



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

St Joseph's CP School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff & volunteers to share this commitment

## Pastoral Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

For those of you that I have not met yet my name is Teresa Blackman and I am St Joseph's AEN Welfare Officer. I have now been in post for 6 weeks and I have very much enjoyed my time here, the children, staff and parents have been so welcoming and I am really looking forward to building strong firm relationships with all the families that attend our wonderful school.

My role is to provide pastoral support to parent/carers: help with any issues that you may have in relation to supporting your children, both at home and in school. I work to encourage parental involvement within school, signpost to agencies (where appropriate) and support children in school.

Should you have a personal concern or school related issue, then I am here to offer support. I have access to a number of agencies who may be able to provide assistance to you and your family.

### **Any query large or small, I am here to help**

I am in school from 8.30am-3.30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays, term time only.

Please email me [mblackman@st-josephs-broadstairs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:mblackman@st-josephs-broadstairs.kent.sch.uk) or call or text on my working days. If you text please add your name and child's name.

**07544831088**

I will provide a half termly newsletter to families to give you some ideas of things to do during the school breaks and some websites that you may find useful.

## **HALF TERM LINK TO ACTIVITIES**

Half term can be one of the more challenging school holidays: the weather can still be cold so opportunities for getting out and about can be tricky. Let our holiday planner help you fill the days to keep everyone happy, including you!

Keeping your kids entertained on a budget can be difficult and many parents say they find the October half term holiday particularly stress-inducing.

Yet with a little bit of planning and some ideas up your sleeve - check out our listings of **half term events happening near you** - you can all enjoy a brilliant break.

For more information click on this link: <https://www.netmums.com/>

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*The usual trick or treating may not be taking place this year because of Covid restrictions but there is still some Halloween fun to be had in Thanet:*

## **Thanet Pumpkin Trail**

A Ramsgate mum-of-one has created a fabulous Thanet Pumpkin Trail group.

Ange Martin came up with the idea of the trail where people wanting to get involved can display a special poster in the window for children to spot. The youngster then receives a sweet from their accompanying adult - meaning no door knocking to keep the fun socially distanced.

The idea has caught the imagination of Thanet families with the group swelling in numbers and [a google map created with pins added to the streets where homes and businesses have pledged to take part.](#)

The Thanet Pumpkin Trail guidelines for the event are:

Have a picture of a Pumpkin displayed in a window to show you're taking part with the words "Thanet Pumpkin Trail" on it somewhere. If you want to include carved out pumpkins and other spooky things then please do! The spookier the better

When the child/young person spots the pumpkin pictures in the window, their grown ups will give them a sweet\* to put in their bag and then move on to find more pumpkin pictures. The grown ups buy the sweets beforehand to put in the bag on their way round the trail\*

NO knocking on people's doors as this is a social distanced event. This is to keep everyone safe and to avoid the spread of germs.

Most importantly have lots of spooky fun and if you do spot anyone taking part in the trail give each other a wave and a smile for a bonus sweet!

Among the businesses taking part is Sweetie Belle's Treats who will be doing a special Halloween offer with the group, Snips Barbers in Westgate and also Little Brown Fairy Cake in Westgate's Station Road which has an amazing Hocus Pocus window display made from cake!

[To get involved find Thanet Pumpkin Trail on facebook here](#)

## **The Gift Box**

[The Gift Box](#) in Broadstairs has joined the Halloween fun by organising a free spooky trail.

Find the answers to Halloween clues around the isle and then email them to The Gift Box for a chance to win a digital certificate and a voucher for a balloon display.

The trail will be open from October 26-31. Question sheets will be posted on The Gift Box facebook page, answers can be sent to [Thegiftbox\\_2020@outlook.com](mailto:Thegiftbox_2020@outlook.com)

## **Spooky Cliftonville**

Swirling sea mists or ghoulish goings-on - nothing is quite as it seems in Cliftonville this October as the ghosts of Gordon Road return once more to the land of the living.

Join the GRASS group for a family-friendly party with pumpkin carving and fancy-dress competitions.

Free pumpkins for GRASS area residents, with healthy recipe card, available on a first come, first served basis.

The GRASS ghouls are giving away 100 pumpkins and goody bags to households in the GRASS area streets:

Edgar Road, St Paul's Road, Gordon Road, Stanley Road, Percy Road, Cliftonville Mews, Ethelbert Crescent (between Edgar & Sweyn), and Sweyn Road.

The first 100 people to register at the form below will receive a free pumpkin (maximum 2 per household) and a goody bag, delivered to their front door on Thursday, October 29.

Anyone in Cliftonville can enter the competition, not just people receiving a free GRASS pumpkin. Just post a photo of your pumpkin on social media with the hashtag [#SPOOKTONVILLE](#)

Don't forget to display your pumpkin in your window to help make Cliftonville a spooky spectacular.

