

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

1 December 2014



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Dear Parents

We are fast approaching the end of term and there are lots of wonderful things happening in school this Advent. This newsletter contains all of the

Brilliant to be in Britain Week – 1st – 5th December

This is a new themed week in school which is in addition to our long established multicultural week in Spring and multi-faith week in Summer. See the flyer for full details of the many speakers, visitors and learning experiences the children will be enjoying this week. The purpose of the week is to celebrate Great Britain as a safe, tolerant and respectful place to live, to learn about the many cultures and religions that enrich life in Britain and to learn about British Values such as democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and respect. You will notice some new signage around the school – on the driveway leading up to the entrance, inside the school and outdoors at the playground – these signs remind everybody about our **school values** and they are also the names of our school houses / teams. The signs remind everybody and introduce newcomers to the unique values of our school and we hope you will agree they'll do a smashing job of promoting them to everyone!

Christmas Fair – this Friday 5th December after school

Please send in your raffle tickets as soon as possible. If you would like to buy/sell more please ask at the office where we have plenty of tickets left. Please return the tickets to school with the money you have collected and we will make sure they are entered in the draw on Friday. There will be more raffle tickets for more prizes on sale as normal at the fair together with Santa's Grotto, Bottle Stall, Chocolate Tombola, Children's book stall, cuddly toy tombola, café and cake stall, gift tombola and a toys and games stall. Everything will be at pocket money prices and a visit to Father Christmas in his grotto will cost £2 including a present. The money we raise will go into the school fund that pays for the many extras we provide for the children throughout the year – such as subsidising trips to make them more affordable and providing every child with a Christmas present. We will also donate some of the money we raise to the Church refurbishment fund.

Santa's Grotto – early visits to the grotto to save time!

Kind hands, kind words...like Jesus

Part of St John Bosco Catholic Academy Company
Registered in England and Wales No. 08608177

Registered office:
Burton Road, Dudley DY1 3BY

Christmas Plays

We very much look forward to seeing you in school for our annual Christmas Plays. As usual there will be a raffle at each of the plays and all off the money raised will go to school fund plus we will donate some money to the Church rebuilding fund.

The times of the plays are as follows:

Wednesday 10th December: Key Stage 2 Nativity at 2.15pm (please don't arrive before 2.05pm) and also at 6pm (children back and school open to parents from 5.30pm – please don't return to school any earlier than 5.30pm).

Friday 12th December: Reception and Morning Nursery Nativity at 9.30pm (Hall open to parents from 9.05am – please wait at the front shelter by the office until we have admitted the children – then we will open the hall for you to come in) and Reception and Afternoon Nursery Nativity at 2.15pm (please do not arrive before 2.05pm).

Monday 15th December: Key Stage 1 Nativity at 2.15pm (please do not arrive before 2.05pm) and 6pm (children back and hall open for parents from 5.30pm – please don't return to school any earlier than 5.30pm).

In all cases the children from Reception to Year 6 are expected to stay at school until their normal finish time.

Please don't put us in a difficult situation by asking if your child can leave early – they are supposed to be at school until their normal finish time.

Morning nursery parents are encouraged to return at 11.30am to collect their child if this is possible – if going and coming back would be very difficult for you please speak to Miss Blanchette before the day of the play to make arrangements. For the afternoon performances, parents are welcome to wait in the hall until 3.15pm when we invite you to collect your child from their normal exit door. Thank you for your support with this.

Carol Service in the Church – Thursday 18th December at 6pm (Children to Church at 5.45pm)

Mrs Hancox has sent out a letter inviting children and parents to the carol service. We hope you will join us. Please note that as this service is at night when it is dark, we do insist that each child has a responsible adult in the congregation at the Church at all times – it is not possible to drop your child off and pick them up afterwards. Please let Mrs Hancox know if you are joining us by returning the slip as soon as you can.

Parent's Survey and Parent View

Thanks to everyone who has returned their survey and also left a review on Parentview. We will analyse the responses and let you know how we will act upon your suggestions and commendations. If you haven't returned your survey sheet yet, please send it in as soon as you can – this week if possible. Please, please can we invite you once again to spare a few minutes to review the school on Parentview www.parentview.ofsted.

Keeping you informed about your child's progress

We've already responded to one suggestion about how we could keep parents even better informed about their child's progress by sending out a mini-report every half term. I will be writing to you very soon about this initiative and explaining it in full detail, we hope you will find it useful.

Yours sincerely

St Joseph's Christmas Fair



Bottle Stall



Chocolate
Tombola

Café and Cake Stall



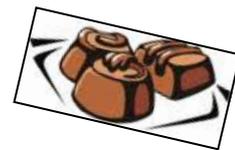
Children's



Gift Tombola



Cuddly Toy
Tombola



Raffles

Toys and

And of course:



PLEASE SEND YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS BACK TO



Brilliant to be in Britain Week

This week at St Joseph's we are learning about the many things that make Britain a safe and tolerant place to live.

We are learning about:

- Other faiths as well as Christianity including Islam, Sikhism and Hinduism.
- How Britain is diverse and has many different cultures.
- Why Britain is multicultural and a tolerant, respectful country.
- British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, respect and tolerance.