

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th December 2021

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CHOMA

It has been an action packed week full of wonderful festive activities. We began the week with the Y1/Y2 Christmas production of A Miracle in Town. The children were fabulous; they were full of confidence and wowed the audience. They certainly brought the Christmas spirit to St Joseph's. On Wednesday, we treated to another extravaganza, Wiggly Nativity by Reception Class. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing for their parents. We had some amazing acting and a beautiful solo by Jemimah. We knew Christmas had now truly started. Thank you to staff for preparing and rehearsing the children, and the parents for providing costumes. We had a wonderful array of prizes for the raffle arranged by FOSJ.

Yesterday, we had our Christmas parties. The children enjoyed playing party games and a visit from Mr Bean! He even joined in the Macarena!

We have had a wonderful first term despite Covid hanging in the background. The children have worked hard. Every day is special - the children bring a smile to our faces with their humour and kindness.

I hope you have a magical Christmas with your family and friends. Children - I hope Father Christmas brings you some lovely gifts.

From all the staff - be safe; be kind and be happy. God Bless

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please note, for all indoor school activities, adults must wear a mask unless they are medically exempt.

We return to school on Tuesday 4th January

We apologise for any confusion

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
6th Epiphany Mass 7th Y2 Audio Screening	1st Y4 St Brigid Feast Day 4th NSPCC Number Day 18th Y3 St Bernadette Feast Day



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR



KEY INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Wow! Well done to all the children in Year R, 1 and 2 for their fantastic performances. We are so proud of the children for learning all their lines, songs and dance routines for the show.

Everybody was immensely impressed by their acting, singing and dancing. A special well done to all our soloists and narrators, and Reception children as it was their first performance in front of a huge audience.

Thank you to parents and carers for helping children with practising their lines and providing the costumes.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES



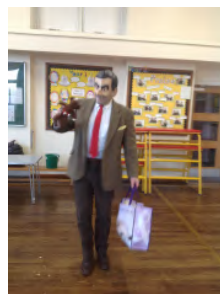
On Thursday, we had a fabulously festive PARTY DAY! In the afternoon, we gathered in small groups in the hall for food. KS2 even managed to take part in a socially-distanced macarena! Everyone looked brilliant in their festive hats and beautiful party clothes.



All the children ate far too much and had a wonderful time at the party! Even so, we had plenty of party food left over which we have decided to donate to local Food Banks to help families at Christmas.



Thank you to everyone for yet another great St Joseph's family effort!



AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Please note—there are no clubs on the first week back to school with the exception of Inspiration Tree's Dodgeball and Dance.

Some clubs may be changing days and being offered to other year groups next term.

Please look out for the timetable and sign your child up ASAP in the new year; clubs will resume w/c Monday 10th January and will run for 6 weeks.

KEY INFORMATION

FRIENDS OF ST JOSEPH UPDATE

The Friends of St Josephs would like to say a big thank you for all the wonderful support from families this term.

Well done to all those involved in organising activities, and to the generous donations made by families.

We have raised over £1000 and we will be using this money to purchase new headphones for school.

THANK YOU TO FOSJ FOR OUR NEW HEADPHONES!



PTA BIG RAFFLE

There is still time to join the raffle - BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

<https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/st-josephs-catholic-primary-school-otley-ls21>



ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Well done to all the children who received an award during Friday morning assembly.

Most children have earned their bronze or silver award—and they are working towards their gold award! These certificates are awarded to children for earning a certain amount of merit points.



Additionally, we gave out the Good to be Green postcards. These are given to children who have remained on green, silver or gold for the whole of the Autumn Term. We also randomly selected two 'Good to be Green' children from each class who won a £5 Argos voucher! We are so proud of all our children and their achievements.



CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to all the children who took part in the Cross Country last Saturday, once again everyone performed brilliantly especially the Under 9 boys team who finished 4th out of 21 schools and the under 9 girls who finished 11th.

A massive "Thank you" to all the grown-ups who gave up their Saturday lunch-time to transport the children to the event and who came and supported us.

You'll be glad to hear that the next event is not until Saturday 5th March so you can have a couple of months off from standing in a cold, wet, muddy field!!!



TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS



Over the Christmas holidays, there will be a Times Table Rockstars Challenge starting on Tuesday 21st December and finishing on Monday 3rd January.

There will be certificates and house points for the children who earn the most points in each class.

Year 3 are the reigning champions so let's see if one of the other classes can beat them in this battle!!!

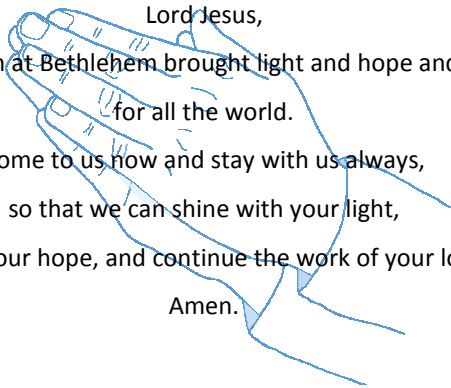
CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus,
your birth at Bethlehem brought light and hope and love
for all the world.

Come to us now and stay with us always,
so that we can shine with your light,
share your hope, and continue the work of your love.

Amen.



OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Mass times have changed for Our Lady and All Saints Otley.

Please see bulletin for changes to Mass times

[Click here](#)

Please book a place for Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass - [book here](#)

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

On Friday, the school gathered virtually to celebrate Christmas by listening to prayers and the story of Jesus' birth read beautifully by Year 6. Each class also sang a Christmas Carol.

We reflected on Jesus, the Light, coming into a world of darkness, and how we can share that light and hope with others

Dear Father in Heaven,

Thank You for giving us the gift of Jesus, the greatest Christmas gift of all.

Please help us to remember why we celebrate, even as we eat our Christmas dinner and open presents.

*We are very thankful for the real reason for the season and,
without Jesus, we wouldn't have Christmas!*

Please help us to share the message of God's love throughout the world.

Amen



HAMPERS

A massive "Thank you" to everyone who contributed food for our Advent Appeal.

The Year 5 Mini Vinnies created 10 hampers which were collected by SVP on Friday and taken to the Leeds SVP Centre where they will be given to families who otherwise might not have enough food to eat this Christmas. Steve O'Neill from the Parish SVP group spoke to our KS2 children on Monday about the work the SVP does in Leeds and told us that the SVP in Otley is celebrating its centenary this year.

We also donated 8 bags worth of toys to Catholic Care. These will be shared with families in need in Leeds over the Christmas period. We are so thankful for your generosity and we are proud to make a difference in our local and wider communities.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITIES

Well done to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who performed the Christmas story to their grown-ups this week. Seeing the children sing, dance, act and read with such confidence and enthusiasm brought joy to everyone who saw it and reminded us of the real meaning of Christmas.

The Year 1 and Year 2 performance finished with these powerful words:

The kings bowed down to worship the baby Jesus. A new king was here to save the world. And so we come to the end of our story of the very first Christmas. On that night Jesus, the Son of God, was born in Bethlehem in a stable under a star. It was a wonderful miracle that would change the world forever.



Catholic Care
A service you can believe in

