

Friday 12th 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 are nearing the end of a very bust term! It has been a wonderful week at St Joseph's with lots to celebrate and enjoy despite the high levels of illness across school. This week we have managed to squeeze in a non uniform day, a pantomime, nativities, Christingle service, Mass, an Art event after school, Christmas Fayre and a visit from Santa.

A special mention to these events this week:

This week, years 1, 2 and 3 performed a beautiful version of The Nativity story. I was exceptionally proud of how they were so confident on stage and how they retold the greatest story ever told to remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas.

On Tuesday, years 2, 5 and 6 led Mass in church on the theme of Peace as we celebrate the second week of Advent together.

On Wednesday, the whole school made a class Christingle and took part in a fantastic Christingle service together.

On Thursday, year 3 visited The Grange Care Home in Shirebrook to sing their nativity songs and spread Christmas cheer to the residents.

On Friday, year 6 went to visit Brookfield school and watch their nativity and represented our school beautifully.

I appreciate how busy this time of year is and that as a school, we may have added to this with various events, and requesting support with class hampers, nativity costumes and raffle prizes etc. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their incredible support, it does not go unnoticed and on behalf of the staff team, I would like to pass on our gratitude.

Next week will be our final week of the term in school. We have lots of exciting activities as we celebrate the third week of Advent together. I will update Facebook on Sunday with events for next week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Seaman

This weekend in Mass- The Third Sunday of Advent

Matthew 11:2-11

'A greater than John the Baptist has never been seen'

This weekend there will be a children's liturgy at the 5pm Mass. All children are welcome to attend.

Head Pupils



Our Head Pupils have been busy looking for ways to make our school an even better place. They will be meeting with the pupil voice groups to discuss their views in the coming weeks.

Article of the week- this is an opportunity for the children to look at different articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

This week the children have been looking at article 2 as we consider how we can ensure that we do not discriminate in school or at home.

Try it Tuesday

This year, we have been thinking about how we can all eat a healthy diet to keep our brain and body strong and working well. This week the children all had the opportunity to try

plums. I have been very proud of the healthy snacks and lunchboxes they have been bringing into school.

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

Nursery- The children have been learning about the Nativity story and have been busy making Christmas cards.

Reception- The children have been learning about how the Shepherds were led by the angels to visit baby Jesus.

Year One- The children have been learning about addition to 10 fact families in maths.

Year Two- The children have been learning about inverse in maths and have been making clay castles in Art.

Year Three- The children have been comparing Bronze and Stone Age homes in history.

Year Four- The children have been learning about Indus Valley lifestyles including what jewellery was made.

Year Five- The children have been converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and mixed numbers to improper fractions.

Year Six- The children have been learning about BODMAS in maths.

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 - **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

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

Please see this year's key dates attached to the newsletter. Next week, we will be sharing dates for the Lent Term after Christmas.

Upcoming dates to highlight:

Tuesday 16th December at 9:10pm- Nursery and Reception Christmas Songs in church followed by a stay and play in school- **parents welcome.**

Tuesday 16th December- Key Stage Two visit to Mansfield Theatre to watch the pantomime- **please book your child a place on Arbor.**

Wednesday 17th December- Christmas Jumper Day- **children can come dressed in non uniform with a Christmas jumper.**

Thursday 18th December- Flu Vaccinations in school- these were postponed from earlier in the term.

Friday 19th December at 2pm- Years 4-6 Carol Service in the school hall- **parents welcome.**

Wednesday 24th December at 5pm- Christmas Eve Children's Mass. **Children are welcome to come dressed as a character from the Nativity.**

If your child has an upcoming trip, including the KS2 visit to Mansfield Pantomime, please check that payment has been made on Arbor. If you need any support with this or have any questions, please contact the school office.

Parent Survey

All parents have been sent a letter from our CMAT, Our Lady of Lourdes Trust regarding collecting parent voice. To ensure that your views are listened to they launched an online survey last year. This survey was very successful and has helped them collect vital information from our parents across our trust. Due to its success they would like to again, providing you with an opportunity to share your thoughts on various aspects of your child's education, the school environment, and areas where we can further improve.

Please follow the link below to complete the survey.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy (Langwith), parent survey 2025. – Fill in form¹

Friends of St Joseph

We are very grateful for all of the work that our PTA, Friends of St Joseph do to support our school. They are looking for new members to help them. If you think you could help, even if you are only able to give a little time, please contact Mrs Fearn in the office.

¹<https://forms.office.com/e/xcnngxDZekM>

Breakfast Club



We are delighted to offer our breakfast club to all children from Reception to year 6. The cost for this will be £2.50 per child. 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.**

We are very excited that we now have a Breakfast Club for Nursery children. This runs from 7:45am in the nursery classroom. If you would like your child to attend, please book them on via Arbor.

Please note we are now capping the numbers at Breakfast club. To secure your child's place, please book on Arbor. Only the children booked on will be allowed into the hall.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is **84.3%** . We have had a lot of illness in school this week so attendance across classes is low. We appreciate the support of parents who contact the school office to inform us if their child is not attending school.

Reception- 68.7%

Year 1- 81.7%

Year 2- 80.3%%

Year 3- 82.9%

Year 4- 93.6%

Year 5- 82.6%

Year 6- 97.6%

Well done to year 6 this week who have won our attendance award this week and enjoyed 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.**

Children's Achievements



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.

This week, our Mental Health Ambassadors have been busy promoting this around 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.