



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Treat others the way you want to be treated.'

Matthew 7:12

8/12/23

Dear Family,

With two weeks remaining until the end of term, we have an extremely busy calendar of events to fit in before we break for our Christmas holidays.

We are looking forward to performing our Nativity and Carol concerts to our families and the children (and staff) have been working really hard in preparation for these events. It's also important to know, that although we are in the season of Advent and it's an exciting time in the lead up to Christmas, we will still be delivering our full curriculum timetable of lessons until we break up on 22nd. I think the children will definitely be ready for a good break, after what's been a very long but successful Autumn term.

This week we have held our termly pupil progress meetings, following teachers completing end of term assessments with the children.

All of the children have made good progress across the curriculum and we are all extremely proud of their efforts and positive attitude to learning.

OUR CURRICULUM IN ACTION THIS WEEK....



This week Liberty Class have been investigating how to make some of their toys move in our Science learning.

The children demonstrated and described, using the words 'push', 'pull' and 'twist', what they needed to do to make their toy move. The children also found that we had to use lots of different motions to make a range of things work, such as pushing down on a pencil and pulling on our costumes for our Nativity!



PULL
and
PUSH

'Treat others as you would like to be treated.'

Year 2 have been investigating the suitability of materials. This week we were finding the best material for a pair of curtains. The children discussed the properties needed. We found out that felt would be the best material as it is soft but most importantly opaque!

Materials



During their RE lesson this week Big Ben Class have been retelling the story of the Visitation, when Angel Gabriel came to tell Mary she was going to have a baby and he would be the son of God. The children enjoyed making their own stick models and role playing this event to help them remember the order of events.

YEAR 4

GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP!



This week, Year 4 enjoyed a 4 mile trek around Chase Woods. The children showed incredible stamina and resilience on the walk and despite the damp weather we had a fantastic time observing many different aspects of nature including the array of colours and different types of trees. We also loved building dens and stepping into history at the Neolithic site of celebration.



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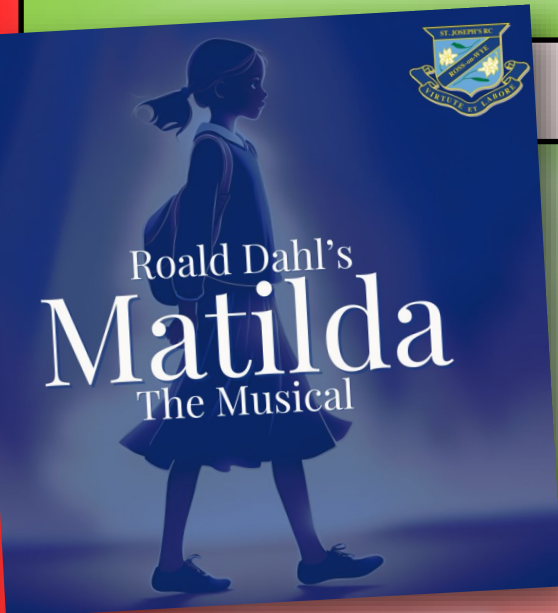




**Reception and Key
Stage 1 Nativity**

**Tuesday 12th December
@ 10:00am and 5:30pm**

The children will stay after school for a movie and some pizza before their performances to save going home and coming back again in the evening. They can also bring a packed tea if you would prefer they do this. A letter has been sent home with more details.



Matilda Cast

**Performing at the Market
Square**

**Thursday 14th December
@ 10am**



Nursery Nativity

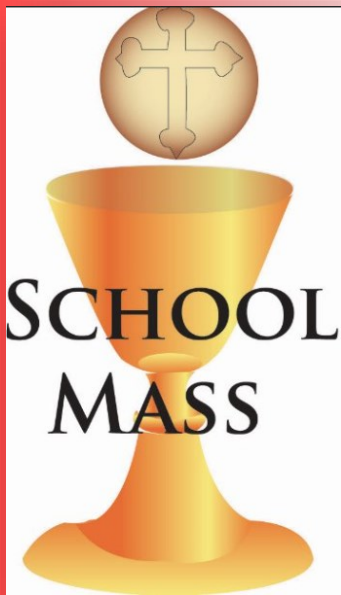
**Friday 15th
December @
2:00pm**

'Treat others as you would like to be treated.'

