



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

27th November 2020



Advent

Advent is a time of waiting in joyful hope for the coming of Jesus and allows us the time to reflect upon what this means to us in our personal lives and prepare for the wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus.

It is always a special time in school and we would normally mark it with an Advent liturgy and our Travelling Crib project. This year, for Covid reasons, it will look a little different, but it will be just as special.

The travelling crib will be used in class and a different family of the class will be the focus for the prayers each day. Following the prayers of the travelling crib the child, from the family prayed for, will bring home a poster to display in the window.



CAN YOU IMAGINE SLEEPING ON THE FLOOR EVERY NIGHT ?

It's hard to believe that in this day and age, there are children who do not have a warm and comfy bed to sleep in every night. In fact, one in five children living in the south west are living in poverty, and in parts of the region poverty is even more severe. Some areas in our Diocese actually fall into the top 10% of the most deprived areas in England.



As part of our Good Shepherd programme, this Christmas The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) is asking children living in our Diocese to think of children less fortunate than themselves by putting themselves in their shoes just for one night. We are asking children living in Devon, Cornwall and parts of Dorset to give up their bed for one night to sleep on the floor.

If you would like to join in the sponsored 'Sleep on the Floor for a Night' please complete the sponsor form and start collecting your sponsors before the Christmas holidays. **The sponsorship form can be downloaded from our school website.**

The Catholic Children's Society have supported families and pupils from our school by purchasing school uniforms, beds and white goods. We are able to make grant applications from families of all faiths.

Stars of the Week

is an opportunity to celebrate our Learning Stars

St Francis	Evie	Evan
St Clare	Lily-Mae	Kye
St Vincent	Rebecca	Isla H
St Teresa	Scarlett	Ava-Marie
St Oscar Rom.	Harley	Ron

Class attendance since September.

(Does not include COVID absences)

St Francis	95.2%
St Clare	95.1%
St Vincent de Paul	97.5%
St Teresa	94.5%
St Oscar Romero	96.6%

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

Live, learn and love in a caring Catholic community.

Patchwork

Patchwork Parenting programmes are run by the Catholic Children's Society.



Over the last couple of years, St Joseph's has been fortunate to host the courses in school. The programmes provide opportunities for parents and carers to support each other and, with the help of a trained facilitator, build on their own strengths to understand and enjoy their life as a family.

In the light of the pandemic, the society is hoping to shape its support to directly meet the needs of parents and families in these different times. They would be grateful if parents would complete a short survey so that they can adapt what PATCHWORK can offer in terms of support. Please click on the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QVFB3V2>.

DISABLED ACCESS

Just a note to let parents know that one of our new parents has an arrangement with the school to park just outside on the road at drop off and pick up.

We thank our parents for being vigilant about poor parking around school, but this is a legitimate parking arrangement.



Children in Need
Congratulations to everyone.

We raised an amazing £144.50. Thank you.



Next newsletter: Friday 11th December 2020

All newsletters are available on the school website.

Christmas Jumper

Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day is on **Friday 11th December** and children are welcome to support this charity by wearing their Christmas jumper to school for a small donation.



Our Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 16th December. Children are welcome to wear their festive jumper to school on this day—just for fun! Please order your child's lunch on SIMS Pay.

New Governors

The governors would like to welcome Amanda Gibbs, our new Parent Governor, and Steve Riedlinger, Foundation Governor, as members.

We look forward to working with them.

Dates

29th November 1st SUNDAY of ADVENT

1st December St Teresa Y5 Forest School


7th December Y2 Phonics Check Week

8th December Final St Teresa Y5 Forest School

11th December Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

16th December Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumpers

18th December End of Autumn Term



Devon County Council

Help is available if you're **worrying about money** and how to pay for basic household essentials.

Visit devon.cc/support

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Attendance information

Our Welfare and Attendance Officer, Natalie Black, is monitoring attendance weekly. Please always inform the office each day your child is absent.

This [guidance](#) from the NHS is very useful in deciding if your child is too ill to come to school.

Unauthorised absence for 10 sessions (5 days) will trigger an attendance meeting and could result in a penalty notice.

If you have concerns about managing your child's attendance, please contact Natalie via the school office.



**Happy Families,
Happy Futures**

It's as important as ever for children to be surrounded by adults who understand the impact of parental emotions on them and who can communicate effectively to provide stability and consistency.

