



ST JOSEPH'S JOURNAL

Free! Friday, 17th December 2021

7th Edition



Christmas Wishes

Ho, ho , ho! Well this week we have had the pleasure of welcoming the big fella himself. Father Christmas made a personal appearance yesterday and met all the children in Key Stage 1 - Mr Newington was not very happy with how he had parked the sleigh on the new flat roof! However, Rudolf was very grateful to finish off the left over carrots from the Key Stage 1 healthy snacks. It has been a magical week in school and the excitement bubbles have just about remained under control, and that's just the staff! Thank you parents for all your support this term. Your children are to be congratulated for all their hard work and how much progress they have made. Please do not worry about school work over the holiday. Relax and enjoy and have fun making memories. If you can add a new book to your child's bedroom this Christmas and hear your child read that will be one of the best gifts you can give this holiday. On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your very generous gifts. The heart felt sentiments you have taken the time to express in your cards are truly appreciated. I would like to echo the closing words I shared with you all following the recent nativities and carol services. The staff at St Joseph's are incredible and have a 'can do' attitude. From the daily cleaning by our cleaners to the morning disinfectant fogging by Mr Newington in every classroom at 7am, the office team ensuring the plans are executed with precision and regard for the whole community, the tender care shown by midday meal staff, of a cut knee at lunchtime play and the brilliance I have witnessed in every classroom this term. It is an absolute pleasure to work alongside such a talented team. Please do reach out this Christmas if you need to. I will be picking up emails, as will the leadership team. I hope you all have a blessed and peaceful Christmas. I hope you get time with your loved ones and life's worries are paused. This is a very special community because you have chosen to send your child to this very special school. From everyone at St Joseph's, Merry Christmas. God Bless, Mrs Walker



Pot Tombola's

Thank you so much to everybody that decorated, filled and donated a pot for the pot tombola. All of the pots were of a very high standard, making the judging incredibly difficult for Mrs Covey & Mrs Parkinson. After MUCH deliberation the winners were as follows:

- St Andrew - Elisa F / St Bernadette - Louis
- St Christopher - Sam & Matylda
- St Elizabeth - Isabel / St Francis - Jacob
- St Genevieve - Daniel / St George - James P
- St Helen - Aki / St Joan - Camille
- St Margaret - Alex / St Patrick - Kasia
- St Theresa - Lewis / St Xavier - Evie F

Warden Park Runners



Well done to all our runners who recently took part in the Warden Park Run. On a bright, but rather chilly morning, they were all full of energy and represented St Joseph's with gusto!! 3 of our runners, (Ben, Isaac and Tommy) have made it through to the final in January!! Many thanks to our parents for supporting the children by bringing them to the event and cheering them all on.



School Fair

Despite the tricky times we find ourselves in, our fabulous Friends of School team pulled out all the stops with this year's Christmas fair and it was a great success. Despite a rather damp start, the weather improved and it was very well attended. We would especially like to thank all our generous sponsors for supplying prizes for the raffle. Many thanks also to Father Christmas for making an appearance! Last but by no means not least, we would like to thank all the parents, grandparents and children who came and spent their money - THANK YOU!!



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Year 6 - Harry Potter Trip



Our Year 6 children recently visited Harry Potter Warner Bros Studios. They have been learning about this amazing topic and it has generated some incredible learning experiences for the children. They took part in an exciting lesson and the remainder of the time was spent exploring the studios. A fabulous time was had by all!!

Elf on the 13th

Thank you to all who supported our Elf on the 13th!! There were fabulous costumes on display. For more information about this project and if you wish to make a donation please go to : <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/aidanschristmasdinner2021>



KS1 Nativity



We so enjoyed our fabulous year 1 and year 2 in their Christmas Nativities and we hope you did too! Thank you so much for supporting the children with their lines and costumes.

Medicines in School



If we hold medication in school for your child, please remember that it is your responsibility to check expiry dates with the school office. **Particularly Epipens and asthma inhalers.**

VIP - Primary Applications Sep 22

If you have a child who is due to start primary school next September, please note that the Local Authority no longer send out individual letters. Parents are being asked to apply online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. The application process is now open and the closing date is Saturday, 15th January 2022. In addition to the online application, parents wishing to send their child to St Joseph's will also need to complete a Supplementary Information Form for 2022/23 available on our website www.stjosephshh.org.uk

Reporting Absence

Please can we remind parents that all absence, whether for illness or medical appointments should be reported to the school via Studybugs. Studybugs is a free app and all reported absence goes directly into the register and keeps class teachers informed of the reason for your child's absence. We have a legal duty to ascertain the whereabouts of all children. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Midday Meal Vacancies

We are looking to recruit Midday Meals Supervisors to join our lunchtime team, starting Tuesday, 4th January 2022. This is a term time only position, Monday—Friday, the hours are 11.45 – 1.15pm, the salary is £9.43 per hour. All details are available on our website.

Easyfundraising



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School? There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline, Sainsbury's and in particular at this time of year if you're booking a holiday then Tui, Easyjet, and far more are all signed up – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3... 1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjosephscatholicprimaryschool4/> and join for free, there is also an App which can be downloaded just as easily. 2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping. 3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever! There are no catches or hidden charges and St Joseph's will be incredibly grateful for your donations—thank you.

Christmas Services

St Paul's anticipate it being necessary to monitor the numbers who attend the Christmas Masses, to keep everyone safe. This is as much to do with fire safety as it is to do with Covid. Therefore, please sign-up if you intend to come to Christmas Masses:



www.sphh.church

Friday, 24th Dec—6pm Vigil Mass for children

Friday, 24th Dec - 9pm Mass

Friday, 24th Dec - 11pm Mass in Malayalam - no sign up necessary.

Saturday, 25th Dec - 8.30am & 10.30am Christmas Day

Sunday, 26th Dec - 10.30am and 5pm - The Holy Family

Bosco Hardship Fund

Thank you to those who donated to the Bosco Hardship Fund at the KS2 Carol Services. We raised £344.07, this will be used to help families in need within the trust.



Spring Diary Dates

17th Dec - Last Day of Term

4th Jan - Children return to school

6th Jan - Epiphany Mass

9th Feb - Parent Consultations, Year R only

16th Feb - Parent Consultations, Year R only



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