St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Old Road
Crayford
Kent DA1 4DZ

Head of School: Mrs A Truss BA Hons
Executive Head Teacher: Mr M Hannon BEd MEd NPQH

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December 2023

www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Dear Parents

Please click on the links below to access calendar events and after school clubs:

School Calendar: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Diary/
Term Dates 2023/24: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/2023-2024_Calendar.pdf
After School Clubs: https://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk/Clubs_-_Autumn_2023.pdf

Primary Reception Places – September 2024



The Bexley online site has now opened – www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions (for Bexley residents) and https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places and closes on 15th January 2024).

The school is holding a number of Open Events on the following dates:

- Tuesday 5th December - Open Afternoon - 1.30 pm
- Wednesday 10th January - Open Morning - 9.15 am

A presentation by the Head of School will be followed by a guided tour of the school. Please remind friends and neighbours to put these dates in their diary. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2024. The school welcomes applications from Catholics and non-Catholic families (who are sympathetic to our values and practice).

Please note, if you are Catholic, Fr David, will be available to sign Supplementary Forms by appointment only. However, if you are not religious, you must still complete Part 1 of the Supplementary Form and return it to the school office.

Advent and Christmas



It is really lovely to be able to celebrate the season of Advent as we reconnect the children with the story and message of Christmas. The whole school have been working really hard on their rehearsals and I know the children are looking forward to their opportunity to share this with you as parents.

Urgent request to all parents of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 children for donations of mince pies. After the Junior Christmas Carol Service, parents are invited into the school's main hall for some festive refreshments before home time.

Christmas Lunch



This year our Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 13th December 2023. Please see separate letter in your child's book bag.

Christmas Own Clothes Day
Also on Wednesday 13th December 2023, children may come to school wearing their own clothes for the day, but please remember to dress sensibly for the weather, as children will be going out on the playground for breaks.

Christmas Holidays
The last day of term is Wednesday 20th December 2023 and school will finish at 3.15 pm. Children return to school on Monday 8th January 2024 when the gates will open at the usual time of 8.45 am.



Children's Christmas Hamper Raffle – Supporting Crisis at Christmas
The school will be selling raffle tickets to win a Children's Christmas Hamper. All money raised will be donated to Crisis at Christmas. Each year, Crisis at Christmas opens its doors to thousands of people experiencing homelessness. Your donations could help make this someone's last Christmas without a home.



Christmas Mass Times



Saturday 16th December 2023
Churches Together in Crayford Advent Pilgrimage between the 3 churches.
Sunday 17th December 2023
Parish Christmas Raffle Draw will be held in the Social Club (around 3.00 pm)
Parish Carol Service 4.00 pm
Holy Masses
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Saturday 23rd 6.30 pm
Sunday 24th - Christmas Eve 8.30 am and 10.30 am
5.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass
12.00 am Midnight Mass
Monday 25th - Christmas Day 8.30am Mass and 10.30am Mass

ParentSafe
Learn how to use parental control settings on devices using the following link https://parentsafe.lgfl.net to explore 'Safe Settings, Controls and Monitoring' – especially if you are planning on purchasing new computers/consoles/devices as presents. Help keep your children safe online this Christmas.



Goodbye and Good Luck
I end this letter by wishing Mrs Pinto all the best as she leaves St Joseph's at the end of term. Mrs Pinto has worked at our school for 6½ years and we thank her for all her dedicated service especially at Science Co-ordinator and working with our Eco-Warriors to obtain CAFOD's Live Simply Award for the school. A wonderful achievement!



Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School