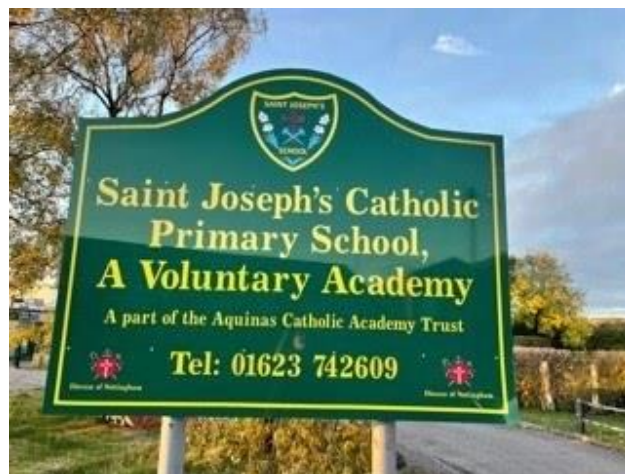


# Friday 6th December

## St. Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Trusting in God; Creating Tomorrow; Helping Today

### NEWSLETTER



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## **This Week at St Joseph's**

We have enjoyed another amazing but very cold week at St Joseph's!

Key Stage One watched a pantomime in the school hall, all of the children have been busy preparing for our Christmas events, we had an Awards Assembly, an Advent Day of Prayer and a parent workshop.

A very busy and exciting week at St Joseph's.

## **This weekend in Mass**

**Second Week of Advent – Sunday 8th December 2024**

**Luke 3:1-6 The call of John the Baptist**

**This weekend, we hear how John the Baptist spread the Good News and repeated the words of Isaiah to encourage everyone to prepare the way for God.**

It would be wonderful to see you all in Mass on Saturday at 5pm. There will be a children's liturgy session at the back of church.

## Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been planning their Global Project together ready to launch this to the pupil voice groups in the new year.



## Catholic Life and Mission



We started this week with a beautiful Advent day of prayer led by our Chaplaincy Team and OPAL pupil voice group. We have also started looking at the family tree of Jesus in our Jesse Tree celebrations. Year 6 led a beautiful Celebration of the Word for the whole school on the theme of Noah from the Jesse Tree.

Year 1 celebrated Liturgy of the Word in church.

Children in years 4-6 went to church for Reconciliation this week.

We have started our 'Reverse Advent Calendar' this week and already have lots to donate to the food bank. If you are able to contribute to this, please give donations to the school office.

### What have we been up to this week?

Nursery- The children have been learning how to count to 5.

Reception- The children have been reading the story of, 'The Little Red Hen' and have been learning about how caring is sharing.

Year One- The children have been learning about subtraction and learning about how Florence Nightingale started a school to train nurses.

Year Two- The children have been learning different ways that we prepare during Advent in their RE lessons.

Year Three- The children have been learning about subtraction when crossing 10 and about hunters and gatherers in history.

Year Four- The children have been learning about classification keys of plants and animals in science.

Year Five- The children have been learning about equivalent fractions in maths.

Year Six- The children have been learning about the prophets expectations of Jesus in RE.

## Friends of St Joseph

Our Christmas Fayre is fast approaching! Our PTA, Friends of St Joseph, are looking for donations of soft toys for their soft toy tombola stall. All donations can be taken to the school office.

Also, if anyone would like to donate prizes for the raffle, please contact the school office!

If you are available to help out in anyway to support your children and St Joseph's then please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Fearn or one of the team...new volunteers are always welcome!

## Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children from Reception class upwards 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. **Please note that the last entry to Breakfast club is 8:15am. No children will be allowed in after this time.**

## Attendance

**Whole school attendance this week is 95.7%**

Reception- 97.6%

Year One - 92.3 %

Year Two - 98.2%

Year Three-97.2%

Year Four- 91.3%

Year Five- 96.5%

Year Six-97.1%

**Well done to Year 2 who have won our attendance award this week! They will enjoy our new reward for this term, Fresh Air Friday.**

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.**

## **Advent Art Evening**

We are really excited to have an Advent Art evening booked in school on Wednesday 18th December from 3:45- 5:45. This is open to all pupils in key stage 2 (years 3-6). The evening will be led by an artist, Jo Bell, who has worked in school before painting a mural in the corridor and canvases for classrooms. During the evening, Jo will teach the children step by step how to create an advent picture on an individual canvas. At the end of the session, each child will be able to take their art work home.

This is an amazing opportunity for our children to learn from a real artist and create a beautiful canvas to take home.

The cost for the evening is £10 per child. This includes the cost of their painting materials and canvas as well as juice and biscuits during the evening.

If you would like your child to attend, please make payment on Arbor.

## Children's Achievements



Super work Rory in year 1 and Quinn in Reception who tried a new singing and drama class for the first time and were awarded 'Star of the week' for their confidence in joining in and for their lyrics knowledge.

Well done to Lily and Matilda in Reception who achieved their Puffin badge swimming award!

Excellent work Arminas in year 3 achieved level 2 ice skating.

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.

## Upcoming Dates

We have lots of exciting things coming up:

Tuesday 10th December- Years 1-3 Nativity performance at 9:30am- **there will be no tickets for this event. A donation box will be placed at the entrance. All proceeds will be sent to the Bethlehem School for children with disabilities.**

Wednesday 11th December- non uniform day for all pupils in exchange for a new, unopened bottle for the bottle tombola.

Thursday 12th December- Years 1-3 Nativity performance at 2pm - **there will be no tickets for this event. A donation box will be placed at the entrance. All proceeds will be sent to the Bethlehem School for children with disabilities.**

Friday 13th December- Christmas Fayre in the school hall at 2:30pm- **parents welcome**

Wednesday 18th December- Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day- all children are welcome to come dressed in non uniform with a Christmas jumper.

Wednesday 18th December- EYFS Christmas songs at 9:30am and 2:30pm in church - **parents welcome**

Wednesday 18th December- Advent Art Evening. Tickets available on Arbor.

Friday 20th December- Years 4-6 Carol Service at 2pm in church- **parents welcome**

**Friday 20th December- last day of term. School will reopen to all pupils on Tuesday 7th January 2025.**

## Primary School Applications

The window for primary school applications is now open for September 2025 starters. If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 you should apply for their infant or primary school place by 15 January 2025. You'll be able to apply from 11 November 2024. To apply for your place you need to apply via your home council.

For more information see the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-primary-school-place>

If you are applying for St Joseph's or any other Catholic School, you will also need to complete a supplementary form and return to your chosen school.

## Arbor Consents

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. Thank you to all who have already actioned this.



## Word of the Week

Next week, our word of the week is 'Peace'. Year 4 have produced a wonderful video to help us reflect during the season of Advent. We would love to hear your feedback on our new and improved video which can be seen on our Youtube page. The link for the video will also be shared on our Facebook page.

## 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.