



St Joseph's November Newsletter



Important Dates

The second half of the autumn term has already been full of excitement and the countdown to Christmas has begun. We have elected a brand new Green Team to help make St Joseph's a more environmentally friendly school, and rehearsals for the St Joseph's Nativity are well underway. Please see the following dates below for your information:

Christmas Holidays

- We break up for Christmas on **Friday 17th December**. Your child will be dismissed at the earlier time of 2:00pm and there will be no After School Club or curriculum enrichment activities on this day.
- The children return to school on Thursday 6th January for the start of the spring term.

Parish Mass

This half term we shall once again be attending Parish Mass in our Parish Church, The Most Holy Trinity, Dockhead with Canon Alan.

All parents/carers and members of the school and parish community are very welcome to join us for the celebration of Mass. Please see the dates for Mass listed below:

Thursday 2nd December – Year 5 & 6 Parish Mass

Thursday 16th December – Year 3 & 4 Parish Mass



Nativity Performances

All of our Nativity Performances will take place in the school hall. Please see the dates for the performances included below, more information with regards to tickets will follow shortly.

- Parents of children in Reception to attend the performance on Fri. 10th December at 2.00pm (doors open at 1:30pm)
- Parents of children in Years 1 + 2 to attend the performance on Wed. 15th December at 2.00pm (doors open at 1:30pm)

Both performances are ticketed and tickets will be given out during the week of the performances

Nursery Nativity – Tues. 14th December at 2pm (doors open 1:45pm), Nursery

Children's School Christmas Parties – Thursday 16th December (afternoon) – children only

Advent Carol Service

Our Advent Carol Service will take place on Monday 13th December at 1:30pm in our parish church, The Most Holy Trinity, Dockhead. All parents, carers and members of our local community are welcome to join us for this special Christmas celebration. Further information to follow.

Advent Project

We are delighted to announce our charity partner for our Advent project this year, 'Love North Southwark.' This wonderful organization provide food, toiletries and support to families and the homeless across our community. Throughout Advent we shall be collecting donations of toiletries, food and children's toys to support the charity in their wonderful work. We encourage all of our children to make a donation of any size to be placed in their class gift box. Donations will then be given to 'Love North Southwark' in the week commencing 13th December. Thank you for your support.



Green Team



We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a new green team. Your green team projects and posters were excellent and have given us some wonderful ideas for the redesign of our maze area.

Congratulations to both children and parents for your time, effort and originality! We had many fantastic projects, some big, some small, some even growing themselves! Each class teacher had the very difficult job of choosing just one winner. These children make up our new Green Team 2021/22! Congratulations everybody! Mrs Kingman our Green Team leader, is excited to be working with the new Green Team on developing our school environment and upon ensuring that the school is run in an environmentally friendly way.

Uniform Swap

On **Tuesday 23rd November**, we held our first St Joseph's uniform swap. I am delighted to announce that this event raised £70.00 for our PTA and that many families were able to pick up a range of 2nd hand uniform for their child at bargain prices. We shall be looking to schedule another uniform swap event in the near future.

Book Swap

On **Tuesday 7th December**, from 3:30-4:30pm, we invite any parents who wish to refresh the book-shelves at home to come in and to take your pick of the books on offer from our school book swap in Felton Hall. Your children are of course welcome to have a look themselves and help with the choosing! If you have any books that you wish to donate, please drop them into main reception prior to this date, as always we appreciate the support.

Class Assemblies

Congratulations to Dempsey and Fisher Class who over the past two weeks have led the whole school community in collective worship through their class assemblies. Their reflections upon the Gospel message were a wonderful reminder God's word is always there to guide us whatever challenges we may face.

The Spiritual Life Committee

The Spiritual Life Committee continue their excellent work to support the spiritual life of the school. On Tuesday 23rd November they led an assembly, written by themselves, to introduce our school's Advent project 2021. They have also visited each class in the school to lead an act of prayer and liturgy.

The Little Book Hut

There has been great excitement over the past few weeks as our 'Little Book Hut' has been popping up all over school! All of the children have had the opportunity to visit the little book hut and to borrow one of the exciting books contained within. As always, we encourage you to continue to share texts with your child, read to them and to hear them read – this is one of the most effective ways that you can support their reading development.



Children in Need

In the week commencing 15th November the children at St Joseph's were working hard to raise awareness of and to raise money for Children in Need. On Monday 15th November we held an 'odd socks' day followed by a uniform swap on the Friday upon which teachers wore school uniform and the pupils chose to wear their own clothes. I am delighted to announce that in total we raised £275.20 for Children in Need. Thank you to all for your participation and generous donations, once again it is a joy to see our school community living out the Gospel values.

Remembrance Day

The children have been wearing their poppies with pride during the month of November to commemorate the 103rd anniversary of the Armistice and we have been remembering all those soldiers in heaven, who gave their lives, in our prayers. We held a two minutes silence in school on Thursday 11th November, Remembrance Day, joining the rest of the nation in this act of remembrance. Our poppy sales in school have raised £187.35 for all those affected by wars past and present. Thank you for your support.



Parent Mail

Please check your 'Parent Mail' app regularly for updates and correspondence from the school.



Prayer of the Month: November

Dear Lord,

Thank you for soldiers who sacrificed their life to serve their countries in all wars. May you please give them eternal life in heaven.

We pray that you stay with the families of those who sacrificed their lives for world peace.

Please remember all the heroes who are currently suffering; please take them under your wing.

Thank you for the wonderful world you have given us. We are sorry we did not always care for it.

Help us to remember this beautiful gift and stop climate change.

AMEN

BY DEMPSEY CLASS