**Coming
SOON!**

**Christmas
Concert**

Key Stage 2
Carol Concert
Tuesday 19th
December @
6:00pm



End of term Mass
Thursday 21st Decem-
ber @ 10am

**Christmas
Dinner**

Christmas Dinner Day
and FSJ Special
Surprise...
Thursday 21st Decem-
ber

**Special
events!**



On Friday 22nd December, our Key Stage 1 children will be visiting the ICC in Newport, Wales to watch the fabulous production of 'Cinderella on Ice', as part of our Christmas celebrations in school. This will be an amazing experience for the children and a perfect way to end our successful term, getting into the spirit of Christmas, with our school friends.



CHRISTMAS *Holiday Club*



27TH, 28TH & 29TH DECEMBER
2ND & 3RD OF JANUARY

We are taking bookings for our Christmas Holiday Club. As always places are filling up fast. Please contact the school office to make a booking.

You may be eligible for funded places and if so, you can follow the link below to book your child's places.

[Christmas Holiday Club St Joseph's, Ross with Mr Smith](#)

[Eegu](#)



On Monday morning St Joseph's school choir accompanied by Mr Murray on Piano, had the pleasure of singing for the residents at West-bank. . The children started our Christmas celebrations off singing traditional carols along with residents, and then turning on their Christmas Lights!

Well done children!



Maintaining excellent Attendance is always high on our agenda here at St Joseph's, as the children need to be in school every day during term time, in order to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Please see below a link to the most recent guidance for schools and Local Authorities from the DFE.

[Working together to improve school attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)



CURRICULUM AMBASSADORS...

This week Mr Gunter met with our Curriculum Ambassadors to discuss PE lessons. Each class brought along their own PE portfolios, with photos and pupil feedback about their different units. Year 2 could explain skills that they had learnt so far this term - passing and shooting with both the inside and outside of their feet. They also said they were encouraged to develop using both feet. Things that they enjoyed included playing larger games with the rest of their class. Things they would like to do more of was to experience playing in different positions and learn skills specific to positions e.g. - goalkeeper.

Year 3 - Children could explain their new skills: they had looked at a range of passing, including bounce pass and chest pass.

They have enjoyed the games that they have played this term but would like to experience more examples of full games rather than drills to learn.

Year 5 - Children could explain skills that they had learnt so far this term - different passes in netball, the mini games that they had played which have led into full sided games. They have enjoyed learning the rules of netball and the games at the end of each lesson.

They would like to spend more time on shooting elements of netball and using the hoops to shoot into instead of just passing to score.

They have enjoyed going swimming in Monmouth more than they did at Ross - more space and time in the pool were key factors in this. They have also learnt more about their swimming techniques.

Year 6 - Children could explain skills that they had learnt so far this term - can't pass forwards in rugby, the movements of players both in defence and attack. Children enjoyed learning to score tries and learning new methods of avoiding and evading defenders.

They would like to learn more about the rules of offside in tag rugby to use to play in tournaments.

Swimming lessons at Monmouth have been more enjoyable than at Ross. Again more time in the pool was a big reason for this. Children also felt that the swimming teachers have helped them to improve more than previous years. They have learnt things that they couldn't do before.



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COOKING CLUB THIS WEEK...

A message from Miss Sadler...

This week, we attempted to make 'stained glass window' biscuits. The children first helped to make the dough by combining all the ingredients in a bowl. We then rolled out the dough and cut out circles. We then cut out 'windows' from the center of our biscuits and filled it with broken pieces of boiled sweets. Once in the oven, the sweets melted to make 'windows'. Although a bit messy—they did turn out delicious!



**CHRISTMAS FAYRE
THANK YOU!!!**

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Christmas
FAYRE

**WE RAISED
£1723.45**

Thank you for your support!



A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who supported this event!

We all had a great time and it was so lovely for the whole school community to come together!

Thank you to our FSJ members who work so hard to organise these fantastic events!



