 across our community over the coming weeks, but this does not mean that COVID-19 is spreading within the school. Please continue to be vigilant for symptoms. If you are in any doubt, order a PCR test for your child at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

Anyone with symptoms - a new continuous cough, fever or high temperature or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste - should remain in self-isolation until the test result is known. You can find the latest information on self-isolation arrangements at www.gov.wales/self-isolation.

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families have had to make. Thank you for everything you have done to support your child and our school.