



Archdiocese of Birmingham

St. Joseph's News

Friday 7th December 2018



Dear Parents and Carers...

“It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 11 th December	Stratford Trip for Y2 & Y5 – details to follow	
Wednesday 12 th December	Sleeping Beauty - Theatre in school	
Thursday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner day	
	KS1 (R/1/2/3) School Disco – cost £1.50	3.15pm – 4.30pm
Friday 14 th December	Wear your Christmas Jumper day – cost £1.00	
	KS2 (Y3/4/5/6) School Disco – cost £1.50	3.15pm – 4.30pm

A Kitchen ware sale of brand new kitchen items will take place before all performances this week

Monday 17 th December	Reception, Y1 & Y2 Christmas Assembly – A Miracle in Town!	1.30pm
Tuesday 18 th December	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Assembly – Christmas around the World	1.30pm
Wednesday 19 th December	Christmas School Mass	9.30am
Wednesday 19 th December	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Assembly – How Christmas Came to Be	1.30pm
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas Carol Concert	2.00pm
Friday 21 st December	School closes for Christmas holiday	1.00pm

School Mass

Our next school Mass takes place on **Wednesday** at 9.30am and will be led by Y3. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. It would be wonderful if more parents and carers (and wider family such as Grandparents) could join us for our weekly family Masses. The children lead the Liturgy and they work hard to prepare their readings each week. If you have never been to one of our Masses why not come along and try it? You are all welcome to attend and you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

Flu Nasal Spray Vaccine – return your forms!

Children in Reception, Year One, Year Two, Year Three, Year Four and Year Five that have returned their consent forms to say that they would like to receive the nasal flu spray will be given their vaccine in school on Friday next week (14th December)

School Disco

We have very few places left for our school discos so please send your forms in quickly!

On Thursday 13th December there will be a KS1 Disco for Reception, Year One and Year Two

On Friday 14th December there will be a KS2 Disco for Year Three, Year Four, Year Five and Year Six

The discos will both finish at 4.30pm so your child will need to be collected promptly by a responsible adult (over 18) at this time.

After-school Clubs

Karate and Football will both take place next week but Zumba is now finished until after Christmas. During the following week (week beginning Monday 17th December) there will be no after-school clubs at all

*If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact one of the safeguarding team;
Mrs Treadwell, Miss Price, Mrs Pattinson, Mr Caffrey and Miss Collins.*

Faith-filled and Hopeful



Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day

Next Friday 14th December we are having a 'Wear Your Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day' in school. The cost of this will be £1 per child, and you should come to school dressed in your craziest Christmas jumpers!!!

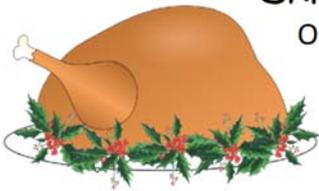
Reception Admissions

If you have a child that was born between 01-09-2014 and 31-08-2015, admissions applications are also now open for Reception in September 2019. **Please note that letters are no longer sent out to parents and carers regarding this and so you will receive no notification that you need to apply for a school place.** We do have a general letter available in school with details of how you can apply which you can collect from the entrance area.



All applications must now be made online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions The deadline for applications to be received is 15th January 2019. It is really important that you apply on time. If you apply late you may be less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools.

Christmas Dinner



Our school Christmas dinner will take place next week on Thursday 13th December. This year, the dinner option will be a traditional Christmas dinner – roast turkey, stuffing, roast potatoes, vegetables etc, with a fish/vegetarian option. If your child has sandwiches and would like a dinner for this day, please ask at the office. The cost of Christmas Dinner is £2.30.

Christmas Performances

Our Christmas Performances take place on the following dates

Monday 17th December at 1.15pm (for 1.30pm start) Rec Y1 and Y2 – A Miracle in Town!
Tuesday 18th December at 1.15pm (for 1.30pm start) Y3 & Y4 – Christmas around the World
Wednesday 19th December at 1.15pm (for 1.30pm start) Y5 & Y6 – How Christmas Came to Be

The children have worked very, very hard and would be delighted to see their parents and carers in school to watch them perform. Please come along; it makes such a difference to the children when their efforts are well supported.

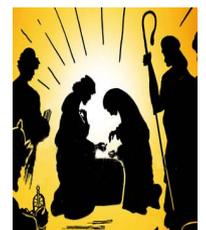
Please ensure that you arrive at 1.15pm ready for the performances to start at 1.30pm. **We will not be able to admit latecomers after 1.30pm**, this is because of the way the hall is set up, as entering the hall will involve you walking through the stage area. For health and safety reasons, once the performance has begun this will not be possible. Please bear this in mind and allow enough time to get to school.



There will also be a sale of brand new kitchen ware before and after each performance

School Christmas Carol Concert

We are having a special end of term Christmas Carol Service on Thursday 20th December. The service will start at 2.00pm in St. Joseph's Church, and will be led by children from different classes. The children have been working really hard at learning their carols and are looking forward to singing for you. All families are welcome to attend this event. It will be a lovely way to start your family Christmas, so please come along and share in this special celebration with us.



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Faith-filled and Hopeful

Second Sunday of Advent

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Advent. The theme of this Sunday is “preparing the way for the Lord.” When you go to church on Sunday, you will hear about John the Baptist, who was the son of Mary’s Cousin Elizabeth. John also features in the Christmas story, as the baby born to Elizabeth whom Mary went to share her news with after the angel’s visit. You may remember in that story, Elizabeth tells of her baby, John, ‘leaping for joy’ in her womb, when Mary told her the news. John, as an adult, was a preacher and baptised people, and was the first person to recognise Jesus as the Messiah. John and Jesus would have been around the same age, and John was preaching at the time just before Jesus started his public ministry of preaching in Jerusalem and Galilee.



Just as once before he “prepared the way” for the coming of Christ, so today he does the same for us. Our hearts should be open to his voice, as he calls us to repentance, and asks us to make the way straight for the coming of our Lord. The theme of preparing the way for the Lord is very important at this time of year, because in celebrating advent, like John the Baptist, we are preparing for the coming of Jesus. During advent, we are asked to prepare spiritually for the coming of Jesus, through prayer and reflection, and the sacrament of confession.

We are preparing the way for the Lord in our lives by lighting our Advent wreaths each day at prayer time, through our reflections and using the daily ‘Walk with Me’ calendar. This is designed to help the children to appreciate the meaning of Advent and the season of Christmas, and guides the children with daily tasks and prayer.

St. Joseph’s Mass Times

Weekly Mass at St. Joseph’s is on Saturday evening at 6.00pm. St. Joseph’s Church can be found on Thimblemill Lane and the telephone number is 0121 327 0235. All families are invited and more than welcome to attend church. I look forward to seeing you there!



Father Stephen



Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday this week to Mer (Year One), Rocco & Zevannah (Year Three), Tesharn (Year Five) and Yohannes, Nadia & Azaria (Year Six)

Attendance – week ending 23rd November 2018

Well done to Year Three who achieved an incredible **100%** attendance for last week. The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	91%	Year One	95%	Year Two	97%
Year Three	100%	Year Four	93%	Year Five	98%
Year Six	99%				

This gives a whole school attendance of 96%

Many thanks,

A. Treadwell

Head Teacher

Parent and Carers Comments
Parents’ Evening

“The staff are wonderful to speak to when needing help. Their principles and work are amazing”



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