



# St. Joseph's Journal

Free! Thursday, 23rd November 2023

6th Edition

## Friends of School Christmas Fair

### Christmas Fair



Just to remind you that the Friends of School (FOS) Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday, 2nd December, 12-3pm. This is one of their biggest fundraisers and they would welcome your support. There is always loads to do including a visit from the man himself... Father Christmas! There will be tombola's, games, face painting, mulled wine, Christmas themed food stalls, the amazing hamper stall, and much much more. We would like to say a **huge thank you to all the parents and local businesses that support the fair** by providing raffle prizes, donating items and helping on the day, be it setting up, working on the stalls or clearing up after - we couldn't do it without you. The Christmas grand prize draw generously sponsored by F Goddard & Sons Ltd, has some fantastic prizes on offer - £150 Amazon voucher (donated by Wooten & Bean), spa vouchers (donated by Guardian Angel Carers), wine tasting at Bluebell Vineyard, family days out - to name but a few. We hope it will be as successful as in previous years.

## Elf on the Twelfth



On Tuesday, 12th December we invite the children to come to school dressed as an elf, either in an elf costume or any red and green clothing (socks, jumper etc.) and to donate a £1 online via ParentPay. We do this every year to support Rockinghorse Children's Charity and a special Christmas



project they fund called Aidan's Christmas Dinner Project. This was set up by parents Lucy and Simon Pond in memory of their son Aidan who tragically died from mitochondrial disease in 2014. Every year they fundraise to provide a festive hamper for families having to spend Christmas in the Royal Alex or The Trevor Mann Baby Unit (neonatal intensive care) with their sick child. We do appreciate that times are tough, please only donate if you are in a position to do so. Please find a link below with further information:

<https://www.rockinghorse.org.uk/news/families-spending-time-in-hospital-over-christmas-supported-by-aidans-christmas-dinner-project/>

## Going to the Chapel ...



Miss Smith is getting married this Saturday, 25th November. We hope her wedding day is filled with joy and laughter and we wish her and her new husband every luck and happiness for the future.



## Christmas Lunch


Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday, 13th December. EYFS & KS1 children will automatically receive Christmas lunch. If your child is in years 3-6, and wishes to enjoy this festive meal, bookings can be made via <https://gocatering.co.uk/>



The deadline is Thursday, 7th December. Children are more than welcome to wear a Christmas themed hat!

On Friday, 15th December, there will be NO hot meal service, Go! Catering will provide a packed lunch for all children that are either entitled to universal free school meals, FSM children or have ordered a meal (KS2) for that day.

## Fortnightly Attendance

St A	93%	St B	94%
St C	92%	St D	95%
St E	97%	St F	91%
St Gen	91%	St Geo	96%
St H	96%	St J	94%
St M	94%	St P	94%
St T	96%	St X	97% 



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## Starting School - September 2024

Online applications are now open, go to: [westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries, the closing date is **Monday 15 January 2024** and you must submit your completed application by this date. We require a Supplementary Information Form (SIF), to be completed. Catholic applicants application forms must be signed by your parish priest. Fr Raglan will be signing after 9am and 11am Mass on Sunday 3rd December.

## Medication 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. If your child requires antibiotics or any other medication, we can only administer if your child requires it 4 times or more in a school day. All medication MUST come to the school office in its box with the information leaflet enclosed.**

## NUTS & SESAME



**Please remember we have a NO nut or Sesame policy in school. This includes sandwich fillings such as Nutella / Peanut Butter, dips such as hummus and chicken satay. We have several children with severe nut and sesame allergies who are at risk of anaphylactic shock.**

## Foodbank

Please remember to get in touch with us if you require a Foodbank delivery, speak to a member of the school office team in the strictest confidence and we can arrange this for you. They now also have a Baby/Children's Bank and have an assortment of items to share, including Moses baskets, prams, cots, travel cots, high chairs, baby baths, bedside cots - **Please do get in touch.**



## Reporting Absences & Appointments

Please can we remind parents that **all absence, whether for illness or medical appointments or any other reason, 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. By reporting all absences, it prevents office staff from having to ring and email parents to find out the reason for them not being at school and avoids unnecessary home visits. Please remember to report absences daily, your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.



## Dogs On School Premises

Please could we remind dog owners that as lovely as your furry friends maybe, they are NOT allowed on school premises - this includes the foyer outside the school office! There are both adults and children who find dogs scary - thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Parent Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for a parent governor at St Joseph's. This role is voluntary and the term of office is 4 years or until your last child leaves the school, whichever is earlier. For more information our co-chairs: Helen Bilton ([hbilton@stjosephshh.org.uk](mailto:hbilton@stjosephshh.org.uk)) or Teresa Barnard ([tbarnard@stjosephshh.org.uk](mailto:tbarnard@stjosephshh.org.uk)), would be very happy to have an informal chat to discuss the role and answer any questions you may have.

## Christmas Shows



We have a couple of pre-Christmas treats lined up for the children in December. We are delighted to have Ensemble Reza visiting us on Wednesday, 6th December. They will be performing Snow White and the Three Cool Dudes narrated by their musician Anna Cooper. On Tuesday, 12th December, Quantum Theatre will visit and perform the Snow Queen. There will be plenty of opportunity for audience participation and we hope the children enjoy the shows. There will be no cost to the parents for these events.

## KS1 Workshop

Thank you to all that attended this morning's 'End of KS1 Expectations' workshop. We hope you found it informative and helpful.

## Poppy Appeal

£50.90 was raised for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to all who donated and to our hardy year 6 children who were out in the worst of the weather collecting money!

## Year 5 Sports Leaders

Our Year 5 Sports Leaders undertook training last week at Oathall School, this week they ran a Year 1 PE lesson. They each created a 'station' and the Year 1s moved around a circuit. Everyone really enjoyed it and the Sports Leaders displayed their fantastic leadership skills. Well done.



## Enjoying Forest School



# Autumn Term Diary Dates

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### November

24th Nov - School Closed

27th Nov - INSET DAY - School Closed

28th Nov - Year 3 to attend Parish Mass, 9.30am - parents are welcome to attend

28th Nov - Year 5 Greek Day

### December

2nd Dec FOS Christmas Fair, 12-3pm

4th Dec - EYFS Nativity, 2pm - tickets via ParentPay

5th Dec - EYFS Nativity, 9.30am - tickets via ParentPay

5th Dec - KS1 Nativity, 1.45pm - tickets via ParentPay

6th Dec - KS1 Nativity, 9.30am - tickets via ParentPay

6th Dec - Ensemble Reza

7th Dec - Flu Vaccinations

7th Dec - KS1 Nativity, 5.15pm - tickets via ParentPay

8th Dec - Carol Service, 2pm years 3-4 / 6pm years 5-6

12th Dec - Elf on Twelfth

12th Dec - Snow Queen

13th Dec - Christmas Lunch

14th Dec - Party Day

14th Dec - Year 6, Harry Potter Trip

15th Dec - End of Term, **1pm finish**

**Please note all dates and events are subject to change.  
Dates are also available to view on the St Joseph's website calendar.**