



Newsletter: December 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,

Our first Nativity performance to the parents of reception children last Friday was a success! Everybody in school enjoyed the dress rehearsal earlier last week also. We are very proud of our children. Many parents commented on the beautifully decorated 'donkeys and stars' hung up in our school hall, wonderfully reflecting Christmas' true meaning. Thank you for the time and effort you have all put into our whole school project with your children, the results are charming. And you can see our winning entries displayed in our school reception area!

### Important Dates...

- Second Nativity Performance for parents of children in Years 1 + 2 is on Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. (doors open at 1:30pm) – please remember your tickets!
- Children's School Christmas Parties – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. (afternoon)
- Advent Carol Service – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10:45am (doors open 10:35am) – All parents are welcome to attend
- Christmas lunch for all children – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

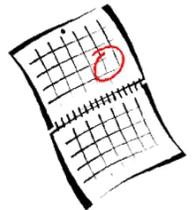


The autumn term finishes at **2:00pm** on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December – *please ensure you make arrangements for your child to be collected at the earlier closing time on this day, thank you.*

We return to school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 8:55am (supervision in the playground from 8:40am) – the children should attend in their winter uniform.

(INSET day 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – school is closed to children on this day)

Year 6 SATs Parents' Meeting – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 5:00pm, upper school hall



### Christmas Fundraisers

The Christmas Cake Sale is this Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. – please send all donations direct to the Thames Room.

Our new school calendar for 2017 is on sale now! The theme of the calendar is 'School Saints and Founders!' Every class has contributed to the pictures in this calendar and it has all the school term and event dates detailed inside. It would make a great gift for aunts, uncles and grandparents! So be sure to purchase one soon! The cost of the calendar is only £6.00.



Our carol singers are fully booked again this year! They have already performed at Bermondsey Tube Station and Canary Wharf and they are due to perform at Hay's Galleria on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December. So far, we have raised **£569.22** for our school and there's still more to come! Thank you to our fantastic carol singers for their hard work and energy!

### Advent Fundraising Project

Thank you so much for all the fantastic donations for our Senior Citizens. We have had to find extra boxes to store all the wonderful donations as we have received so many! Our hampers are due to be delivered to Age Concern on Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. – so be sure to get your donations in before this date! Thank you for your thoughts and generosity during this Advent ☺

## Staffing...

### Goodbye and Good Luck!

As you are aware, we are saying goodbye to Ms Sheeran this Christmas. Ms Sheeran has previously been part of our admin. team and is currently working part-time in our nursery. **We wish her well in her new job at a nursery in...**



### Welcome Back!

We are pleased to welcome back Miss Tran from her maternity leave!



## Reminders

Children who are brought to school by an adult should be accompanied all the way to the pupil entrance – please do not send children running down George Row on their own for obvious health, safety and welfare reasons. Further, we will be reminding all our children to **walk** along George Row before entering school in the mornings, running is dangerous for the individuals and other members of our community present on the pavements at this time. In the event your child is late for school, please **do not encourage him/her to run** as this does not help the situation – best practice is to always arrive at school 5-10 minutes before the official start time of 8:55am.



Please ensure your children wrap up warm with the necessary accessories during this cold period – hats, gloves and scarves! Novelty and brightly coloured accessories are discouraged while navy blue and school items are encouraged. Please also remember laces on school shoes must be black – coloured laces are not permitted. Lastly, please label your child's school coat; there is a name label that can be written on, in the inside of the pocket of school coats purchased through the office.

Please do not book holidays or flights during term time periods. While we understand it is often cheaper to fly during term-time than in holiday periods, remember our staff are expected to be in school and therefore, our pupils are too. Time is so very precious and we cannot reclaim it!



## School Water Bottles

Our school water bottles can be purchased from the school office for £1.50. Please ensure these are clearly labelled.



We wish you all a very sincere, happy and holy Christmas!

*St. Joseph's School Staff*

