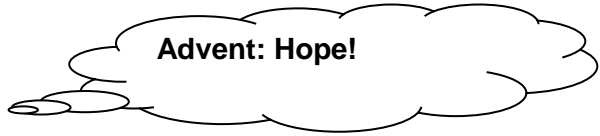




11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers



**Thought of the Week**

Advent is a special time. This week, the children have been learning about what it means to have hope and faith that God will keep his promise to return to us and how we can prepare our hearts to receive him. The children have made Advent promises in preparation for the coming of Our Lord, Jesus.

**Key Stage 1 & Foundation Stage Nativity Play**

The Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children have been very busy practising this year's Nativity play. Due to Covid restrictions, I am sorry that you are unable to watch the play in school. However, it will be sent to our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 parents. Please, bear in mind, our filming may not be up to 'Oscar' standard but we have tried our best to ensure life is as normal as possible for our children.

**Key Stage 2 Advent Service**

The Key Stage 2 Advent Service will be filmed and sent to all Key Stage 2 parents. The order of service is slightly different this year due to the fact that we cannot mix classes. I hope you enjoy watching our Advent Service.

If anyone has objections to their child being filmed, then please contact the school.

**Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime**

We find ourselves in unexpected times with our great tradition of going to the pantomime cancelled but riding to the rescue to make sure our children don't miss out on this special Christmas experience is 'Blue Peter' legend Peter Duncan. This year, we have purchased Peter Duncan's 'Jack and the Beanstalk' pantomime, which will be streamed directly to all classes. I'm sure the children will have great fun booing, cheering 'he's behind you' and singing along to their favourite songs.

**End of Term**

As you know, the end of term is on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. To reduce mass gatherings at the end of the day, we are asking all parents to collect their children at the following staggered times

| <b>Class</b>     | <b>End of the Day Times</b> | <b>Collection Point (normal procedure)</b> |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Nursery</b>   | 12.00 noon                  | Nursery Gate                               |
| <b>Reception</b> | 1.00p.m.                    | Nursery Gate                               |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | 1.10 p.m.                   | Key Stage 2 gate                           |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | 1.15 p.m.                   | Key Stage 1                                |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | 1.20 p.m.                   | Key Stage 2 gate                           |
| <b>Year 4</b>    | 1.25 p.m.                   | Key Stage 2 gate                           |
| <b>Year 5</b>    | 1.30 p.m.                   | Key Stage 2 gate                           |
| <b>Year 6</b>    | 1.35 p.m.                   | Key Stage 2 gate                           |



### **Mrs Doogan**

If you were a former pupil of our school, I am sure you will remember Mrs Doogan. She was the Deputy Headteacher of St Joseph's School and sadly, she has recently passed away. She worked at our school for many years. Mrs Doogan dedicated her life to our school and as a former pupil myself, I remember her being an excellent teacher. I would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to Mrs Doogan for her hard work and commitment to our school. She will always be remembered here and never forgotten.



### **Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day**

Wednesday 16th December is Christmas dinner day. The children may wear a Christmas jumper/tee shirt with non-uniform. We are asking for £1 donation. All money raised will go towards our Covid fund appeal.

### **Important Notice: School Admissions: Primary School Place**

The paragraph below is very important for all Foundation 1 parents. Applications for admission to our school opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. You will need to apply for a school place if your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017

Please ensure you complete the **Hertfordshire on-line form at:**

**(<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx>)**

When completing the on-line form, please be aware that there are four St Joseph's schools in Hertfordshire so it is very important to select the right St Joseph's. We are St Joseph's in Watford, code number 9193383.

You will also need to complete the **School's Supplementary Information Form** which is obtainable from the School Office or the school's website. A **Certificate of Catholic Practice** is also required which you can get from your church. If you are unable to contact the church, please inform the School Office and we will, hopefully, be able to help you.

All forms must be completed and returned to the School Office before admission can be considered.

Therefore, in order to apply for our school, the following documents are required:

1. Supplementary Information Form.
2. Certificate of Catholic Practice (if applicable).
3. Baptism Certificate (if applicable).

Please do not be late as this could jeopardise your child's place at the school. The closing date for all applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

# Important Notices

## St Joseph's Church Services

Advent Recollection Service: 16th December at 7p.m.  
 Christmas Mass: 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6p.m.  
 Midnight Mass 24<sup>th</sup> December at 12 midnight.  
 Christmas Day Mass: 25<sup>th</sup> December at 8.30a.m. & 10.30a.m.  
 Book your place at: [Events | Roman Catholic Church of St Joseph \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://www.rcdow.org.uk)



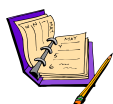
## Attendance Award

Year 3 had the best attendance last week. Well done Year 3!

Have a lovely week.

