



Statement of the week:

"I can say how I feel."

I will inform parents if their child is in the golden book each Thursday by text. As the assembly will only now last until 9.45 the children who are in the golden book/ awards will be read out and presented at 9.30. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

Admissions

The admission round for **high schools** is now open so please make sure you have applied before October 31st.

Admission into Reception for September 2015 will open officially on 1st November and run until 15th January 2015. If your child will be 4 before 31st August then you need to apply during this round. **Please apply online AND come and ask for a supplementary information form at school.**

Handball Sessions

Handball sessions continue this Thursday for Year 5. Last week's session was very well attended by Y6 and enjoyed by all.

Year 5 September 25th/2nd October

Year 4 October 9th/October 16th

Year 3 October 23rd/November 6th

Big Sing

Year 4 will attend the Big Sing event organised by the Catholic Compass Partnership at Mount St Mary's in Leeds on the 7th October.

Building work

The new pathway is almost complete and a barrier fence to the car park will be erected next week and the new entrance gate before half term.

The new building incorporating a new staff and visitor entrance will provide security for all our children as safeguarding was our prime concern when drawing up plans for this development.

The new building will provide the school with a parents/visitor waiting area between 9 and 3.15, a meeting room/booster class and a music area. All these additional spaces will be well used by the children and allow parents to discuss any issues in a private and confidential space.

We shall hold a coffee morning once large scale plans are available so that you may familiarise yourselves with the scope of the new developments over the coming months.

We have managed to access this funding through the diocese but we have had to pay for the pathway, barrier fencing and gate at a cost of £12,000. We also have to pay 10% on the total building costs of £11,300 as a school/governor contribution.

For this reason and the benefits that your child will receive not only in terms of safeguarding can I encourage you to continue paying your VCS (Voluntary Contribution to School) or start up paying VCS if you have not previously done so.

Where does the money come from for our Building Programme?

St Joseph's is a Voluntary Aided (VA) school and as such is responsible for all capital works i.e. building projects and school improvements. The funding for building work in a Voluntary Aided school comes from two main sources: 1) the capital budget provided by the local authority and 2) additional funding from the Diocese of Leeds. As a VA school, 10% of total building costs have to be paid by the School Governing Body. If the money cannot be raised the projects are not approved. To support the school in fulfilling its current and future commitments, the Governors ask that every family commit to making a regular contribution to the School Building Fund. The value of your contribution is for you to decide but we would ask you to consider a contribution of £5 per family per month.

If every family participated, the school could raise a staggering £9660 per year which would be used to fund our 10% commitment for improvements to our school. The previous building project required the school to fund £19,000 and this project will require £11,300. Without the continued support of the families and friends of St Joseph's this would not be possible.

I would like to thank the families who regularly contribute towards the building fund. We have currently 66 families contributing out of 161 families. If you require any further information please contact the office.

If you have not already done so, please contact the school office for a form.

Football

We have entered three football teams in the league this year, U9's, U10's and U11's.

The U9's played St Nicholas' at home last week and narrowly lost 2-1.

Upcoming fixtures

U10's vs Alwoodley Monday 29th September

U11's vs Strawberry Fields Wednesday 1st October

U11's vs St Nicholas' Friday 3rd October

Parent Evenings

Hard copy letters were sent out to all parents yesterday detailing the new arrangements for appointments for the 10th & 11th November parent evenings. Parents should already have received an e mail on Tuesday. This is a new initiative that is intended to make arranging an appointment easier.

