

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd December 2023

A MESSAGE FROM MR GILHOOLY

Dear parents/carers and friends of the school,

We have made it (just!) to the end of another very long half term, but such a special one as a community with all the festivities that have taken place.

On behalf of the team here at St. Joseph's, thank you to everyone for their well-wishes, Christmas cards and gifts. We hope you enjoy and cherish special times with your loved ones. We wish all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Best regards and God bless,

Mr Gilhooly



SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE COMMUNITY

On Tuesday, in our final singing performances of the festive period, Y3 visited Otley Library and Y4 visited Otley Action for Older People and sang a variety of Christmas Carols. The children sang beautifully and wowed the audience with wonderful singing. Well done to all the children for their amazing efforts over the past few weeks.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY 2024

8th - School Reopens
12th - Non-Uniform Day

FEBRUARY 2024

2nd - FOSJ Rainbow Raffle
2nd - FOSJ Disco
5th - Y2 Football League
5th - 9th - Bikeability
9th - FOSJ Cocktail Making
HALF TERM (12-16th)
19th - Young Voices
26th - Y5/6 Maths Mystery Day

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Wow! Well done to all the children in Year R, 1 and 2 for their fantastic performances. Everybody was immensely impressed by their acting, singing and dancing. A special well done to all our soloists and narrators. Additionally, well done to 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.



MESSAGE FROM BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Thank you to everyone for their generous cards and gifts - we really appreciate them all.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

From Laura, Helen, Lynne, Adele and everyone at OLAS Breakfast and After-School Club

SCHOOL INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY

On Thursday, we had a fabulously festive **PARTY DAY!** In the afternoon, we gathered in the hall for food, singing and dancing. Everyone looked brilliant in their festive hats and beautiful party clothes.

Thank you to all the families who donated food items for the party!

We would also like to say a special thank you to our wonderful team of parents for helping set up/clear up the hall. We couldn't do it without you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



FOSJ UPDATE

Christmas Fayre

Thanks so much everyone who came and joined us at the Christmas Fayre last week. It was a super morning of fun, laughter and festive cheer. We managed to raise over £650 so a massive thanks to all our families that supported us and also to Caroline Gawrylo and her group of volunteers who helped organise the event!

Thank you!!

Thanks to everyone who has supported the FOSJ events over the Autumn term. We have eaten plenty of brownies, doughnuts and cakes, won super prizes at bingo, took part in raffles and spread some Christmas cheer! Just over our last three events we have raised over £1000! And we couldn't do it without the support of our families and our wonderful volunteers so a massive thank you to you all.

UPCOMING EVENTS NEXT TERM

Silent Disco, Rainbow Raffle and Cocktail Making Workshop! Keep your eyes peeled in the weekly newsletters for more info!

Have a great Christmas holiday!



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God,
In these last few days before Christmas, help us to be patient.
Please give us the strength to stay calm even when things
don't go our way.
Enable us to deal calmly with whatever comes up and to show
love to those around me.
Help us to reflect Your Love and wisdom and give our loved
ones what they need from us.
Holy Spirit, help us develop the fruit of patience in all areas of
our lives.
Amen

OUR LADY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 10am
Saturday Evening Vigil: 6:30pm
Sunday Morning: 9:30am & 11:15am

For updates, please check the weekly
bulletin for
up-to-date Mass times.

<http://www.olasotley.org/bulletin.html>



CAROL SERVICE

Thank you to everyone who came to our Carol Service on
Sunday. It was wonderful to see so many families join us.
Well done to all year groups for leading the service and to all
the children for their beautiful singing.



END OF YEAR MASS

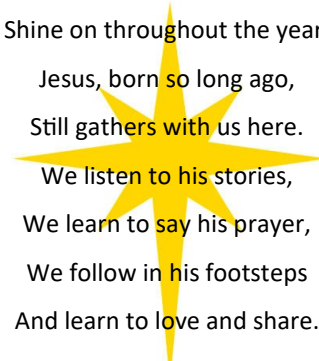
Thank you to everyone who came to our Mass today - well
done to the Year 6 children for leading the service and to all
the children for their beautiful singing.

Congratulations to the Year 6 children who received their
confirmation certificates today. Thank you to all of the
candidate's families, sponsors and friends for their support
in preparing the children for this sacrament.



PRAYER OF THE WEEK

The stars that shine at Christmas
Shine on throughout the year;
Jesus, born so long ago,
Still gathers with us here.
We listen to his stories,
We learn to say his prayer,
We follow in his footsteps
And learn to love and share.
Amen



CHRISTMAS POEM

If you look for me at Christmas,
You won't need a special star;
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of me
Amid the celebrations
You'll have to look beyond the stores
And all the decorations

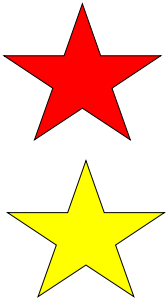
But if you take a moment
From your list of things to do,
And listen to your heart, you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with,
You're the reason that I came,
And you'll find me in the stillness,
As I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus



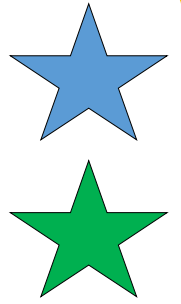
HOUSE OF THE WEEK



WELL DONE TO

BOLTON

FOR EARNING THE MOST HOUSE POINTS THIS HALF TERM



ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Well done to all the children who received an award during Thursday's assembly.

Some children have earned their bronze or silver award, some have even got their **GOLD CERTIFICATES!**

These certificates are awarded to children for earning a certain amount of merit points.

We are so proud of all our children and their achievements. We look forward to seeing what next year will bring!



An Intercession to St Joseph

Dear St Joseph

Help us to love and care

To be gentle and fair

Help us to work and play together

Help us to live and grow together

To be always glad to help each other

Happy in your loving care

Amen

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- ★ THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER - PARENT MEET AND GREET & AGM
- ★ WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER - CAKE SALE
- ★ FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER- FAMILY BINGO NIGHT
- ★ SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS FAYRE
- ★ FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY - SILENT DISCO
- ★ FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY - RAINBOW RAFFLE
- ★ FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY- COCKTAIL MAKING EVENING
- ★ FRIDAY 8 MARCH - MOTHER'S DAY
- ★ FRIDAY 26 APRIL - QUIZ NIGHT
- ★ FRIDAY 17 MAY- GOLDEN TICKET EVENT
- ★ FRIDAY 14 JUNE- FATHER'S DAY
- ★ FRIDAY 28 JUNE - CAMPING TRIP

OTLEY PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

**JOIN US FOR FRIENDLY AND INFORMAL
SUPPORT, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE**

EVERY TUESDAY (TERM-TIME)

9.30-11.00 am

The Core, Orchard Street,
Otley, [LS21 3NX](https://www.princehenrys.co.uk)

Tea and coffee available
Parents and carers of school aged children very welcome

**For more information contact Lisa on:
07510079959/mnl@princehenrys.co.uk**