



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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Friday 15th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of a very long term and it's been filled with hard work, fun, laughter and a real sense that God is with us, looking after us and keeping us safe. We are proud of our achievements at St. Joseph's and we also proud of our sense of community, family and faith.

I would like to thank all the children and teachers at this time for working so hard on their Christmas nativity plays and carol services. I have thoroughly enjoyed every one that I have watched. They have all been so different this year but each one has shown us the real meaning of Christmas.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace". Isaiah 9:6

KS2 VALIDATED SAT'S RESULTS

Yesterday the Government published primary school league tables for the 2016-2017 KS2 SAT's results. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the staff and pupils for their hard work and effort. St. Joseph's came 298th out of the 1,000 best Primary schools in England, we also were the top performing primary school in Portishead.

WELL DONE

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-35050449>



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



PTFA

The School Christmas discos were a great success and the children enjoyed dancing along to some groovy tunes. The KS1 children even had a visit from Father Christmas.



The PTFA of St Joseph's are also part of the giving machine. If you shop on line you can go to www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk you will be able to join and then find the PTFA St Joseph's school, Portishead, you will be able to shop on line with most high street retailers. The giving machine will make donations to the PTFA as you shop.

I would like to say a big thankyou to the PTFA for giving us the icing on the cake so to speak, since September they have bought Bibles for the children in Year 4, donated £1750 to classes and school fund for resources, books and WOW experiences. We were able to buy new dictionaries for KS2 with commission from the book fairs. The exciting pantomime in January has been part funded by the PTFA and they are continuing to work hard to raise funds for our new school kitchen.

The next meeting in school will be on Monday the 8th January at 7.30 please come along to plan for 2018.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE PTFA THEY DO SO MUCH FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL

Uniform

Many members of the public comment on how smart our children look and I want to thank all parents that keep their children looking so smart.

However there are a couple of things that are creeping into school that are not part of our uniform. Open neck shirts that are not compatible with ties, blouses rather than school shirts and no tie at all. If your child has lost their tie please buy a new one and like all uniform it should be named. We haven't got any more spare ties in the office as children have taken them home (and lost them again).

Children should be wearing black or navy coats and black or navy school shoes. Boots are not part of the uniform. However, if it is very wet or snowy than your child can come to school wearing boots and change into shoes.

Punctuality

The morning school bell is at 8.20am and children should be on the school premises ready to enter their classrooms and start registration straightaway. Children who are late and are entering through the school office can disturb classes who are already settled and working. Please allow a little extra time for your morning routine if needed to ensure children are punctual.

Car Parking

A gentle reminder about car park courtesy... In order to aid the flow of traffic please do not double park or block any of the spaces. Please only use the Bus Stop area to allow children to disembark directly onto the footpath, and then exit the car park as soon as possible. If you need to leave your vehicle to escort your child into the playground or the building please ensure you are parking in an appropriate bay or park off site. Please help keep everyone safe in our car park.



Colston Hall: Christmas concert

Congratulations to the choir and Mrs. Page for winning the North Somerset Carol competition the prize was to appear centre stage at the Colston Hall in Bristol. We were so proud of you all and it was a spell binding performance.

Thank you also to Mrs Shepherd and the dancers for their performance of Frosty the Snowman it certainly was a night to remember.



E Safety

Recently in the news there are reports that relate to the Risk of Children and Young People 'Live streaming'. The following links may be of use to you as they contain some guidance and advice for parents and carers regarding live streaming. Please be aware that many of our children are watching you tube and although you may have parental locks there are some 'you tubers' that are downloading violent 18 rated games into seemingly innocent blogs. A rule of thumb would be not to allow Primary aged children access to you tube unless you are present in the room with them.

The NSPCC report referred to in the news

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/nspcc-publish-report-young-people%E2%80%99s-use-online-services>

Think U Know parent's guidance

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks/>

Once again, thank you for all your support and well wishes, have a restful holiday with your children, family and friends we are looking forward to seeing you all in 2018.

God bless

Mrs Jackson

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!" Dr. Seuss

Please see the website for the full calendar of events

REMINDER

ALL Back to School on Thursday the 4th of December there is NO INSET



BULLETIN

Last week of this term and first week of next term....

Tuesday 19th December 2017

9am End of Term Mass – all welcome

2.45pm Early finish – last day of term

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !!

Thursday 4th January 2018

8.20am Back to school !!

2.00pm Epiphany Mass – all welcome

Friday 5th January 2018

Yr3 & Yr4 Swimming – don't forget swimming kit