



**ST JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
Part of the Edmund Rice Family

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year. The staff and I wish you a very happy and peaceful 2018.

Thank you to everyone for your very kind Christmas wishes and generous presents, which have been very much appreciated. Thank you.

And so to 2018 ...

This week is back on timetable.

Our focus for this term is The Holy Bible and displays around school will be focussed on the Old Testament.

Our assembly theme for this term are the Miracles of Jesus.

We have an Epiphany Mass on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 1-30pm at St Theresa's Church in Trent Vale. Parents and carers are most welcome to attend as we celebrate Epiphany. For the coming few weeks there will be no Pre Prep and EYFS dance on a Thursday afternoon. Miss Jane who has taught Dance at St Joseph's Prep for many years has retired. We do thank her for all her dedication, hard work and the enjoyment which she has given to so many children and their parents over the years.

We are in the process of recruiting a suitable replacement for Miss Jane and I will inform you when this has been done.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Maskery for the work which she has done for the school over 30 years - whilst Mrs Maskery is continuing to support our Breakfast Club and supervise the side gate in the morning, she is no longer going to be part of our dinner time team. Mrs Maskery has worked very hard over the years and has been a very reliable staff member, walking back and forth up Rookery Lane throughout the day to work with us. Our 'Joes Club' as it is today has metamorphosed with the help and experience of Mrs Maskery. Thank you.

On that note I would like to welcome Mrs Devgon to be part of the support team at the school. Mrs Devgon will be one of our dinner time Supervisors and then will be taking on a cleaning role after school.

The school is always grateful for the help and support of the PTA. Mrs Bains has headed up the PTA team over the recent years but would now like to pass on the Chairship due to her own family and business commitments. We would be very grateful if any parent would consider taking on this role and leading the PTA onwards into 2018 and beyond. There is a team of people who are supportive and Mrs Bains or myself are very happy to talk to anyone who is interested about this role.

I would like to thank Mrs Bains for all her hard work and to Mrs Brittleton and Mr Povey for the support that they have given as part of the team.

Just a reminder that tomorrow 4<sup>th</sup> January the School Nursing team will be available in the school foyer between 3 to 3-45pm should any have any issues with their child/children on which they would like advice.

Please can I ask that children attend school in the correct uniform and that warm/waterproof black coats are provided. Plain Black or Red Hats, Gloves and Scarves – No other colours are permitted.

Haircuts need to be in a smart conventional style. I would ask that boys do not have patterns shaved into heads and that the latest 'fashion' cuts are avoided. Girls need to have shoulder length hair tied back in red or black hair accessories. No nail polish, temporary tattoos or earrings permitted.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named so that we can return 'lost' items to their owners.

Thank you for your help in these matters.

We will endeavour to keep you fully informed as the term progresses. Please view our website and my weekly Blog where I update you on the week ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

### **A New Year's Prayer**

Lord, You make all things new  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year  
For all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us  
A mighty flame  
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God  
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Amen

Yours sincerely

*S. D. Hutchinson .*

**Mrs S D Hutchinson BEd**  
**Headteacher**