

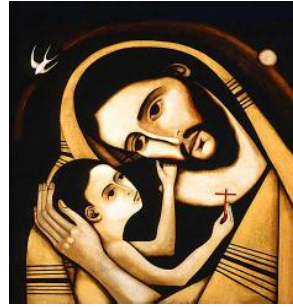


## St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



**Headteacher:**  
**Mrs. Juliet Stack**

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Dear Parent,

We are pleased to announce an addition to our school programme. Beginning on Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> we will be having weekly support groups for our children who are living in single parent or step-families or families that are going through painful transition. This programme is called **Rainbows**.

**The first 12 week sessions will be for pupils in Year 4-6.**

When something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. Even though death, divorce or other loss issues appear to be only grown-up problems they have a profound effect on the children who are touched by such experiences. If a parent dies or a divorce happens or a painful loss occurs, not only do the parents grieve the children do also. Children may find it extremely difficult to verbalise their feelings of grief because of their age and inexperience.

We have trained facilitators who are willing to work with these children and help them put their feelings into words, work through their grief, build a stronger sense of self-esteem and begin to accept what has taken place in the family. If your child is part of a single parent family, a step-family has experienced the death of a loved family member or is struggling through a painful experience this will be an opportunity for them to share their feelings. If you want more information a Parent Brochure is available from the office. Through this support group we hope to assist your child in expressing and understanding their feelings to feel acceptance for what has happened and to feel a sense of belonging and love. We will accomplish this through peer support groups with adult facilitators to guide them as they begin to share their experiences. If you wish your child to registrar please fill in the form together and both you and child sign it and return to the school office

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Juliet Stack  
Head teacher / Rainbows Co-Ordinator

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