St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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10th December 2021

Dear Parents

It was with a sad heart, following the strong recommendations made by the Director of Public Health for Bexley that we had to cancel the attendance of parents to the Key Stage 1 Nativity and the Junior Christmas Carol Service. We are recording these events and they will be available to view via the school website by the end of term.

Unfortunately, we have to change/cancel some other events that are happening before the end of term, such as the PTA 'Elfridges' event. I would like to thank parents for their generous donations, but they will be used at a future event. Please see the updated December newsletter for further details.

Christmas Shopping using Amazon Smile

We are registered with Amazon Smile; to select **St. Joseph'S Pta, Crayford** you must go to Amazon Smile or link it to your account. Amazon Smile does not cost you anything and they donate 0.05% of your purchase to the school from AMAZON. Make sure you use the spelling as it appears above.
The link to register is: https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1154834-0



Parents and Teachers Association (PTA)

The children had a great time at the November PTA disco. Thank you to all the PTA members who gave their time to support the event, a total of £419.00 profit was made. Thank you to Mrs Martin and her team for all her hard work on her first event as Chair of the PTA.

Second Hand Uniform

In response to the recent government guidance regarding the cost of school uniform, next term, St Joseph's will be setting up a second-hand School Uniform Bank.



We would be grateful for good quality donations of only the following items, which will need to be washed:

- Boys grey trousers and shorts
- Girls navy blue pinafores and skirts
- Girls blue/white summer dresses
- Navy blue jumpers and cardigans
- St Joseph's elasticated and normal ties
- Navy PE Shorts and tracksuit bottoms

All clothing should be in great condition and freshly laundered.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Thank you for all your contributions, St Joseph's raised £258.00 towards the Poppy Appeal.

Christmas Pantomime Workshops

This week, the children in Key Stages 1 and 2 have enjoyed Christmas Explorer Drama Workshops by West End in Schools. We thank Mrs King for organising this fun-filled event for the children.



Love, Learn, Live



COVID-19 Latest Guidance from Director of Public Health Bexley

At the current time, COVID-19 cases in Bexley continue to be high and although case rates are not as high as other areas, we are seeing cases rise markedly in school-age children and this is impacting for students and staff in affected settings. Some of their strong recommendations are:

- Household close contacts in KS2 and above who are exempt from isolation and are attending school are encouraged to carry out daily lateral flow testing for 10 days after the onset of symptoms (or positive test if asymptomatic) in the case in their household, and only attend school if their lateral flow test is negative. They are also encouraged to follow national guidance for all contacts and access a PCR test at COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). People who have tested positive with a PCR test within the last 90 days do not need to be tested.
- Daily check-ins with pupils at the start of the school day to ask whether they have been feeling unwell with COVID-19 symptoms.

Public Health Bexley look forward to continuing to work closely with Bexley schools to keep our children and young people safe and in education. For further local information about COVID-19, please see the Council website microsite - https://www.bexley.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19

Keeping Safe

The Bexley One Stop Shop are offering a range of advice all under one roof to help victims of domestic abuse. The service will be open every Wednesday from 12:30pm to 3pm at Central Library Bexleyheath, Townley Road, DA6 7HJ and will include legal representation, domestic abuse specialist support, plus other agencies, all offering advice on issues concerning domestic abuse. No appointment is required, all advice is free to anyone visiting the One Stop Shop.
If you are in immediate danger call the police on 999.
Contact details:

solace

Telephone Number: 020 3198 4659
Email: bexley.community@solacewomensaid.org
Website: www.solacewomensaid.org



Christmas Baubles

St Paulinus Christmas Advent Baubles. If you would like to place a homemade bauble on the trees in the churchyard, you would be most welcome.

Goodbye and Good Luck



I end this letter by wishing Mrs Smith all the best as she leaves at the end of this term. Mrs Smith has only worked here for a short time but she has worked tirelessly at St Joseph's as our Music Co-ordinator. I know you will join with me in saying a huge thank you for all her hard work. We welcome Mrs Tylee, an experienced Music Teacher, who will be joining St Joseph's as our Music Co-ordinator

We also say goodbye to Miss Chapman, one of our Midday Supervisors, who is also leaving us at the end of this term. Miss Chapman has been working at St Joseph's for 4 years, but has now been offered the opportunity to further her career as a Carer. We thank her for her dedicated service to St Joseph's and we hope to see her back from time to time as a Relief Midday Supervisor.

Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss

Mrs Truss
Head of School

