



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
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Friday 29th November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Advent is just around the corner, the first Sunday of Advent is this weekend and it's a very special time of preparation for all of us, welcoming Jesus into our lives.

We are all looking forward to our School Christmas productions. The Reception class Nativity will be on Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December at around 9.15am (depending on how fast the children get into their costumes), always a special first time event. (Please see the school calendar and below for information with regards the other productions).

The **Advent bags** have started coming home for you and your child to create a special prayer place in your home. There will be a book for your child to draw, write or stick a photo in (this is not obligatory), a crib, prayer card, cloth and trinkets to make the prayer place special. Please make sure the Advent bag is returned the next day as everyone in the class will not get a chance to use them if they are kept at home for more than one night.

*Isaiah 9:6: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

### **School Led Mass**

Will be on Sunday the 1st of December at 9.00 a.m. Children can wear their school uniform in exchange for a mufti day on Monday. Please come along and celebrate the beginning of Advent with us.

### **PTFA**

#### **PTFA events:-**

Family Bingo was a roaring success, thank you to Mr Bath and all who took part.

Thank you to everyone for organizing the Christmas wreath making it was very successful. I'm sure the PTFA will book it again for next year.

Friday 6th December **School Christmas Discos:** R and KS1; 4.30pm-5.30pm, KS2; 5.45pm-7.00pm

**Christmas Hampers** will be appearing in your child's class soon, please fill them up with goodies for Christmas. The PTFA will be selling raffle tickets and the draw will take place on the **20th of December during praise assembly.**

Please be aware that you can set up a yearly or monthly standing order to the PTFA. Not everyone can take part in fund raising and this is another way to show your support. Please contact the office for further details.

**Please support the PTFA they do so much for our children.**



***"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."***



## **Applying for Reception school places 2020-2021**

Parents can apply online on [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions) or they can contact the School Admissions Team on 01275884078 for a paper application. The closing date for reception applications is 23:59 on 15 January 2018.

## **MATHS WEEK ENGLAND!**

We have completed our competition week. A big well done and thank- you to all the children who took part on TT Rock Stars. The results are below:

Our School Winners

Congratulations to our top 3 players in the school:

1<sup>st</sup> Lukasz (28,187) 2<sup>nd</sup> Solomon (13,755) 3<sup>rd</sup> Caisey (11,357)

Congratulations to the top 3 children in each class.

Year 2: Jasper, Tino and Mya

Year 3: Koroush, Sophia M, Ella

Year 4: Harrison, Laszlo and Arthur

Year 5: Lukasz, Jack and Theo

Year 6: Solomon, Caisey and Daniel

Times tables are really important. We ask for your help at home to practise daily by chanting and calling the tables. By the end of Year 4, children are expected to have mastered all tables up to 12x12. To practise, there are sheets available on the website and the online game "Hit the button" is an alternative to TTRockStars.

## **SPORTS NEWS**

What a fantastic time the school has had in competitive school sports over the Autumn term.

We have such a wide range of talent within the school with many of our children enhancing their skills by competing for our local sports clubs every weekend.

It would be lovely to individually mention every child who has achieved but our success has been so comprehensive I would need at least four pages.

Our Roll of Honour in Term 1 includes-

- 40 KS2 children representing the school in the Gordano Cross Country. Boys were 2nd overall and Girls were 3rd.
- 2 of our Athletes were selected to represent Team Somerset in the South West Cross Country Championships
- We sent a squad of Year 6 children who had not played competitive rugby before to represent the school in the Gordano Rugby Festival and they did superbly
- Our Year 4 Athletics Squad competed in the Gordano Indoor Athletics event. The Girls finished 1st and the Boys finished 2nd.
- Our Girls Football Squad finished Runners p in The Gordano Cluster event
- Our Boys Football Squad won the Gordano Cluster event
- Our Girls' Football Squad finished 3rd in the North Somerset Championship
- Our Boy's Football Squad finished Runners Up in the North Somerset Championship. They lost the finals on penalties but qualified for the Somerset Championship
- Two of our Year 5 boys have been selected to play football for North Somerset

I sure that I have missed one or two of our successes for which I can only apologise but I'm sure you will all agree that this list indicates the depth of sporting talent that we have within our wonderful school.



Compared to most schools in the County, we have a much smaller pool of athletes to choose from. However, due to our hardwork, teamwork, belief and enjoyment we more than punch above our weight in all events. I would like to thank all pupils, parents and teachers for all their hard work and support over the term. I confident that we will be celebrating even greater success at the end of Term 2.

### **Curriculum Overview**

Don't forget each classes curriculum overview for Term 2 is on the web site under information/curriculum.

### **Christmas Lunch**

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December we will be celebrating with Christmas lunch, this is a non-uniform day please wear a Christmas jumper/non-uniform for Save the children and bring in £1.00.

### **Church Christmas Fair 10.00am -1pm**

The Parish Christmas Fair will be tomorrow on **Saturday December 1st** in the school Hall. Father Christmas will be in his Grotto and there will be plenty of stalls to spend your pennies. Please come along and support the church.

### **School admission policy 2021-2022**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Portishead has opened a public consultation on their school admissions arrangements for 2021-22. Comments should be submitted by letter or email to the school. The closing date for responses is 11 January 2020. Details can be found on the school website at: <https://www.st-josephs.org.uk/web/admissions/159675>

### **Donation to school**

As you are all aware school budgets have continued to be squeezed and we are always looking for new ways to raise money (thank you to the PTFA). There are also many national grants that we can apply for, which are time consuming, but well worth the effort when we get them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Martin Merry of Epimorphics LTD for donating £1,000 towards our new computers for the computer suite, which I hope will be arriving very soon.

### **FUND RAISING**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our fundraising during term 1 and term 2 including:-  
Harvest Festival donations  
Shoe box appeal  
Sing for Africa  
We raised £330.86 for children in need, thank you again to the Year 4 children for organizing this.

After the Christmas performances this year we will be supporting Missio the Pope's charity, supporting places where there is poverty, turmoil and uncertainty.

### **E Safety**

#### **DITTO Magazine (eSafety Advisor)**

Alan Mackenzie's latest magazine has been published. This edition includes:

- Deepfakes
- A.I. Influencers
- Project Evolve
- GoBubble
- IWF NoSuchThing

You can click on the link below

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>



### **House keeping**

Please make sure all uniform is named and labelled, it is such a shame to see so many new jumpers in the lost property box that aren't named.

The office is closed between 1.15pm and 2.45pm Mon, Tues and Wed please call in the morning should you wish to speak to someone. If there is an emergency or a last minute change of pick up, messages will be checked at 2.45pm.

### **IMPORTANT DATES -Please see School Calendar for all dates**

#### **Christmas performance dates:-**

Reception Nativity: Tuesday Dec 3rd 9.15am. There will be a Reception parent social in Gen's room after the play please come along. We will be able to accommodate up to 4 seats per family.

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For the performances listed below: Seating in the hall is limited. Children will receive 2 tickets for both of their performances. If there is a performance you cannot attend please swap tickets between yourselves. Any unwanted tickets must be handed in to the school office.

Years 1 and 2 Nativity: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.30pm (Doors open at 6.00pm for festive refreshments).

Years 3 and 4 Christmas Extravaganza: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.30pm (Doors open at 6.00pm for festive refreshments).

Years 5 and 6 carol service: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 1.45pm (full rehearsal) and performance at 7.00pm, in St Joseph's Church.

God Bless

Mrs Jackson