Christmas Fayre



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Garden Club

A message from Mrs Hodges...

In gardening club this week we talked all about birds, the different ways we can attract and help them and also how they help us in the garden too. We were lucky enough to have some beautiful bird boxes donated to us by the RSPB, we all agreed on the best places they should go and used our RSPB magazines to decide which birds would be attracted to which houses. With the help of Roy and Mr Webb we were able to get them all put up. We also talked about completing our RHS school gardening award level 1, the children came up with some fantastic quotes for our evidence, one of my favorites being 'Gardening isn't just for fun, it can save the world!'



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS TERM...

Tuesday 12th December	KS1 Nativity @ 5:30pm
Friday 15th December	Nursery Nativity @ 2:00pm
Tuesday 19th December	KS2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 21st December	End of term Mass
Thursday 21st December	Christmas Dinner Day and special surprise...
Friday 22nd December	Yr 1 & 2 Christmas Outing
Friday 22nd December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 22nd December	End of term

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NURSERY IN ACTION! A MESSAGE FROM MRS LEREGO

We have had a very exciting week in Nursery this week! The children loved our yearly puppet show and sat beautifully for the show and enjoyed meeting the puppets at the end :-)

We have been very busy writing letters to Father Christmas in our grotto—Writing our lists, putting them in an envelope, cutting out the stamp to stick on, then posting them in our big red postbox!

We have also taken part in the first advent assembly and we are taking it in turns to open a door on our advent calendar!



Star of the week:

Star of the week is Lucy for being really kind to her friends.



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Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday to Defne in year 1 who celebrated her 7th birthday on 7th December.

Happy Birthday to Karla in year 3, who is celebrating her 8th birthday today.

Happy Birthday to Riley in year 5 who is turning 10 on Sunday 10th December.

Wishing them all a wonderful time, celebrating with family and friends!



SWIMMING NEXT TERM



The children in Year 2 will be starting their weekly swimming lessons as part of their PE curriculum on **Wednesday 10th January 2024**. The children will have weekly 1-hour lessons on the following dates:

- Wednesday 10th January
- Wednesday 17th January
- Wednesday 24th January
- Wednesday 31st January
- Wednesday 7th February

LIBERTY	<i>Teddy SS</i>
BIG BEN	<i>Jorgie D</i>
EVEREST	<i>Isla W</i>
BLUE LAGOON	<i>Cece G</i>
ARC DE TRIOMPH	<i>Ned K</i>
MOSI OA TUNYA	<i>Amelia E</i>
ANGEL FALLS	<i>Lexi S</i>



ROYAL WRITER OF THE WEEK!



LIBERTY	94.62%
BIG BEN	90.31%
EVEREST	94.35%
BLUE LAGOON	97.14%
ARC DE TRIOMPH	92.17%
MOSI OA TUNYA	95%
ANGEL FALLS	98.13%

LIBERTY	<i>Antony L</i>
BIG BEN	<i>Jason vw R</i>
EVEREST	<i>Elia E</i>
BLUE LAGOON	<i>Archie Pl</i>
ARC DE TRIOMPH	<i>Connie F</i>
MOSI OA TUNYA	<i>Darcey G</i>
ANGEL FALLS	<i>Rhys W</i>



LIBERTY	<i>Nora A Toby M</i>
BIG BEN	<i>Sophia E Aurora M</i>
EVEREST	<i>Holly W Finley R</i>
BLUE LAGOON	<i>Tilly Rose W Archie Br</i>
ARC DE TRIOMPH	<i>Mia O Oliver M</i>
MOSI OA TUNYA	<i>Dandrei M Gabriella B</i>
ANGEL FALLS	<i>Amelie K Phoebe P</i>

LIBERTY	<i>Kevin A</i>
BIG BEN	<i>Andrea S</i>
EVEREST	<i>Isla W</i>
BLUE LAGOON	<i>Archie Ba</i>
ARC DE TRIOMPH	<i>Oskaras J</i>
MOSI OA TUNYA	<i>Hugo L</i>
ANGEL FALLS	<i>Dustin A</i>

Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis



*Advent:
A Season
of Hope
and
Anticipation*

Catholic Home and Garden