

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 4CW raising £89.98 with an amazing overall total of £945.11.



We are also looking forward to Christmas dinner and our Christmas raffle at the end of this week.

Thank you as always for your continued support and generosity.

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.



December 2024



Advent - a time of preparation



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



December 2024

Roll of Honour:

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



| | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|--------------------|-----|--------------|
| Red | E Agboola | 1DO | A Abhilash | 2SC | A Gorman | | |
| Blue | J Pomaah | 1MB | J Dombrowska | 2DW | E De-Graft Johnson | | |
| Yellow | T Corrigan | 1SW | R Wigley | 2GK | N Shepherd | | |
| 3MG | J Ocaya | 4CW | J Zikorius | 5LB | C Adams | 6PC | M Cappello |
| 3JS | C Chukwujeze | 4BG | I Caffrey | 5CS | L Oliver | 6JC | M Harchut |
| 3MM | C Monde | 4OR | H Birowka | 5AF | A D'Amore | 6MM | A Dianasious |
| 3MH | N Conway | 4PE | D Kumi | 5CF | N Costa | 6SW | T Kinsella |



The Department for Education has issued 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 | 93% | Blue | 96% | Yellow | 95% | | | |
| 1DO | 97% | 1SW | 96% | 1MB | 95% | | | |
| 2SC | 97% | 2GK | 94% | 2DW | 96% | | | |
| 3MG | 97% | 3JS | 97% | 3MM | 94% | 3MH | 96% | |
| 4CW | 95% | 4BG | 95% | 4PE | 96% | 4OR | 97% | |
| 5LB | 96% | 5CF | 99% | 5AF | 96% | 5CS | 97% | |
| 6PC | 97% | 6JC | 99% | 6SW | 97% | 6MM | 97% | |
| | | | | | | | Whole School | 96% |

Our school attendance target is 97%. Well done to 5CF and 6JC on achieving 99% attendance during November. We cannot stress how important it is for children to come to school every day on time.



December 2024

Healthy Eating:

Chicken, leek and mushroom bake

Chicken and mushroom pie is a common British Pie, ranked as one of the most popular types of savoury pie in Great Britain and often served in fish and restaurants. It is also very popular in South Africa.

Find your recipe [here](#)



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 20 December 2024- 6.30am

Year 2 Nativity:

A very big thank you to all the Year 2 children and staff for a very enjoyable performance of 'Little Angel gets her wings'. It was a lovely celebration as part of our Advent preparations. Thank you also to Mrs Cladd for preparing the children and leading the music.



Year 5 Carols:

Our annual Christmas concert led by Year 5 took place in St Joseph's Church on Tuesday evening. It was a wonderful opportunity to spend some time during this busy Advent season to listen and reflect on readings, pray and sing carols together as a community of faith.

Thank you to the Year 5 readers and actors, Year 5 staff, KS2 Choir and Mrs Cladd and Mr Coaker for all the preparation. Thank you also to Fr David and Fr Giacomo for the use of the church.



Farewell & Diary Dates:

Sadly Mrs Stoker and Mrs Board 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.



We break up for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 20 December** and the children return to school on **Tuesday 07 January 2025**. Please note we have a **training day on Monday 06 January** and **Thursday 09 January**.

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.