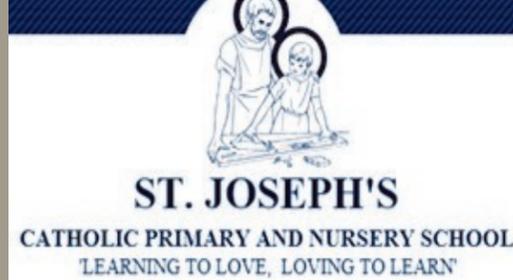


St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



As we come to the end of our Autumn Term, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas. Having worked hard all term, the children will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries (whilst wearing yours out no doubt!). We've had a busy and productive term with lots to tell you about and a few reminders to give too.

Spiritually, we have been preparing the children for Christmas, ever since our Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King. We have been learning about advent during collective worship, hymn practice, our daily reflections and of course in class and through our Nativity performances. We have also attended Advent Mass at St Thomas A Becket church this morning to bring the term to an end and remind children of the importance of this time of year in the liturgical calendar.

I do hope that as parents you will encourage your son or daughter to attend the Carol Concert held at St Thomas A Becket church on 20th December at 7.30pm, and Mass during the Christmas holidays. It is our duty to proclaim Christ's birth and to ensure that the real message of Christmas is at the forefront of our hearts.

On behalf of everybody at St Joseph's Primary School, we wish you, your family and the children a holy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

Miss Cashier



Please keep checking >>>

School Website

What to look out for:

- ◆ **Calendar**—the calendar is regularly updated and all school events can be found [here](#).
- ◆ **Curriculum**—Do you ever ask your child "What have you been learning about today?", only to get the response: "nothing"? Have a look at the curriculum page it tells you what the children are learning about each half term! If you want to know more, look at the learning challenge homework project and/or ask the class teacher—they are always happy to help!
- ◆ **Twitter**—Want to know what has been happening across the school and all the events we are involved in? Have a look at our twitter page!

A big thank you to >>>

The Friend's of St Joseph's

The Friend's of St Joseph's have been as busy as ever this term, hosting a coffee morning, disco's, and most recently our Christmas Fair. Thank you for all your support at these events. These events are not only fun for the children but ensures they take part in activities as part of the St Joseph's School family community. Your attendance and participation in these events is key to showing the children how well our community can work together to create the best opportunities for all the children. We value your input and support immensely, and we are always looking for more adults to come on board. Should you wish to have a more active role please let the school office know. There will be a meeting in the New Year (look at the school calendar on the website) to discuss how the Friends can move forward in raising money for the school, to enhance the children's learning and their environment. By showing an interest you do not need to commit for the whole year; if you only support at one event—this would still be highly valuable.

What the Friend's of St Joseph's have donated towards so far:

- Refurbishment of the pond area to allow the children to design, plant and make the space their own to support their outdoor learning.
- 30 new ipads—to support computing in the curriculum, ensuring children are using up to date software within the classroom.
- A new portable sound system—to allow the children to perform in Music concerts, Mass, Nativity plays, as well as during everyday PE lessons.

Our trail blazing curriculum projects

2017 has been an excellent year for our critical thinking and global learning projects. Our successful partnership with Marka Prep Girls School in Amman and our trail blazing work on critical thing has really got us noticed. We have had articles published by the British Council, the Geographical Association, SSAT, Wandsworth's Schools Bulletin and the Wandsworth's Head Start Magazine. You can also see us online at: <https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/connecting-classrooms-practice> where there is a video highlighting the importance of collaborating and working as a team to embed the core skills.



We are particularly proud of our 'My One Word' article that has just been published in Wandsworth's Bulletin.

We can't wait to see what 2018 will bring regarding our curriculum projects.

Watch this space!

Workshops for Parents

We want to involve you in our child's learning as much as possible. We want you to feel comfortable and confident to discuss your child's learning within school.

What would you like to know more about the curriculum?

What information would you find helpful to support your child at home?

How can we help develop the curriculum links between home and school?

If you have any ideas/suggestions in answer to these questions please let your child's class teacher know. We want to bridge the gap between home and school in a way that is beneficial for all. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.



School Uniform

The children now look very smart in their uniforms Thank you for preparing them so well for school.

Uniform is something that are monitoring closely as wearing a **uniform** is a badge of pride, creates an identity for a **school** and is an **important** part of being in a **school**. It is also a reflection of how we appear in the community. As the winter gets colder we need to wear more layers. Please ensure that your child's coat is navy blue/black, or a St Joseph's jacket. Girls should be wearing white or navy tights under their skirts/tunics during cold weather; leggings and socks are not permitted.

Monies Raised this term

- Book fair—£302.50
- Winter Sounds Celebration—£330
- School Disco— £251
- Christmas Fair— £1062.52
- Second Hand Uniform sale— £113
- KS2 Production—£306

Thank you for all you have donated, it is much appreciated. All money raised is used to impact on the children's learning.

Charity fundraising:

- McMillan Cake sale— £136
- Save the Children—£112

Attendance

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Do you realise how many days you have had off?			
Approximate days absent since September			
Attendance Rate	By end of Autumn term	By end of Spring term	By end of Summer term
100%	0	0	0
95%	4	7	10
90%	7	13	20
85%	11	19	30
80%	14	27	40

All children **MUST** have above 95% attendance.

Another big thank you to >>>

Sainsbury's

Two of our children won the Road Safety Sainsbury's competition. As a result they school won £500 of Sainsbury vouchers. In addition Sainsbury's have offered to support our events. Most recently the Lower Richmond Road, petrol station branch provided the refreshments for the Winter Sounds Celebration concert held at St Thomas A Becket.