



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
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Friday November 30th 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Advent is just around the corner, the first Sunday of Advent is this weekend and it's a very special time of preparation for all of us, welcoming Jesus into our lives.

We are all looking forward to our School Christmas productions the first of which will be on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December with the Reception Nativity, always a special first time event. (Please see the school calendar and below for information with regards the other productions).

The **Advent bags** have started coming home for you and your child to create a special prayer place in your home. There will be a book for your child to draw, write or stick a photo in (this is not obligatory), a crib, prayer card, cloth and trinkets to make the prayer place special. This week in assembly the school chaplains have shown the children how to make a prayer place. Please make sure the Advent bag is returned the next day as everyone in the class will not get a chance to use them if they are kept at home for more than one night.

*Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

### **School Led Mass**

Will be tomorrow the 1st of December at 6.00 p.m. Children can wear their school uniform in exchange for a mufti day on Monday. Please come along and celebrate the beginning of Advent with us.

### **PTFA**

**The next meeting is on Monday the 3rd of December at 7.30pm at the ALBION** please come along for a Christmas social and planning for next year.

### **PTFA Up and coming events:-**

Friday 7th December **School Christmas Discos:** R and KS1; 4.30pm-5.30pm, KS2; 5.45pm-7.00pm

Saturday 8th December **Slime workshop at St Joseph's Parish Hall**, Yrs 4, 5 and 6.

4pm –5.45pm please buy tickets (£7.50) beforehand from your class reps or in the playground before school. This is a limited number event so please book ahead of time. It is a drop off event with a tuck shop.



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



**Christmas Hampers** will be appearing in your child's class soon, please fill them up with goodies for Christmas. The PTFA will be selling raffle tickets and the draw will take place on the **21st of December during praise assembly.**

**Don't' forget** when doing your Christmas shopping on line you can go to the **Just Giving website**, find St Joseph's PTFA and any purchases you make on line a % goes to the school PTFA.

Please be aware that you can set up a yearly or monthly standing order to the PTFA. Not everyone can take part in fund raising and this is another way to show your support. Please contact the office for further details.

**Please support the PTFA they do so much for our children.**

### **Applying for Reception school places 2019-2020**

Parents can apply online on [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions) or they can contact the School Admissions Team on 01275884078 for a paper application from 12<sup>th</sup> September. The closing date for reception applications is 23:59 on 15 January 2018.

### **Car Park**

Once again the use of the car park by some parents is causing a huge cause for concern. Tuesday in particular was a big problem because of the rain. If the gates are closed and the car park is full you **cannot** just wait along Bristol Road for the gates to open you **must** park elsewhere. Blocking the road is not an option as emergency vehicles need to get through and traffic need to flow. If this is you please **do not do this again.** I have once again asked the local PCSO to pay us a visit around this time as unfortunately some parents do not want to listen to members of staff and are quite frankly downright rude when they are asked to move. Parking in nearby streets just means a short walk which is a small price to pay for every ones safety.

Please do not leave you engine idling when you are waiting in the car park. Car exhaust fumes are very harmful to children and adults, some parents came to see me about this concerning habit.

### **School Uniform**

From the start of term 3, Girls in Year 5 and 6 will be able to wear a navy pleated skirt instead of a Pinafore dress if they wish. We are not endorsing any particular retailer but we would like you to purchase the kind of skirt that we have in the office or you can see on line below.

<https://tuclothing.sainsburys.co.uk/p/Navy-Permanent-Pleat-Skirt-2-Pack-%283-16-years%29/128838259-Navy>  
[www.marksandspencer.com/l/kids/school-uniform/girls/skirts-n-c0y4x](http://www.marksandspencer.com/l/kids/school-uniform/girls/skirts-n-c0y4x)

[https://www.johnlewis.com/browse/baby-child/school-uniform-shop/view-all-girls-school-uniform/skirts/\\_/N-7c5nZ1z13zpu](https://www.johnlewis.com/browse/baby-child/school-uniform-shop/view-all-girls-school-uniform/skirts/_/N-7c5nZ1z13zpu)

### **Curriculum Overview**

Don't forget each classes curriculum overview for Term 2 is on the web site under information/curriculum.

### **Christmas Lunch**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of December we will be celebrating with Christmas lunch, this is a non-uniform day please wear a Christmas jumper for Save the children and bring in £1.00.

### **Church Christmas Fair 10:30-1:30pm**

The Parish Christmas Fair will be tomorrow on **Saturday December 1st** in the school Hall. Father Christmas will be in his Grotto and there will be plenty of stalls to spend your pennies. Please come along and support the church.

### **School admission policy 2020-2021**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Portishead have opened a public consultation on their school admissions arrangements for 2020-21. Comments should be submitted by letter or email to the school. The closing date for responses is 11 January 2019. Details can be found on the school website at:



<https://www.st-josephs.org.uk/web/admissions/159675>

### **FUND RAISING**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our fundraising during the past 2 terms. The Harvest Festival donations were a whopping 170 kilos and the foodbank were ecstatic with our donations. We raised £223.24 for Sing for Africa and £306.67 for children in need.

After the Christmas performances this year we will be supporting Missio the Pope's charity, supporting places where there is poverty, turmoil and uncertainty, Father Gary came in to school to talk to the children about all the wonderful things this charity does to help improve things for some people in our world.

### **E Safety**

#### **Musical.ly has a new name - TikTok (Safer Internet Centre)**

The social network app Musical.ly has often given adults cause for concern, because of the way that children use it to generate and share their own short videos and lip sync to popular audio clips. The app has a new name and new features, and now includes live streaming. Although the app has an age-limit of 13 years old, in practice there will be younger children using it, and the content may not be suitable.

Profiles on TikTok are automatically set to public, so that any content you post can be seen by anyone within the app. There is also a Restricted Mode which can help to filter out inappropriate content and prevent the user from being able to start their own live streams.

You can find out more here: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-tiktok-looking-latest-lip-syncing-app>

#### **Child net has lots of on line safety tips. Please follow or copy and paste the links below:-**

<https://www.childnet.com>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/digital-wellbeing/3-7-year-olds->

#### **DITTO Magazine (eSafety Advisor)**

Alan Mackenzie's latest magazine has been published. This edition includes:

- Talking to a trusted adult
- Fostering an ethos of online safety
- Beware the expert
- Impact of violent and graphic media

You can download the magazine here: <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

#### **IMPORTANT DATES -Please see School Calendar for all dates**

##### **Christmas performance dates:-**

Reception Nativity: Monday Dec 3rd 8.50am

Years 1 and 2 Nativity: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.30pm (Doors open at 6.00pm for festive refreshments)

Years 3 and 4 Christmas Extravaganza: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.30pm (Doors open at 6.00pm for festive refreshments)

Years 5 and 6 carol service: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 1.45pm (full rehearsal) and performance at 7.00pm, St Joseph's Church

God Bless  
Mrs Jackson



*"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall".*

*Confucius*

## Term dates

- term 1: Monday 3 September 2018 to Friday 26 October 2018
- term 2: Monday 5 November 2018 to Friday 21 December 2018
- term 3: Monday 7 January 2019 to Friday 15 February 2019
- term 4: Monday 25 February 2019 to Friday 5 April 2019
- term 5: Tuesday 23 April 2019 to Friday 24 May 2019
- term 6: Monday 3 June 2019 to Tuesday 23 July 2019

## Inset dates

- 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019
- 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

Unless otherwise stated, Praise Assembly takes place every Friday at 8.30am. Parents/carers are welcome to attend these assemblies.