For full details visit <https://grasscliftonville.org/spooktonville>



**A support & information sharing group  
for families, carers, friends of  
children & adults with **AUTISM**  
(and associated learning difficulties)**



Due to the COVID-19 situation, **SPOTS** will not be meeting 'in person' at GREEN BANKS until further notice.



**SPOTS** will be meeting 'virtually' via ZOOM every Monday morning from 10am.



If you would like to join **SPOTS** for an 'online' chat and a cuppa, please contact us for ZOOM log-in details.



Telephone numbers –  
07717064944 or 07938952138  
Email - [spotspectrum@gmail.com](mailto:spotspectrum@gmail.com)



## **Virtual Behaviour Workshops**

Delivered by our Early Help Workers, each month you can join our workshops, covering one of the following topics relating to children's behaviour.

- **Play - October 2020**
- **Sleep - November 2020**
- **Tantrums - December 2020**
- **Boundaries, Consequences and Praise**

**To Book Spaces please see link below**

**\*<https://www.facebook.com/ThanetChildrensCentres/>**

**Suitable for families with children  
aged between 1 and 10**

## Well Being

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

### **NHS - Every Mind Matters**

Whether it's improving a child's mental resilience, helping them settle back at school, or looking after a parent's mental wellbeing [Every Mind Matters](#) has NHS-approved support that's right for both parents and children.

### **Domestic Abuse Support Services - Website**

This website has been produced by the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (KMDASVEG) in order to provide a central, comprehensive resource of all Domestic Abuse related services within Kent and Medway for victims, friends & family and perpetrators

<http://>

[www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk/](http://www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk/)

### **Insight Healthcare - Talking therapy service**

This is a not-for-profit organisation providing free NHS talking therapy services across Kent for anyone aged 17+ living in East Kent - [Find a service here](#). GPs can refer or self-referrals can be made online. **Contact:** 0300 555 5555 / [kent@insighthealthcare.org](mailto:kent@insighthealthcare.org).

**Home Start Thanet** - has online services available for families in Thanet including:

The Embrace Programme - family outreach which provides parents and children with tools to reinforce coping skills and resilience to life's transitions.

Embrace counselling service - free service

The Butterfly Programme - supporting children displaying emotional, cognitive and behavioural issues.

A new Emotional Support Helpline for parents is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9.30am-12.30pm on 01843 609665.

For more details:

[www.homestartthanet.org.uk](http://www.homestartthanet.org.uk)

## **ONLINE TRAINING**

### **New Skills Academy - virtual courses**

This training provider provides access to 760 courses and accredited qualifications through online learning to develop skills and improve career prospects:

<https://newskillsacademy.co.uk/>

## **FREE FAMILY LEARNING COURSES**



### **Cooking on a Budget**

Date and duration: 02/11/2020 12:30 - 14:30  
for 6 weeks

### **Chatter Matters**

Date and duration: 03/11/2020 09:30 - 11:30  
for 4 weeks

### **Keeping up with Children English**

Date and duration: 03/11/2020 12:30 - 14:30  
for 4 weeks

Only 4 places remaining

### **Family Story Writing**

Date and duration: 04/11/2020 10:00 - 12:00  
for 5 weeks

### **Keeping up with Children Maths**

Date and duration: 04/11/2020 12:30 - 14:30  
for 4 weeks

### **Parents to Employment**

Date and duration: 04/11/2020 09:30 - 11:30  
for 5 weeks

### **Mini Builders and Boffins**

Date and duration: 05/11/2020 09:30 - 11:30  
for 3 weeks

### **Reading is Fun**

Date and duration: 09/11/2020 09:30 - 11:30  
for 4 weeks

### **Managing Children's Behaviour**

Date and duration: 09/11/2020 19:00 - 21:00  
for 5 weeks

### **First Aid For Families - Adults only**

Date and duration: 09/11/2020 12:30 - 14:30  
for 3 weeks

### **Keeping up with Children - English**

Date and duration: 09/11/2020 09:30 - 11:30  
for 4 weeks

### **Food is Fun Cooking on a Budget**

Date and duration: 13/11/2020 09:30 - 12:00  
for 6 weeks

**DO NOT MISS OUT ON THESE AMAZING FREE COURSES FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY**

**TO BOOK:**

<https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk/course-areas/family-courses-page->

[Number=1&pageSize=10&sortOrder=StartingSoonest&alreadyStarted=No&category=Family%20Courses](https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk/course-areas/family-courses-page-Number=1&pageSize=10&sortOrder=StartingSoonest&alreadyStarted=No&category=Family%20Courses)

**For more information call 03000 41 40 25**