



St Joseph's Primary School

Carnacaville

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Principal: Mr Christopher McCann Bsc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)



July 2019

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I hope you are all enjoying the start of the Summer holidays and that you are looking forward to a long break.

I would like to draw your attention to a few items before the new term is upon us.

New Term Start Dates

- Reception and Primary 1 pupils have already been given their specific start dates.
- School then reopens for all pupils on **Monday 2nd September 2019**.

Staffing.

- I am delighted to welcome Mr Liam McGahon to St. Joseph's as a new permanent member of staff. He will take over Primary 7 this year. Mr McGahon brings an excellent skill set to our school and I know all our pupils will benefit from his talents.
- Mr Knight will step into Primary 5 this year. I would like to thank him for his many years of dedication to Primary 6 and Primary 7.
- Mrs Claxton will now be teaching Primary 2. Miss Cunningham takes up a new position in another school from September. She will be truly missed by staff, pupils and parents and we wish her good luck.

Cashless Payments

During the first term we will be introducing a cashless payment system for all school monies. This will include Breakfast Club, school dinners, afterschool clubs, trips etc. It will take a number of weeks to set the system up and will be rolled out slowly to give parents time to adjust. I will give you a more detailed time frame as the term progresses.

School Uniform and Shoes

- **Bingham's in Newcastle are the sole provider of our school uniform.**
- I would ask all parents to adhere fully to our uniform policy and provide pupils with proper uniform items from our agreed supplier.
- ***Please remember to label your child's uniform and all of his/her belongings.***
- Pupils are permitted to only wear black school shoes.
- ***Black runners with white soles or stripes are not permitted***
- **All school shoes and PE trainers must have NON MARKING SOLES.**
- Please ensure to ask for non-marking soles when purchasing shoes for your child.

- If a pupil's shoes mark the floors excessively, staff have been asked to bring it to your attention.
- I would ask you to ensure that any pupils with shoulder length or longer hair have it tied back daily in a plait or pony tail This is for practical reasons as it keeps hair away from their face during work time, playtime and PE. It also helps to minimise the spread of head lice.
- For health and safety reasons pupils are only permitted to wear small stud type ear rings.

Early Morning Service

Our Early Morning Service will begin again on **Monday 3rd September 2019.** Parents are free to use the service on whatever day(s) suit them.

We make every effort to ensure costs are kept to a minimum for parents so please note **Prices have will remain the same as last year.**

The service will be available ***from 7:45am until 8:45am each morning.*** Breakfast will be provided with a choice of cereal and toast, water, juice or milk. Pupils using the service will enter the school sports hall via the fire escape door. Pupils will be supervised in the sports hall then allowed onto the yard at 8:45am where normal morning supervision will continue. The Costs are listed below.

1 child	£1:50 per day
2 children	£2:50 per day
3 children	£3:50 per day
4 Children	£4:50 per day

Money must be paid by the pupil on the day you use the service or a number of days can be paid in advance. Arrears will not be allowed to build up.

It is important to mention: -

Only pupils using The Early Morning Service will gain access to school before 8:45am. The side gate into the yard will NOT be opened until 8:45am so please ensure an adult remains with your child until the gate is opened.

Adults on School Premises

Due to child safeguarding regulations: -

- Adults are asked not to use mobile phones while on school premises.
- Adults are not allowed within the school building unsupervised or unless signed in as an official visitor.
- **All parents/carers must report to Reception front desk through the Main Front Entrance.**
- Adults are **not permitted** to go directly to a class and enter the room. If you wish to speak to a teacher, please contact the front desk to arrange a suitable time for you both.
- Please respect that staff will be busy preparing for the teaching day and may not, at that moment be able to give you the time you require. Please do not be offended if you are asked to leave. This is for your protection as much as your children's protection.
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School Meals

School meals are available for all P1 – P7 pupils at a cost of **£2.60 per day** or **£13:00 per week**.

If you wish to avail of school meals, please ensure that payment is made ***in advance***. If you feel that your child is eligible for free school meals, please pick up a form from the school office and complete as soon as possible.

Free meals cannot be administered in school until the correct forms have been completed and we have been informed by the Education Authority.

Nut and Kiwi Allergy

We have some pupils who have been diagnosed with an allergy to nuts and Kiwi fruit. As a consequence of this I would ask that ***no nuts, kiwi or products based on them (including Nutella) are brought into school for snacks or packed lunch.***

Attached below and available on the school website are a list of the main closures for the new academic year.

Thank you for your continued help and support in all these matters.

Kindest Regards,

Christopher McCann
Principal

2019 – 2020 Important Dates

Start of Term	Monday 2 nd September 2019	School open for all pupils.
Staff Day	Monday 30 th September 2019	School closed for all pupils.
Beginning of year Mass	Friday 4 th October 2019 @ 10:00am	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
Halloween Bun Sale & Raffle	Monday 28 th October 2019 @1.15pm (Pupils can come in fancy dress.)	School Closes for all pupils at 2:00pm.
Halloween Holidays	Tuesday 29 th October – Friday 1 st November 2019	School closed to all pupils.
School reopens	Monday 4 th November 2019	
Parent Teacher Meetings for all classes	Monday 25 th November 2019	School closed to all pupils.
Open Morning preparation	Thursday 5 th December 2019	School closes for all pupils @2:00pm.
Open Morning	Friday 6 th December 10:00am – 12 noon	
Schools Carol Service	Monday 16 th December 2019 7:00pm	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
Christmas Holidays	Friday 20 th December 2019	12:00 noon finish for all classes (no bus).
School reopens for Spring Term	Monday 6 th January 2020	School reopens for all pupils.
Staff Day	Friday 31 st January 2020	School Closed for all Pupils.
Midterm break	Friday 14 th February 2020	School closes for all pupils @2:00pm.
Midterm break	Monday 17 th February- Friday 21 st February 2020	School Closed.
School reopens	Monday 24 th February 2020	School reopens for all pupils.
First Confession & Commitment Service	Friday 13 th March 2020 @2:00pm	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
St Patrick's Day	Tuesday 17 th March 2020	School closed to all pupils.
Easter Holidays	Holy Thursday 9 th April 2020	12:00 noon finish for all classes (No bus).
School reopens for Summer Term	Monday 20 th April 2020	School reopens for all pupils.
Commitment Service for Holy Communion	Friday 24 th April 2020 @10:00am	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
1 st May Bank Holiday *	Friday 8 th May & Monday 11 th May 2020	School Closed for all pupils.
First Holy Communion	Saturday 16 th May @ 11:00am	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
Sports Day (Weather permitting)	Friday 22 nd May 2020	
2 nd May Bank Holiday	Monday 25 th May 2020	School Closed for all pupils.
End of Year Mass	Monday 15 th June @ 7:00pm	Our Lady of the Assumption Newcastle
School Year End	Tuesday 30 th June 2020	12:00 noon finish for all classes (no bus).

(Please note these dates may be subject to change)

Confirmation date will be available in due course.