

Year 6 Induction Activity – The Catholic life of the school

Hello and welcome to our School community. We cannot wait to meet you and to welcome you into our school family. As a member of St Joseph's, you will wear the school badge to represent who we all are. However, each and every one of you is also valuable in your own special way.

Each one of you has your own past, present, future hopes & anxieties.

Activity 1 The School Badge

In your RE lessons you will learn all about the symbols on the badge. Before you arrive however we want you to think about what your individual badge might have on it. Therefore in **the 4 boxes of the school badge** we would like you to think about your past, present and future, all of which combine to make you who you are today.

- *Past memories* – Write down the special memories and moments from your time at primary school?
- *Present Feelings* - Write down how you are feeling about leaving primary school and joining a new school?
- *Future*- Write down any fears or anxieties you have about starting a new school?
- *Future Hopes* - Write down what you hope to get out of your time at St Josephs?

My Motto- Our school motto is *Fideliter et Fortitier*, which means Faithful and strong. This runs throughout everything that we do at St Joseph's. We have a brilliant school song that you will learn to love.

- Write down your life's motto in the banner below the schools badge. It may be one of your favourite quotes from a song, a book or a film, or it may be a piece of scripture

Activity 2 Stained Glass Window Activity

One of the reasons we want you to do the two activities is to give you the chance to think about the person you are and want to be. However we also want you to do it so that we can gain some insight into who you are. The things you have written onto your badge are like a window into your life which we can look through.

This image of windows is going to be important to us as a school next year.

St Joseph's was set up by the Christian Brothers. They still work in the world today and are currently encouraging us to look deeper at our own lives and also at the world we live in but sometimes ignore. Their challenge for the year ahead is to look '**Outside our window**'. This feels like a particularly good challenge, given the time we have had to spend in lockdown looking out of our windows into a world which we cannot be fully part of.

“People are like stained glass windows, they sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, and their true beauty is revealed from their light within”

- On the reverse of your school badge is an image of window with 4 panes.
- We would like you take the words from the badge and turn them into images on the 4 window panes.
- Each pane of the stained glass window should in some way represent one of the things which you wrote about on that section of the badge.

Final Thoughts

At St Joseph's we always encourage you to look outside your window and to do so with hope. As people of God, we are called to live a life of service and to strive to make a difference to those in our neighbourhoods locally and globally.

The idea of making a difference to the world leads us back to the school badge again – particularly the cross which divides up the badge and the star in the middle.

The Cross- This reminds us that we are part of a wider church family; the *vertical part of the cross* leads upwards to God and represents our relationship with him. *The horizontal part of the cross* represents our relationships here on earth with others, the relationships that are on our level.

The star in the middle- represents the 'wow moments' of connection that we have with our relationships on earth, with the people on our level. It is through these relationships that we make connections, share moments and find out who we are that encourage us to see the face of God here in the day to day.

We really look forward to meeting you all and welcoming you to our community face to face; and very much hope that, here at St Joseph's, through the relationships and friendships that you form, you get to see the face of God.