



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

11th December 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter into our final week of school, we want to say how proud we are of the way the children have observed the 'new normal' of bubbles, handwashing, socially distanced school assemblies and generally keeping safe. I hope and pray that as the New Year dawns we will be able to gradually get back to the old normal! We are definitely looking forward to having everyone back into school for Praise assembly, concerts and shows; we are really missing the sense of extended family that this brings to us.

We wrote earlier on in the week about keeping children at home if they had any coughs, colds, sore throats etc. As these are unprecedented times if you keep your child off school for any of these ailments week beginning 7th and 14th of December we will follow Government guidelines and mark the absence as an x which means it will not count towards any unauthorised or authorised absence. Thank you for your support in this matter. **Please check with the school website for government advice and updates.**

Uniform Consultation

The governors and leadership of the school are currently consulting for a change to the school uniform for the future. This is something that doesn't happen often and we would welcome your participation.

The reasons for the consultation and proposals are to improve the uniformity of the schools dress codes and to reduce the costs in the long term.

If you would like to share your opinions, please do so on the form accessed from this link. The consultation period will end at the end of December.

Please visit <https://forms.gle/tPQXRceTZrvbLUdQ7>

Christmas Plays & Other Performances

The staff are busy compiling videos from classes, musical groups and drama groups for the end of term. These will be made through the school's Google Classroom platform. We will send an email out with more details in due course.

Google Classroom Update – Mathematics

We are moving maths resources from the school website to a new system on Google Classroom. When your child logs into their classroom, they will also be given an invitation to the new Maths Masters classrooms. This will be the new centre for help for parents and children. You will be able to download practice materials as well as ideas for helping your child at home.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA who continue to work hard to raise funds for our children. These funds are needed even more at the moment so we can provide those little extras that the school can't afford.

Thank you again to the Butchers Block for sponsoring cake of the week, this week's winner was Ronnie in Year 1.

Christmas Book Hamper Raffle

The hamper/Christmas book winners are:

- R- Noah H
- 1-Bella
- 2-Chantelle
- 3-Layla
- 4-Jacob D
- 5- Ava W
- 6- Charlotte

Thank you to all who contributed the PTFA raised £214.00

Safeguarding

We would like to reiterate once again about checking your children's media and gaming platforms. We have once again been hearing about games that children are playing that have 18+ certificates. Although we cannot monitor this, as a school we are seeing the detrimental effect it's having on children's mental health and wellbeing. The link below might help you through the mine field of social media and gaming platforms:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>

Collecting for the Homeless

Please see the attached flyer from Isla in Year 5, there will be boxes outside school on Monday for you to place any products that she has requested.

A Message from St Joseph's Church - CAFOD CAROL SERVICE Monday 21st December at 4pm

As we are sadly not able to meet in person to share our Carol Services this year, the parish are inviting us all to meet on Zoom to share the story of Christ's coming with scripture, Carol-singing and artwork over the internet. In the service we will focus on one aspect of CAFOD's recent efforts and you can donate on their website if you wish. We would really love your child(ren) to be a part of this.

If Early Years and KS1 children could dress as a Nativity character and parents send in a photo to Richard – richardvpoole@hotmail.com - that would be great. If there are any KS2 children who would like to send in pictures of any part of the Nativity story (e.g. shepherds hearing of the birth of Jesus), please email Tom - tafosman@hotmail.co.uk with the photographed pic.

If you would like to be present for this service online, please email Deacon Didier to request a Zoom Invitation on didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com

School will be open on Friday the 18th of December; children will need to be collected at these times:

R, Year 1 and 2: 12.50pm

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: 1.00pm

If your child/ren are booked into ASC this will run up until 3pm.

School will reopen for an INSET day on Monday 4th of January
Pupils will be back into school on Tuesday 5th January

God Bless

Mrs Jackson and Mr Bath

