

New Website / Twitter

We have a shiny new website, which we are learning how to use, so please bear with us if a few things are not up there yet, we are updating the calendar and put updates on our Twitter daily.

DIARY DATES

11.09.2023	Whole School Mass – Blessed Dominic Barbieri 09:30
14.09.2023	Meet the Head – 2.15 Meet the Teacher – 2.40
21.09.2023	KS1 and EYFS -Reading & Phonics Parents Workshop/Coffee Morning – 09:00
26.09.2023	Year 4 Earth Trust Trip
29.09.2023	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
02.10.2023	School Closed – INSET
06.10.2023	Harvest Mass in School – 1.30
13.10.2023	Year 4 – 6 Sleepover
19.10.2023	Yr 6 - PFMAC Music Festival at Town Hall 2pm
22.10.2023	Half Term

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for September 2023

For people living on the margins:

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Blessed Dominic Barberi Church <https://www.bldominicbarberioxford.org.uk/>
Sacred Heart Blackbird Leys <https://sacredheartoxford.com/>

God Bless
Mr Paul Higgins and the SJF Team

St John Fisher Newsletter



Welcome back everyone,

I hope you all had a great summer and have come back refreshed and ready for an exciting year ahead – I for one am incredibly excited at what is to come. The children have been incredible this week, I cannot remember a calmer and more focused first week back in my many years of teaching.



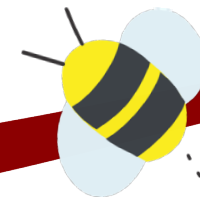
Hopefully by now you have all seen our new Ofsted report. We are incredibly proud of our new 'Good' rating, this is the recognition the school deserves, but this is just the beginning. We are focused on ensuring all the hard work and good feeling around the school grows even further.

Please spread the word in the local community – We are going to be smiling out from the pages of The Oxford Mail this week.

Ofsted
Good

After school Clubs

We have a new booking system for breakfast and after school clubs, via School Gateway, Payments are online and you have the ability to book sessions in advance, a 'drop in' service will be available, but at an increased cost.



Reading

Beautiful new reading records are due to arrive next week, when we will send out more information for our reading schemes. There is also a Phonics Workshop, led by Ms McCarthy, for parents booked for Thursday 21st September, where parents can come, have a cup of coffee and learn about how to support their KS1 child

MEET THE TEACHER/HEAD TEACHER

This Thursday is our "Meet the Teacher" afternoon. At 2.15 I am going to be available in the hall to talk about my vision for the school and answer any parental questions on whole school development, I would love to have as many people as possible there. Then from 2.40, parents are invited to meet their new class teachers in phase groups. (Year 3 and Reception will not be taking part)

Start/End of Day

Thank you so much for your patience at the beginning and end of the day. I have been so happy with how the KS2 gate has worked from 3.10. I know that in KS1 things are a little slower at the moment, but whilst we still have building materials in the school, we need to continue with the set up. Can I just ask that parents stand back a little to help the teachers see who is there, and to refrain from sitting on the staff cars.

Parking

Please refrain from parking on the zigzags. I know it is tempting, but it is unsafe, and illegal. A letter will go out this week with permits for parking at the bowls club.

School Events

Mrs Ball and Mrs Moss took advantage of the hot weather to raise money for 'Friends of St John Fisher' with our ice cream sales. These were a huge success and the money will go towards subsidising trips and experiences for our children.

Unfortunately it was noticed by staff that a few parents were being vocally critical of the sale in front of children and families. If you do not wish to take part, that is absolutely fine, but please don't criticise fundraising efforts. We are trying to build an inclusive, Catholic environment and wish for all parents to support this with a positive attitude.



Whole school Mass

On Monday Fr Ziggy celebrated Mass at Bd Dominic Barbieri for our whole school community. It was a wonderful way to start the new term, and something we are going to aim to do more throughout the year.



Mrs Penman sends her love:

"Dear parents and children,
Thank you for the wonderful messages, cards, and gifts. I am very grateful. St John Fisher has a special place in my heart, and I look forward to reading your news. Congratulations on the GOOD OFSTED grading! Have a great start to the new term."

Class places at SJF

We still have places available in some year groups, however, we expect them to fill quite quickly now we have our new report. Please spread the word to those that you know to contact the school office if they would like a tour.

Electronic Devices

Please can we make sure that any watches our children are wearing are not Smart watches, we cannot have children with access to calls, messages, or able to get online whilst at school.

Staffing Updates

Mrs Butler, our new Y3 teacher has not been here for the start of term due to her child being hospitalised, but should be re-joining us in the next few weeks. Mrs Greer is sadly not with us for the start of term due to illness, Mrs Brown will be teaching Y2 with Ms McCarthy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to them both.

Mrs Broadhurst and Mrs Wickens are teaching Y5 this term, with Ms Onamusi joining us from term 2

Mr Williams, of Blackbirds fame, is joining us as our PE coach for the