Mrs L. Payne

## Dates for the diary



|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>December</b>                     |  |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December    | KS1 & Foundation Stage Play. Starts at 9.30a.m. A recording of the Mass will be sent to parents.           |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December    | KS2 Advent Service. Starts at 1.30p.m.TBC A recording of the Mass will be sent to parents.                 |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (children may wear a Christmas jumper/tee-shirt with non-uniform). |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December  | Whole School Christmas Virtual Quiz & Foundation 1 & 2 Party   |
| <b>Friday 18th December</b>         | Mass has been cancelled<br><b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b>                                   |
| <b>21st December – 4th January</b>  | Christmas Holiday – School Closed  |

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>January 2021<br/>Spring Term</b>  |  |
| <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b> | <b>Start of term</b>                             |
| <b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b> | <b>Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 4 TBC</b> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>February</b>                         |   |
| <b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February</b> | <b>Maths meeting for F1 &amp; F2 parents. TBC</b> |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> February         | Virtual Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.                |
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February         | Parents' Evening TBC<br>Save the date             |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February        | Safer Internet Day                                |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February        | Parents' Evening TBC Save the date.               |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>            | <b>End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.</b>   |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February</b> | <b>Half Term holiday – School Closed</b>  |
| <b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>            | <b>Start of Term</b>  |
| <b>March</b>                                      |   |
| Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March                      | St David's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green, red, white or yellow).   |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March                    | World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day. <b>All parents are welcome to attend the World Book Day Assembly if Covid restriction are lifted..</b> This is a non-uniform day. Children may dress up as their favourite book character.                                     |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March                      | Virtual Parents' Forum  |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March                     | Mother's day Class Assembly starts at 9.00a.m. All F1 – F2 mothers/carers welcome to attend. Outside/Virtual TBC  |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March                  | St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green or white).  |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March                     | St Joseph's Day Mass – <b>date to be confirmed. (TBC)</b>   |
|   | <b>Last swimming for Year 3 and Year 4 TBC</b>  |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March                     | Lenten Cake Competition (all children may enter by baking a cake).<br>Cake sale.  |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March                    | Lenten Toy Sale (please donate old toys).   |
| <b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>               | Easter Bonnet Parade (F1 – Y6 classes) (F1-Y6) <b>All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade TBC.</b> Children to make the bonnets at home and bring them into school. All children may participate in this event.<br><b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b> |
| Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March                     | Easter School for Year 6 TBC  |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March                    | Easter School for Year 6 TBC  |

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>April</b>                        |   |
| <b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>Start of Term</b>  |
| <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>Swimming starts for Year 3 and Year 5 TBC</b>                    |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April       | St George's Non-Uniform Day (children may wear red, white or blue). |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>May</b>  |   |
| <b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>                    | <b>Bank Holiday. School closed.</b>   |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May                          | Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.  |
|   |   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> May              | KS1 SATs- Year 2  |
| <b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May</b> | <b>KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)</b> |
| <b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>                   | <b>KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 &amp; 2 tests</b>                                   |
| <b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>                  | <b>KS2 Reading Test</b>   |
| <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>                | <b>KS2 Maths Paper 1 &amp; 2 Test</b>   |
| <b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>                 | <b>KS2 Maths Paper 3 Test</b>   |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May                         | Last swimming for Year 5  |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May                         | Walk to School Week   |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May                        | KS1 Sports Day at 9.30a.m. <b>KS1 parents may attend.</b>   |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May                        | KS2 Sports Day at 1.15p.m. <b>KS2 parents may attend.</b>   |

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May | Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend) |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May   | Swimming starts for Year 6 TBC  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May   | End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.  |
| 31st May – 4th June           | Half Term Holiday – School Closed   |

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>June</b>                        |  |
| <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>  | <b>Inset Day – school closed.</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> | <b>Start of Term</b>   |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June       | Year 1 Phonic tests commence<br>Year 4 Multiplication tests commence   |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June      | KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 9.30p.m. KS1 parents may attend.   |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June      | KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.15p.m. KS2 parents may attend.   |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June     | Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1 at 2.00p.m   |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June       | F1 new pupils visits 1.30p.m.  |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June       | <b>St Peter &amp; St Paul's Mass in school at 9.00a.m. (F1 – Y6)</b><br>All parents are welcome to attend the Mass |
| TBC                                | Year 6 School Journey  |

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>July</b>                          |   |
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July        | Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.  |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July          | Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.  |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July          | F1 visits and New Parents meeting 1.30p.m.  |
|                                      | Final Year 3 swim – double session TBC  |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July       | Reserve date: Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.  |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July       | Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 2 parents are welcome to attend)  |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July        | Transition Day for all pupils<br>Secondary School Transition day<br>New to F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m. (Current F1 parents to attend).                              |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July          | Year 6 Leavers' Mass<br>Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m. (weather permitting)  |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July         | FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)  |
|                                      | Final Year 6 swim – double session TBC  |
| Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July        | KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.  |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July      | KS2 Play at 6.00p.m. KS2 parents are welcome to attend.   |
| <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b> | <b>Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass</b><br>End of Term Year 6 lunch<br><b>End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.</b> |

