

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear all,

**Face coverings**

Although in many areas infection rates remain low, the national picture continues to deteriorate and further restrictions have been put in place by the government to reduce transmission. Since the beginning of term, staff and students in our Academy secondary schools have been required to wear face coverings in communal areas, corridors, meeting rooms, staff rooms etc. From next Monday our staff at St Joseph's will be wearing face coverings in communal areas and when seeing parents at the beginning and the end of the day. Staff will not be wearing them when teaching the children in class or on the playground with the children. The staff will talk to the children about this today so they are not worried when they see them wearing them on Monday and if you could reiterate this at home as well that would be really helpful.

The social distancing, standing on spots, still remains in the playground but I also strongly recommend for your safety and the staff safety that all parents and carers wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up.

We continue to not allow parents into the main school building but from Monday all parents must wear a face covering when entering the office.

**PE kit**

Reception, Year 1 and 2 already come into school wearing their PE kit on chosen days. From Monday, KS2 are going to do the same.

Year 5 and 6 are to come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday

Year 3/4 are to come to school wearing PE kit on a Wednesday

Please ensure the children have navy or black jogging bottoms as well as the green logo t-shirt, black shorts or skirt and trainers as it is getting very cold now. The children also need their green school jumper or cardigan with it.

As it is getting colder please ensure your child has their cardigan or jumper and coat in school every day as we are keeping windows open and going outside as much as possible.

**CEO**

This week our new CAST CEO, Zoe Batten came and visited the school. She was very impressed with the school. She said the classes were all very calm with a purposeful air, the children were all engaged and on task and the staff all looked and seemed very happy. It was good to meet her and have an opportunity to show her around.

**Scam**

We have received reports from other schools of parents being called on the phone, allegedly by their school, to say their child has been involved in an incident or taken ill. An example has been where a parent was called to say the child was ill and asked to dial 1 to be connected to the right person to speak to. This child was at home that day so they knew it could not be correct. They attempted to ring the school but it turned out to be a high cost phone line. If we call you we will never ask you to call any number other than ours – 01395 264875 and then you just hold to speak to the office.

**PTA**

The Bags 2 School collection is 9am on 7th October. Please drop any bags to school no earlier than 6th October. If you need to arrange an alternative drop off please speak to the PTA Team; Hannah, Sarah or Katy or email [pta@stjo.uk](mailto:pta@stjo.uk).

Have a good weekend

Best wishes

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

**Headteacher's Award:** Cherry – Ellis**Stars of the Week:** Oak – Aurelia, Rowan – Seb, Sycamore – Jonah, Cedar – Finlay,  
Maple – Freddie, Beech – George