



# Newsletter



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we gathered to remember those who have died or been injured in conflicts and also to think about how we can bring peace to the world.

We shared a two-minute silence and lit candles to think about how we can share the light of peace throughout the world.



## School News

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Next Tuesday morning between 11am and 12 noon, a number of staff will be attending the funeral of Monica Parker. She worked as an LSA and HTLA for many years and was much loved by children and staff alike. We will be keeping her husband and children in our thoughts and prayers in the week ahead.

If your child comes home and says they were with another teacher or in another class, we are having to reallocate staff to different classes to make sure those who want to can pay their respects while keeping the school operating safely.

This should have very little impact on the children but don't be surprised if they say they did some extra singing or had extra playtime!

### Spreading the Cost

We really appreciate the pressures families are being put under at this time – as a school we are also being affected by the increases in energy bills and the cost of supplies.

For this reason, you may see a change when you log into ParentPay. Wherever possible, we will try to spread the cost of any trips or events to give you more time to make contributions or donations. This will include the Y5 and Y6 camps next October. We know from working with parents that many families want their children to take part but need a longer period of time to pay so this should be reflected in our ParentPay system whenever we are able to give advance warning.

### Reminder - Bristol Old Vic Tour

We have managed to book the Old Vic Theatre school for another visit this year. They bring an amazing show to the school with a group of incredibly talented actors and crew. The show tickets normally cost £8 plus coach travel but by booking one of the limited school visits we can bring the cost down to £3.25 per child!

This item has been added to ParentPay so please can you log in and add to your basket. Thank you to the parents who have already paid for their children.

**WANTED! Vinyl table coverings**

The reception class is looking for donations of plastic or vinyl table coverings or cloths that can be used for art and craft activities. Any shape or size would be helpful.

### **Children in Need**

Although we are not planning any specific in-school events, we would like to support Children in Need on Friday.



Many children will have bought accessories for the day – if you would like to wear a Children in Need item with your school uniform that would be great! We will set up a ParentPay item next week or you can bring a donation into school on Friday.

## **Church News**

### **Family Advent Activities**

Children, young people and their families are all invited to our Advent Craft sessions. There will be two sessions: St Joseph's Portishead on Sunday 27th November after the 9.00am Mass until 12 noon and St Francis Nailsea on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December after the 11.00am Mass. The St Francis session will begin with a 'bring and share' lunch, for those who have been to the 11.00am Mass and will start at 1.00pm and finish at 3.00pm.

There will be a variety of Advent activities and a short liturgy to finish. All are welcome. In order to help us plan the resources needed for this please add your name and number of children to the signup sheet in the foyer.

### **Advent Service**

Our joint Advent Service, for both parishes, will be held at St Francis Church Nailsea on Friday

9<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. Our children and young people will lead us in prayer, but since this is a parish Advent Service, I am also looking for some willing parishioners to read as well. Please catch me after Mass or contact me by phone or email. Thank you.

Anne-Marie

### **Traidcraft – St Joseph's**

The stall will return for the first time in a year to sell Christmas cards and some food items. This will take place after both Masses on the weekends of 19/20 November and 26/27 November at St Joseph's Church. They can accept cash and card payments. Please support Traidcraft who help farmers and artisans in poor parts of the world.

## **PTFA News & Information**

Please see the date and events section.

### **Volunteers Needed**



# **We Need YOU**

If you are able to help at any of the Christmas events, please let one of the class reps or PTFA team know. More hands make lighter work so it really makes a difference if some people offer some extra help.

The PTFA will always welcome new committee members but if you can just help at individual events, that can really help.

Please volunteer!

## Safeguarding and Support

### Identifying and Supporting Young Carers

A young carer is defined as anyone under 18 who helps to look after either a friend or family member who is unable to look after themselves. This could be due to having a physical disability, mental illness or misuses drugs and/or alcohol. Young carers often have extra responsibilities that their peers may not which can make balancing home life and school life a challenge.

At St Joseph's we are aware that some of our pupils are young carers and we want to ensure we are offering them the best help and support.

I am the school's lead for Young Carers and I have the responsibility of ensuring all young carers at the school feel supported and listened to.

If you believe your child maybe a young carer, please contact the school office, in confidence, for the attention of Mr Bath.

### Coerced online child sexual abuse - Help for parents (UK Safer Internet Centre)

The UKSIC report that more than a quarter of girls who took part in their survey have had some kind of experience of receiving a request for nude or semi-nude photos or videos.

Children can be groomed, coerced or encouraged into sexual activities online. Any child with unsupervised access to the internet is potentially at risk.

To help parents understand this difficult topic and talk to their children, the UKSIC has produced a checklist and resources about online sexual abuse.

Find the information here:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/coerced-online-child-sexualabuse>

## Dates and Events (Incl. PTFA)

### Key Christmas Events

Thursday 1st December

- Year 1 and 2 School Christmas play (9am and 2pm)
- Start to bring in items - anything festive for class Christmas hampers - boxes will be in classrooms

Friday 2nd December

- Mufti day
- KS1 bring a filled jam jar
- KS2 bring a bottle for Christmas fayre
- School Disco
- KS1 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- KS2 5:45pm - 7pm

Wednesday 7th December

- Reception and Pre-school Christmas play (9am)  
EYFS and KS1 Christingles 2pm - separate email will be sent out

Friday 9th December

- School Christmas fayre straight from school
- Meet Santa in his Grotto with lots of refreshments, stalls and games

Tuesday 13th December

- Year 3 and 4 Christmas Carols 6pm at school
- Refreshments available mulled wine and mince pies

Wednesday 14th December

- School Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper day – (Normal School uniform underneath)

Thursday 15th December

- Year 5 and 6 Carol Service 7pm  
children will be church all day.  
A separate email will be sent nearer the time.



Friday 16th December

- Christmas hampers raffled off and school finishes at 1pm

## Dates for Next Week

You can visit the school calendar on:

<https://www.st-josephs.org.uk/web/calendar/146565>

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm Art Club - Yr3,4,5,6

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 9:45am Yr5/6 Girls Football

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm Art Club - Yr 2

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm – Old Vic Nativity

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm KS2 Music Club

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – 8.40am Praise Assembly

## And Finally...



**“Make a joyful noise unto the LORD,  
all the earth: make a loud noise, and  
rejoice, and sing praise.”**

Psalms 98:4 (KJV)

King James Bible Online .org

Have a great weekend.

Kind Regards,

Mr Bath – Headteacher