

Principal Update 1.12.23



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Dear Parents,

Well, it is safe to say December has most definitely arrived here in St. Joseph and St. James's as each classroom is decorated for the festive season.

The excitement continues to build with our annual temporary variation of 5 pupils for the month of December, namely Santa's Elves.

It really is a special time of the year where we enjoy the build up to Christmas.

This morning at 'Whole School Assembly' we marked the coming of the season of Advent and discussed the symbolism of the candles on our Advent Wreath. The theme for the first Sunday is 'Hope'. We hope and pray for many in our school community, who have asked for special prayers at this time.



Reminder of important dates:

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| 11.12.23 | Dress rehearsals for Christmas plays – morning performances for local play groups/schools |
| 12.12.23 | Christmas Plays – Morning and Evening Performances (tickets purchased via parentpay. Raffle tickets can be purchased on entry – 6 for £5 or £1 per strip) |
| 14.12.23 | Christmas Dinner Day. Whole School Christmas mass- St. Joseph's Church |
| 15.12.23 | Christmas Party day/ party dinner. Wear to your Christmas jumper to school (£2 via parentpay) School closes at 1.00p.m for all pupils on this day. |
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Please find attached a special letter for all our boys and girls, from our 5 new pupils. Santa's Elves.

Such joy and excitement today as our pupils noticed some elves already getting up to mischief outside Mrs Wadsworth's office.



Can we commend all our pupils who supported our school at the annual Christmas Lights switch on in the village yesterday evening. Sincere thanks to Stan and Poyntzpass Silver Band who provided the wonderful festive music at this event. Please visit our Facebook page to see more photos from this festive event.





Friends of St. Joseph + St. James

Friends Of St. Joseph and St. James's

We ask you to support the Friends Of, who wish to make a number of luxury Christmas hampers for the school raffle at our Christmas performances.

Suggested items are: chocolate/alcohol/cheese board & crackers/Christmas crackers/napkins. If you can please leave the items into the school office before Friday 8.12.23 we would be most grateful.

There will be two raffles held at the morning and evening performances. Tickets can be purchased on entry or during the interval. (6 tickets for £5 or £1 per strip)

Friends Of are also organising a special 'Name the Elf' competition. We will update you when we receive more details on this.



The members from our Friends of St. Joseph and St. James's are sponsoring the school Christmas dinner for all pupils in our school.

We are so grateful for such a wonderful gesture and we ask you to please make sure you register your child's attendance for Christmas dinner via parentpay. (no charge)



Congratulations to our pupils who have received the Principal's award this week for continued great effort and enthusiasm. Well done boys and girls.



As we enter into the season of advent, we wish everyone in our school community a weekend full of hope.

Yours in continued partnership

C. Wadsworth and staff of St. Joseph and St. James's P.S.

Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

God of Light and Life, give us hope as we
wait for your coming again.

When we are tempted to be grateful to
have found you while others are lost;
send us out into the darkness in search of
those who need you most.

Amen

