

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the December Newsletter.

We are currently in the season of Advent, a time of reflection and preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour. We pray for all families at this important time of prayer and celebration. We wish everyone a very peaceful and Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs M Murphy

Advent:

During the season of Advent, we have been preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

We have been reminding the children that this is a time to reflect and consider if we are ready for the day when Jesus will return as He promised. In school we have been preparing for this special celebration through prayers, assemblies, and Religious Education lessons.

The Nativity scene is central to our preparations and a visual reminder of this important celebration.



Friends of St Joseph's Fundraising:

Lots of exciting events have taken place including the Loose Change Challenge, which was won by 1MB raising £135 with an overall total of £1,104.



The recent cake sale was also a great success and raised £551. Film nights for KS2 have taken place and was a wonderful way to share Christmas films with friends. This raised an incredible £977.

We are also looking forward to Christmas dinner and our Christmas raffle.

Thank you for your continued support; all money raised directly benefits the children in their learning.

Christmas Charity & Advent Fundraising:

As part of our Advent giving this year, we have once again signed up to support Caritas Northampton's Love Christmas Campaign. This campaign aims to provide some joy and happiness to those most in need this Christmas, by reaching out and letting people know that we care and they are not alone.

Each year group was allocated a category to support, such as children aged 4–7 years etc and classes were encouraged to donate a small gift.

We really do appreciate that we are all currently facing a cost-of-living crisis, and we thank you as always for your generosity. Every gift will make such a difference to those in need this Christmas.

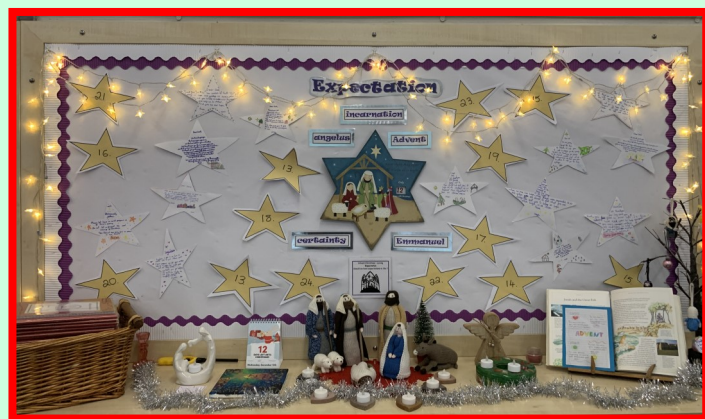


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Advent - a time of preparation



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Roll of Honour:

Well done to the children awarded Roll of Honour awards last half term:



Year 1				Year 2											
1LH	R Kenefick			2SC	R Armitage										
1MB	R Haye			2DW	B Appiah										
1SW	N Shepherd			2MH	A Prus										
				2DO	C Elidomuo										
Year 3				Year 4				Year 5				Year 6			
3MG	A Adjei			4CW	A Mekonnen			5LB	K Brown			6PC	S Mazambani		
3GK	G Singh			4BG	N Costa			5JS	C Samborski			6SW	A Bryan		
3MM	K Flaherty			4OR	M Choukria			5DF	S Baig			6JC	D Cappello		
3AV	L Atuchukwu			4PA	A Butler			5CS	J Onyechi			6MM	L Omode		



The Department for Education has issued new guidance called **'Working together to improve attendance,'** as research demonstrates that absence from school and learning hours lost have a negative impact on attainment and progress and can have a damaging effect on a child's life chances.

Attendance in November

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Red	96%	Blue	95%	Yellow	97%		
1LH	97%	1SW	93%	1MB	95%		
2SC	96%	2DO	96%	2MH	96%	2DW	97%
3MG	96%	3GK	96%	3MM	96%	3AV	94%
4CW	94%	4BG	97%	4PA	95%	4OR	96%
5LB	98%	5JS	96%	5DF	98%	5CS	96%
6PC	93%	6JC	96%	6SW	98%	6MM	95%
						Whole School	96%

Our school attendance target is 97%. Well done to 5LB, 5DF and 6SW on achieving 98% attendance during November. **We cannot stress how important it is for children to come to school every day on time.**



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PLAYtarium

OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS

BOOK ONLINE TODAY

Breakfast Club
7:45am - 8:45am
After School Club
School End- 6:00pm

FLEXIBLE BOOKING OPTIONS

OPEN EVERY SCHOOL DAY

PLAYTARIUM.COM

Candlelight Rorate Mass:

We would like to make you aware of a very special mass being held at Holy Ghost Parish on Friday.



Holy Ghost,
Westbourne Rd
Luton LU4 8JD



RORATE MASS

by candlelight

in honour of OUR LADY

Friday 15 December 2023- 6.30am



Cook and Eat Club:

12 children from Year 4, were lucky enough to have the opportunity to attend an afterschool cooking club. Total Wellbeing Luton sent two members of staff, Luke and Jamie, as well as providing all the ingredients for five weeks of Cook and Eat club. The children learnt a range of cooking skills and tried some new foods. There was a collective consensus that they do not like chopping onions!! On week four, the children made filled pittas using a range of vegetables, salad and quorn.



Please find your recipe for Greek salad pitta breads [here](#)

Total Wellbeing Luton supports people living in Luton who want to improve their physical and emotional health. To find out more have a look at their website at www.totalwellbeingluton.org

Farewell & Diary Dates:

Sadly Mrs Lee and Mrs Cahill are leaving St Joseph's at the end of term. We thank them both for the contributions they have made over so many years and wish them every blessing in the exciting new chapter of their lives.

Please note that we break up for the Christmas holidays on **Tuesday 19 December** and the children return to school on **Thursday 04 January 2024**.

Finally, on behalf of all the Governors and staff, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful, happy and Holy Christmas with your family.

