

hope, as we learn, live, love and pray together

# St. Joseph's News

Friday 14th December 2018

Jesus light our way on our faith journey. Be our guide, our joy and our

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Mrs A. Treadwell

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Archdiocese of Birmingham

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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018



Dear Parents and Carers...

“Christmas is joy, religious joy, an inner joy of light and peace.”  
*Pope Francis*

## Dates for your Diary

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

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

## Reminder - Last Day of Term

Next FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> we break up for our Christmas holidays at **1.00pm**. Please make sure that your child comes into school on that day, as we are expecting a special visitor...

It is very important that someone is here to collect your child promptly at 1.00pm, as staff will be leaving the site at this time also. Thank you for your support with this.



## End of Term School Mass

Our final School Mass of the year takes place on **Wednesday** next week during the third week of Advent. It starts at 9.30am and will be led by Y6 We will also be lighting the fourth candle on our Advent wreath. You are all very welcome to attend – you do not have to be Catholic to come to Mass.

## School Christmas Carol Concert

We are having a special end of term Christmas Carol Service NEXT Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Christmas Fundraising

Thank you to everyone for their huge effort and fabulous support with all of our fundraising events during Advent. We will let you know how much we raised altogether after Christmas.

## After-school Clubs

All after school clubs have now finished for Christmas. They will start again after the holidays.

*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 Performances and Kitchen Ware Sales

## Our Christmas Performances take place NEXT WEEK

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15pm (for 1.30pm start)      Rec Y1 and Y2 – A Miracle in Town!  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15pm (for 1.30pm start)      Y3 & Y4 – Christmas around the World  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 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. There are lots of fabulous bargains to be had so bring your money along!



## Snow!

In the event of any heavy snow over the coming weeks or extreme weather which causes significant disruption, any school closures will be listed on local radio stations, as follows: BRMB 96.4, Heart FM 100.7 and Radio WM 95.6. If you do not hear our school name or any mention of 'blanket closures', then school is open!! Remember that there are several St Joseph's schools and you must listen out for ours. We will also send a text message out so please ensure that you keep us up-to-date with any changes of contact numbers. Thank you!

## Congratulations!

To our amazing Athletics team who came first in the event at Birmingham City University last Friday. Well done children, we are very proud of you!

## 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](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)** The deadline for applications to be received is 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## Third Sunday of Advent

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent, and we light the pink candle on our Advent Wreaths. The pink candle is a symbol of joy, hope and expectation. At the time of Jesus' birth, people were waiting for his coming. They had been told that a Messiah would come, and they were hoping and waiting for the time to come. The third Sunday of advent is also traditionally known as 'Gaudete Sunday'. The word 'Gaudete' is Latin and means 'rejoice!' The theme this week is therefore one of rejoicing that Christmas is very near.



As the feast of Christmas draws closer, we are reminded that Jesus is with us even now, and the Church emphasises the anticipation and joy which should be in our hearts as we come closer to celebrating the birth of Jesus and remembering the true spirit of Christmas. John the Baptist tells people that the one that they have been expecting, the light of the world, is amongst them and that their waiting is almost over. John prepares the way for Jesus through his preaching and baptising. This message also tells us that we should rejoice and have joy in our hearts, as the waiting of advent is almost over.

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. You will see that our display in the entrance hall is building up as the days go by. 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 Rosie-Mae & Yongqing (Reception), Jasper (Year Two), Coco & Joshua C. (Year Five) and Pharell (Year Six)

## Attendance – week ending 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Well done to Year One and Year Three who achieved a brilliant 98% attendance for last week. The full attendance figures are as follows:

Rec	96%	Year One	98%	Year Two	97%
Year Three	98%	Year Four	94%	Year Five	94%
Year Six	97%				

This gives a whole school attendance of 96%

Many thanks,

**A. Treadwell**

Head Teacher

## Parent and Carers Comments Parents' Evening

"I like that the teachers treat the children equally and that they push the children in learning to be the best"



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