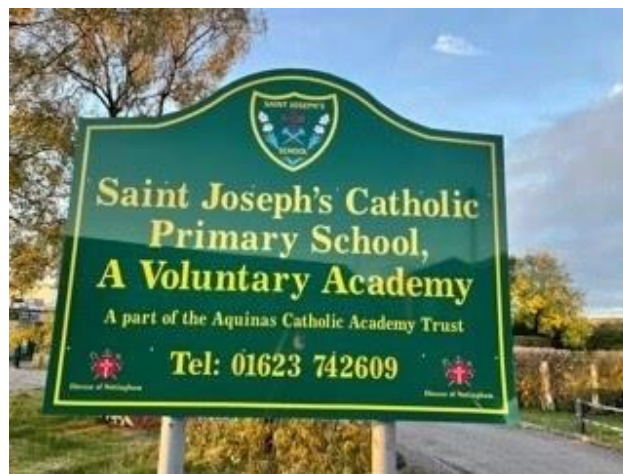


Friday 20th December

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

NEWSLETTER



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Happy Christmas

We have had a wonderful and successful term at St Joseph's. The children have produced some amazing work, have been on trips, residential, enjoyed retreat days, have prepared and performed assemblies and concerts and have worked closely with our Parish.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their support this term and would like to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

This weekend in Mass

Fourth Week of Advent – Sunday 22nd December

This Sunday's Gospel reading reminds us of how Mary, filled with joy after being given the news from the angel, went to visit Elizabeth.

There will be a children's liturgy group at 5pm Mass on Saturday. It would be great to see lots of our families there.

On Christmas Eve, at 5pm, there will be a children's Mass at St Joseph's church. Children are welcome to come dressed as nativity characters.

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils delivered our reverse advent calendar donations to the Freedom Project this week and have been writing Christmas cards for local care homes and the parish.

Catholic Life and Mission

Another wonderful week for Catholic Life and Mission at St Joseph's. On Tuesday, Year 3 planned Mass in church, on Wednesday Year 4 planned and led a Celebration of the word for the whole school and we have been looking at the family tree of Jesus in our Jesse Tree Celebration of the Word.

EYFS and years 4-6 performed Christmas songs to parents, parishioners and local schools while year 3 visited two local residential homes to sing and spread Christmas cheer.

Our reverse advent calendar was a huge success and this was all donated to the Freedom Project.

What have we been up to this week at St Joseph's?

The children in Nursery have been learning about the nativity story.

Reception- The children have been learning about the true meaning of Christmas.

Year One- The children have been answering the question, 'How did Florence Nightingale work for the good of everyone?'

Year Two- The children have been learning about inverse in maths.

Year Three- The children have been comparing the Bronze Age and Stone Age.

Year Four- The children have been learning about subtraction in maths.

Year Five- The children have been creating power point presentations to teach others about Ancient Egypt.

Year Six- The children have been answering the big question, 'World's greatest enemy; man or machine?'

Wow! What another busy week; well done children!

Consents in Arbor

Could we please ask you to check you have no outstanding **CONSENTS** in the **NOTICES** section of Arbor for your children. We have added a new consent titled - **Photographs/Videos - for use in Social Media** such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter/X etc for you to either accept or decline.

This would also be a good time to check all your details are correct, in particular any emergency contacts you have provided. If you are unable to amend or add any details to Arbor please email the school office with your information and we will amend it on your behalf.

Upcoming Dates

We have lots of exciting things coming up after Christmas:

Tuesday 7th January- school reopens for all pupils

Thursday 9th January- Young Voices Concert

Friday 10th January - Year 5 Reading Café at 8:50am

Monday 13th January- All about me day- children come dressed to show something about themselves (hobby, culture, favourite colour etc)

15th January- Year 6 visit to Derby University

16th January- Reception class balance bike session

Friday 17th January - Year 4 Reading Café at 8:50am

17th January- careers day- if any parents are available to come into school and share information about their career, please contact the school office.

Friends of St Joseph

If you would like to help out with FOSJ please contact Mrs Fearn in the office.

Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children from Reception to year 6 for £2. If you would like your child to attend, please pre book their place on Arbor. The breakfast club will run from 7:30am with last entry being at 8:15am.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 95.6%

Reception- 95.9%

Year One - 95.2%

Year Two - 93.7%

Year Three-91.9%

Year Four- 97.1%

Year Five- 96.8%

Year Six-97.1%

Well done to year 4 and 6 who won our attendance award this week and enjoyed an extra playtime.

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = **4 weeks missed per year**

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = **more than half a term missed per year.**

Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = **more than a quarter of the school year missed.**

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to **missing a whole 2 years from school.**

Well done to the 60 children across school who achieved 100% attendance this term!

Children's Achievements



Well done to Eliza, Ivy and Ivie in year 3 and Eva in year 6 who passed their dance exams.

We love celebrating your child's out of school achievements! Please make sure you share these with school so that we can publish them in our newsletter.

SMILERS



SMILERS is a whole school approach to wellbeing.

Our Mental Health Ambassadors have been busy working with the play team to ensure that SMILERS and OPAL work together to promote mental health and wellbeing in school.

School Facebook Page



A reminder that we have launched our school Facebook page. We have been adding updates of children's work and news for parents onto the page regularly. Please follow us at 'St Joseph's Shirebrook' to keep up to date with our latest class news and school events.

Word of the Week

After Christmas, our word of the week is, 'Epiphany'. Year 6 have produced a wonderful video to help us to reflect on the Feast of the Epiphany. The videos have a new format this year and we would love to hear your thoughts about it.