This programme delivers support to parents, whether they are in a relationship or separated, via virtual formats.

If you are parents/carers, still together or separated, who are struggling to agree on how to raise your children. Please contact Mrs Wilson if you wish to find out more about the support or to request that the school make a referral for you to access this support.

The school can make referrals for this programme up until 28th February 2021.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH - 1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2021

Is your child in Year 3 or above?

If you are interested in your child preparing for their First Holy Communion & Reconciliation in 2021, please email the school office admin@sjna.uk and we can pass on your details to Tim and Deborah Van Kroonenburg.



Equally if any children or families are interested in baptism and/or would like to learn more about the Faith, Tim and Deborah would be only too pleased to help. They do RCIA on Zoom currently, and have a candidate preparing for baptism at Christmas.

The Governors of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint a positive and inspiring playworker, for our breakfast and after school club, in January 2021.



They are keen to accommodate the best candidates who will make a positive impact on our school.

Required from: 4th January 2021

Hours: Monday 7.45 am —8.45 am

3.30 pm—6 pm

Tuesday 7.45 am —8.45 am

3.30 pm—6 pm

Wednesday 7.45—8.45 am

Salary: £17,287 pro rata

Contract: Temporary Maternity Cover

If you are interested, to find out more please contact the school office admin@sjna.uk

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'Friends of St Josephs'

CHILDREN'S CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Although it will look slightly different this year we are going ahead with the children's favourite Chocolate Raffle. This year all children will be entered for free.

However, donations of children's chocolates will be gratefully received. Please send any donations into school with your child in the weeks leading up to Monday 14th December.



Primary Admissions 2021/22

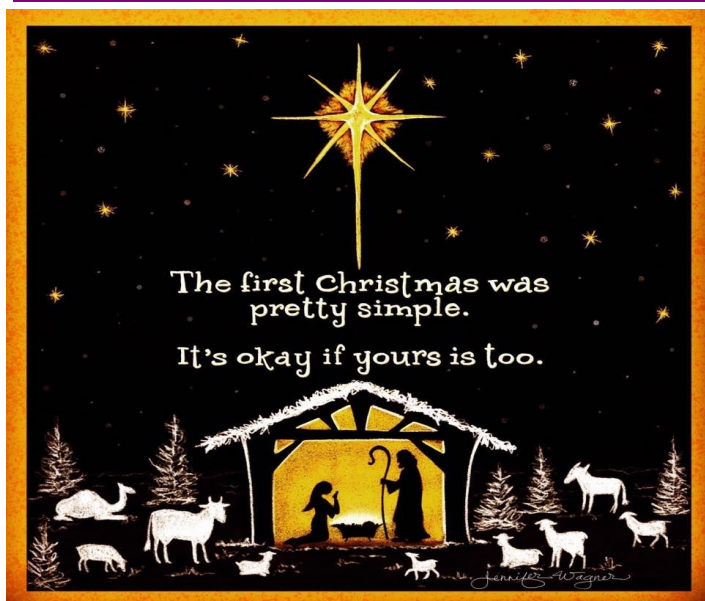
Was your child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017? Applications can be made from 15th November 2020 for a primary school place for September 2021. You must apply for your child's school place by **15th January 2021**. If you apply after this date, the application will be considered late.

You can apply for a school place online at:

devon.cc/admissionsonline

If you need help applying online or haven't got internet access at home please contact the school, we would be more than happy to help you. If you apply online, you can view your offer online on the offer date.

Please ensure that the Supplementary Form (available from the school office) for this school is returned to the school office by 15th January 2021. Without this form your child may be lower in the priorities for admission and risk not getting a place at St Joseph's School.



**Eternal God,
you will come
when we do not expect you.
Help us to welcome you
now in one another,
to reach out to our sisters and brothers
who are in need of care and support.
In this way may we be found ready,
when you come again in glory.
Amen.**



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Coombeshead Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1PT

Tel: 01626 352559 Email: admin@sjna.uk

Kelly Dunne: Headteacher

St. Joseph's School is committed to safeguarding children.

Designated Child Protection Officer: Kelly Dunne Deputy Child Protection Officer: Emma Wilson

Named Governor for Child Protection: Tim Van Kroonenburg