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 2021 – Updated Newsletter

Dear Parents

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. Both the Key Stage 1 Nativity and the Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Service will be recorded and will be available to view on the school website by the end of term.

Christmas Lunch



This year our Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 15th December 2021. All children can opt to have Christmas dinner. If your child currently has a packed lunch and you wish your child to have a Christmas dinner please indicate on the slip attached. We require the £2.30 payment no later than Friday 10th December 2021. Children may come to school in 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.

Primary Reception Places – September 2022

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2022. Parents applying for a place in Reception in September 2022 will need to complete both the Bexley or Kent online admissions form and the school's Supplementary Form. We welcome applications from Catholics, Christian and families of other faiths that are supportive of the ethos of the school.

Job Opportunity - Midday Supervisor

The school would welcome applications for the important role of Midday Supervisor. We can offer regular training and the opportunity to work alongside our strong existing team and fantastic children. If you, or someone you know, is available to work from 12.15 pm – 1.15 pm, Monday to Friday, or perhaps part of the week, please contact the school office for further details.

Christmas Holidays

The last day of term is Friday 17th December 2021 and school will finish at 3.15 pm. Children return to school on Thursday 6th January 2022 when the gates will open at the usual time of 8.45 am.

Christmas Mass Times

Fr David is looking forward to welcoming all our families into St Mary of the Crays Catholic Church:

Christmas Eve – Friday 24th	5.00pm Vigil Mass	12.00am Midnight Mass
Christmas Day – Saturday 25th	8.30am Mass	10.30am Mass
St Stephen's Day – Sunday 26th	8.30am Mass	10.30am Mass

Covid-19

Thank you for your ongoing support by not bringing children into school if they are displaying possible symptoms of coronavirus. This is a high temperature or a new, continuous cough or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste and smell. We would be grateful if parents could let the school office know the outcome (positive or negative) from any Lateral Flow or PCR tests that are taken as a result of these absences.

If you are attending any of our Christmas events in the school or church, we can help to protect both ourselves and those around u by the following tips:



Get vaccinated



Wear a mask



Complete a lateral flow test

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon

Mrs Truss

Mr Mark Hannon
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Truss
Head of School

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Return no later than Friday 10th December 2021

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 15th December 2021 – only to be completed by parents whose children have packed lunches.

I would like my son/daughter to have a Christmas Dinner this year.

Name of child/ren …… Year (s): ……

Signed……

I enclose £2.30 per child ☐
I have paid £2.30 via Pay 360 (SIMS Pay) ☐

The calendar is updated every month so please update your home/family calendar.

DECEMBER 2021	
Thursday 2nd	9.15 am - Year 4 and Year 3 Class Mass in church – parents invited 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm – Parents' Evening via telephone
Friday 3rd	9.15 am – Infant Nativity – Reception Class - parents invited Year 5 Bread Making Last swimming session for Year 6
Sunday 5th	Church Christmas Fayre after Mass
Monday 6th	Year R - Christmas Craft week - cancelled Infant Nativity – has been recorded and will available to view on the school website by the end of term Netball Match at home against Upland - cancelled
Tuesday 7th	Netball Match away against Pelham at Bexleyheath Academy - cancelled
Wednesday 8th	Christmas Pantomime Workshops for Years 1 – 6
Thursday 9th	Year R visit to Miskin Theatre to see pantomime – cancelled – parents will be refunded
Friday 10th	Year 6 - Mexican Food topic
Monday 13th	Junior Carol Service in church – to be recorded and will be available to view on the school website by the end of term
Tuesday 14th	CRIBS Christmas Performance – in-school event only
Wednesday 15th	Christmas Party Day – children to wear own clothes, school Christmas dinner
Thursday 16th	PTA Christmas Wrap – cancelled – gifts to be used at a later event Junior Carol Service in church – to be recorded and will be available to view on the school website by the end of term
Christmas Holidays **Monday 20th December 2021 – Wednesday 5th January 2022** **(children return on Thursday 6th January 2022)**	
JANUARY 2022	
Thursday 6th	Epiphany - Whole School Mass in church
Monday 10th	Other Faith Week – Judaism
Wednesday 12th	6.30 pm – PTA Meeting - virtual
Thursday 13th	Year 3 and 4 Class Mass in church
Friday 14th	Year 6 – first swimming lesson this term
Thursday 20th	9.15 am – Year 6 Class Assembly - only junior children watching
Wednesday 26th	Year 3 – Godly Play – in-school event only
Thursday 27th	9.15 am – Year 5 Class Assembly - only junior children watching
FEBRUARY 2022 Parental participation to reviewed depending on the guidance received from Public Health	
Thursday 3rd	9.15 am – Year 2 Class Assembly - only infant children watching – parents invited
Monday 7th	Children's Mental Health Week
Thursday 10th	9.15 am – Year 1 Class Assembly - only infant children watching – parents invited
HALF TERM **Monday 14th February 2022 – Friday 18th February 2022** **(children return on Monday 21st February 2022)**	
Tuesday 22nd	Missio Assemblies – in-school event only
Thursday 24th	9.15 am - Year 1 and Year 6 Class Mass in church – parents invited

Smiley Ark Breakfast Club – 7.30 am – 8.45 am – Monday - Friday
After School Club – 3.15 pm – 6.00 pm – Monday - Friday

For further details please contact Susan Ikpefuran on 07956 263531 or e-mail kids@smileyark.com
The telephone number for Smiley Ark is 07549 244180

Details of all our regular school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Thursdays	**Netball Club – Miss Whitaker** Three terms of netball for years 5 and 6.	3.15 – 4.15 pm 30th September – 9th December 2021
	Choir – Mrs Smith Invited pupils only	12.45 pm – 1.15 pm 7th October – 9th December 2021

*Any clubs cancelled due to Covid can be reimbursed, please contact the School Office.