



2nd December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Advent: Hope!

Thought of the Week

Advent is a special time when we get ready for the coming of Jesus and remember his promise to come again. This week, the children have been learning about what it means to be welcoming, and how we can prepare to welcome Jesus. The children have made Advent promises in preparation for the coming of Our Lord, Jesus.



Key Stage 1 Nativity Play

The KS1 Dress Rehearsal starts at 9.30a.m. on Thursday 8th December. Toddlers/babies are welcome to the Dress Rehearsal.

The KS1 play starts at 9.30a.m. on Friday 9th December. All parents and carers are welcome to attend so please do come along and watch the show!



Key Stage 2 Advent Service

The Key Stage 2 Advent Service will be on Thursday 15th December, in the church, starting at 1.30p.m. All parents/carers are welcome to join us.



End of Term Mass

There will be an Advent Mass on Wednesday 21st December, in church, at 9.15a.m. All parents/carers are welcome to join us.



SAM Learning

As you know, we are continuously evaluating ways to raise the achievements of our pupils. I am pleased to announce that the school has subscribed to SAM Learning Homework programme for our Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils. SAM learning is a top quality eLearning service that has been proven to improve outcomes for pupils.

To access the service at www.samlearning.com, your child needs the following details:

Centre ID: WD19SJ

User ID: Date of birth followed by two initials; first name then last name. Example: 010816DJ is the User ID for David Jones born 1st Aug 2016.

Password: Initially same as User ID. Learners are encouraged to keep the same password.

We do hope that you will take full advantage of this service and thank you in anticipation of your support of this initiative.

Snow Procedures

It may snow at some point this term. Therefore, I would just like to remind all parents of the bad weather procedures.

If in the unlikely event, school needs to be closed, please follow any of the procedures listed below:

1. Firstly, a text message will be sent to you via parentmail. Please ensure the school office has your correct mobile number.
2. Check the school website after 7.35a.m. to see if the school is closed or opening at a later time www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk.
3. Check our twitter feed @stjosephs775
4. Contact the school office after 7.45a.m. and listen to the answer machine message.
5. Listen to the local radio stations which will provide updated information on school closures.



6. Check the Herts direct website after 7.45a.m. to see if the school is closed
www.hertsdirect.org

Important Notices

1. Parent Mail

If you do not receive emails from the school, could you please give the school office your email address, and do remember to update your parent mail accounts with any new mobile or email addresses. If you do not have an email address, please do not worry as you will still receive a paper copy of the school's newsletter. Thank you.

2. Primary School Place

Important Notice: School Admissions

The paragraph below is very important for all Foundation 1 parents. Applications for admission to our school is now open. You will need to apply for:

A reception place in primary, infant or first school if your child was born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013

Please ensure you complete the **Hertfordshire on-line form**, the **School's Supplementary Form** and **Certificate of Catholic Practice**. 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.

Supplementary Information Forms are obtainable from the school. You can also obtain the **Certificate of Catholic Practice from Father Stephen or your parish priest**. All forms must be completed and returned to the school office before admission can be considered.

Therefore, in order to apply for our school, we must receive:

- Supplementary Information Form
- Certificate Of Catholic Practice (if applicable)
- Baptism Certificate (if applicable)

The closing date is 15th January 2017. Please do not be late as this could jeopardise your child's place at the school.



Attendance Award

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

Have a great week.

Mrs L. Payne

Dates for the diary

Thursday 8th December
Thursday 8th December
Friday 9th December

KS1 Play - dress rehearsal. Starts at 9.30a.m
1.30p.m New F1 Parents meeting (January intake only)
KS1 Play. Starts at 9.30a.m.

Monday 12th December
Wednesday 14th December
Thursday 15th December
Friday 16th December

Choir singing at Watford Colosseum 7.15pm
Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
KS2 Advent Service with Carols. Starts at 1.30p.m.
Foundation Stage & KS1 Pantomime, Watersmeet Theatre

Monday 19th December
Wednesday 21st December
Wednesday 21st December

Key Stage 2 Pantomime at Watersmeet Theatre
Mass in church 9.15a.m.
End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.

Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5th January
Friday 6th January

Start of term
Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.



Thursday 26th January Welcome Mass (for new F1 January intake) starts at 9.30a.m.
 Friday 3rd February Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.

Monday 6th February Parents' Evening
 Wednesday 8th February Parents' Evening
 Friday 10th February End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
 13th – 17th February Half term break

Monday 20th February Start of term

Wednesday 1st March Ash Wednesday Service at church
 Thursday 2nd March World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day
 Friday 3rd March St David's Non-Uniform Day
 Friday 17th March St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day
 St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed.

Thursday 24th March Lenten Toy Sale
 Monday 27th March Lenten Cake Competition
 Thursday 30th March Mass in School
 Friday 31st March Easter Bonnet Parade
 Friday 31st March End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.
 Monday 3rd April Easter School for Year 6
 Tuesday 4th April Easter School for Year 6



Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18th April Start of term
 Friday 21st April St George's Non-Uniform Day
 Friday 21st April Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.

Monday 1st May May Day. School closed.
 Monday 8th- 12th May KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests
 Monday 15th – 26th May KS1 SATs- Year 2
 Friday 19th May Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.
 Monday 22nd May KS1 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
 Tuesday 23rd May KS2 Sports Day at 1.30p.m.
 Friday 26th May End of half term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
 29th May – 2nd June Half term break

Monday 5th June School Closed – Inset day
 Tuesday 6th June Start of term
 Tuesday 6th June KS1 Reserve Sports Day
 Wednesday 7th June KS2 Reserve Sports Day

Monday 12th June Year 1 Phonic tests commence
 Wednesday 21st June Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1
 Friday 23rd June Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
 Monday 26th – 30th June Year 6 School Journey
 Wednesday 28th June F1 new pupils visits

Thursday 6th July F1 new parents meeting
 Wednesday 5th July Foundation Stage Sports Day
 Friday 7th July Parents' Forum at 9.45 a.m.

Wednesday 12th July Foundation Stage Reserve Sports Day
 Thursday 13th July Transition day

Friday 14th July Year 6 Leavers' Mass

Monday 17th July KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m.
 Tuesday 18th July KS2 Play at 6.00p.m.

Wednesday 19th July FS & KS1 Teddy Bear Picnic (Please bring a Teddy Bear)
 Wednesday 19th July Year 6 Barbecue



Thursday 20th July Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m.
 End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.