

At St Joseph's we Love, Learn and Live by the example of Jesus Christ

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter 5

20th December 2017

Dear Parents

As we arrive at the end of this autumn term, we reflect on our advent journey and how we are preparing for Jesus' birthday. The children have helped us in our endeavours through their wonderful nativity plays and carol concerts.

We all marvelled at the splendid performances of "Prickly Hay" by our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. Their singing, acting and dancing was a joy to watch and we are grateful to the teachers and support staff for their hard work. The children performed on our new stage which was paid for by the 'Friends' through your contributions and the various fund-raising events over the last couple of years.

Yesterday, our Christmas journey continued with two uplifting carol concerts. The children 'sang their hearts out' as they performed a selection of old and new festive carols.

Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard in a very short space of time to put these wonderful performances together for us. Thank you also to everyone who attended our celebrations and for your extremely generous donations to help us pay for the stage lights and to make our annual contribution to the Mayor's Fund.

Last Tuesday, 40 pupils from Years 5 and 6 travelled into London to Westminster Cathedral for the Cardinal's annual Schools' Christmas Mass. This group of children was made up of our School Chaplains, Mini Vinnies and Caritas Ambassadors. This special event was attended by the whole family of schools in the Diocese. After Mass, the children were incredibly fortunate to be able to meet Cardinal Vincent who even had time to be in a photograph with them – a very special memento for St Joseph's School! Thank you Mrs Gonzalez for organising this memorable outing.

Finally, we say "thank you and farewell" to our wonderful 'Crossing Lady' – Teresa. Teresa has braved all weathers keeping our children safe crossing the road for over 10 years! We thank her for such commitment and great work!

May I wish you all a happy and holy Christmas with your children, and every best wish for 2018!

See you all on Thursday, 4th January!

P Sutton
Headteacher



SPORTS NEWS

SAINTS BOYS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT – 20TH NOVEMBER 2017

Well done to: Ben, Patrick, Thomas, Victor, Desmond, Anthony, Matthew and Jarell



SAINTS CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION – 23RD NOVEMBER 2017

Well done to: Emilia (5P), Kealan, Yashan, Maya, Alessandro (5GP), Joseph, Aoife, Simon, Ryan, Michael, Shannon, Molly-May, Carolina (6b), Grace and Braden (6W)

SAINTS GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT – MONDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER 2017

Well done to: Erin, Emmeline, Maddison, Kittie-Mai, Kelsey (6W) and Haley (6B)



HARROW INDOOR ATHLETICS – 24TH NOVEMBER 2017

Well done to: Hannah, Erin, Kezia, Victoria, Saray, Gabrielle, Mia, Amelia, Neeve, Rohan, Benny, Alex, Patrick, Michael, Matthew, Thomas, Jaden and Bowie (Year 6)

NEWS

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE

On Tuesday the 12th of December 2017, the Mini Vinnies, Chaplains and Caritas Ambassadors visited the Westminster Cathedral to celebrate the birth of Jesus through a carol service. We all set off on the coach excited to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas together.

When we arrived in Westminster, we settled in before the service began. All of a sudden the angel Gabriel came out and greeted us. He told us the story of the nativity and, at an important stage in the story, we would sing a carol.

There were farm animals called Larry the donkey and a sheep. While we were having fun we all had to remember why we celebrate such a major celebration like Christmas. Cardinal Vincent Nichols was there and, in his concluding speech, he stressed the importance of what we can't always see. We all bought gifts in aid of the Catholic Children's Society and knew we came back to school knowing that we had done a good deed.

We had an amazing time and enjoyed celebrating the birth of Jesus - Christmas. We also met Cardinal Vincent afterwards and were privileged to have our photo taken with him.

By Elizabeth and Emmeline (Class 6W)



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We hope you all enjoyed our wonderful KS1 Christmas Productions – we are very proud of our children!



STARS OF THE WEEK

	W/E: 24/11/2017	W/E: 01/12/2017	W/E: 08/12/2017
RC	Gaby	Hope	Aden
RS	Raymond	Ava	Zorka
1C	Sean	Keeva	Joseph C
1K	Anthony	Mehansha	Kristian
2J	Adelina	Leon	Beau
2S	Chester	Michael	Zofia
3P	-	Connor Mc	Kyle
3W	Jan	Isla	Marita
4D	Cailin	Rocco	Whole Class
4T	Angelina & Joseph	-	Whole Class
5GP	Kacper	Olivia	Annie
5P	Fabio	Eric	Maeve
6B	-	Whole class for a fantastic assembly	Abbie
6W	Emmeline	Shanae	Bowie

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, 4TH JANUARY 2018

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Isla 3W – Won a medal for playing the Tin Whistle.
Stanley 4D – Stage 6 Swimming & Orange/Black belt in Jujitsu.
Zakariya 4D – Sho Dan Black Belt in Karate.
Braden 6W – 6th Kyu Martial Arts.
Billy 2J – Duckling 2 Swimming Award.
Justyna 4D – Level 2 Gymnastics.
WELL DONE CHILDREN!

THANK YOU!

All the staff at St Joseph's would like to say thank you very much for all the lovely gifts and cards given to them this Christmas – they are very much appreciated!



FUNDRAISING

We are happy to announce that our school raised the total sum of **£604.84** for Children in Need. Well done everyone and thank you for your generous support!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our shoe boxes were picked up and we are pleased to tell you that we collected **168** in total! A wonderful effort by everyone!

This Wednesday's Word: **MARY**

"Mary is the one who says 'yes'. Mary's life shows that God accomplishes great Deeds through those who are most humble." **Pope Francis**



Ask your child if they know the 'Hail Mary', the prayer based on the angel Gabriel's greeting. Ask your child what else they know about Mary. It may help your child to tell them something you know about Mary, or the Rosary.

The school is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils and if staff see signs which suggest that one of the pupils may have been the victim of abuse, staff will (as is required by law) follow the procedures laid down by the Area Child Protection Committee. N.B. Such action in no way infers that any parent/carer or other individual is being accused of wrong-doing. A full version of the school's Child Protection Policy is available upon request. Mrs C French, Mrs A Panacides & Mr J Fay