



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School- November 2024

Can you believe that it is almost November? As time is flying by so quickly we wanted to share with you some information regarding up coming events in school and Christmas dates for your diary.



Class 4 Assembly

Year 5 and 6 children will be sharing their class assembly with the school and their parents/carers on **Wednesday 13th November at 9.10am**. They look forward to seeing as many of their family members there as possible to share in the theme of Remembrance.



Class 3 Mass

Class 3 (Year 3 & 4) children invite their parents/carers/grandparents to join them as they lead their Class Mass. This will take place on **Thursday 28th November at 9.10am** in Church.

November- The Month of Remembrance

During the month of November we will be spending time in school praying for all of our loved ones, as well as those who have died in war and conflict over the years. Children will be bringing home a poppy template. Please complete the poppy by writing the name of anyone who has died in your family that you would like us to remember and pray for. When your child brings the completed poppy back to school it will be hung on our remembrance tree. It is always a really special way, as a school family, to pray for those who we miss and love.

Poppies will be available to purchase in school from Monday 4th November - Friday 8th November. All donations will go to the Royal British Legion



Anti-Bullying Week-Odd Socks Day



We will be hosting Odd Socks Day on **Tuesday 12th November**. Children and staff are invited to come into school wearing odd socks to show that we are all unique and different and to celebrate these differences. **The theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2024 is 'Choose Respect'**. Throughout the week children will take part in a range of activities themed around anti-bullying.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to those who have responded to the Parents' Evening form expressing your preference for an appointment time. Class Teachers now have this information and will be sending an appointment time home with your child after the half term break.

Class 1 Parents' Evening dates are Tuesday 12th November and Wednesday 13th November

Class 2, 3 and 4 Parents' Evening dates are Tuesday 12th November and Monday 18th November



Class 2 Celebration of the Word

Class 2 (Year 1 & 2) invite parents/carers & relatives to join them in their Advent themed Celebration of the Word at **9:10am on Wednesday 27th November** in the school hall. We hope to see many of you there.



Advent

Advent this year starts on Sunday the 1st December. Advent means 'coming' and it's the period before Christmas where we 'prepare' and 'wait' for the coming of Jesus as a baby. Advent in school is always such a special time of prayer, reflection and anticipation of the special gift that we are about to receive - The birth of Jesus Christ.



Christmas Performances

We know that one of the most special parts of Christmas for all parents and families are the Christmas performances that the children share with us. They children really have the ability to bring the true meaning of Christmas to life for us. For this reason we wanted to give parents and carers advanced notice of when they will be taking place so that you can arrange to be there.

The performances will take place as follows:

Wednesday 11th December- Early Years and KS1 followed by KS2 (YN, YR, Y1, Y2 followed by Y3, Y4,Y5 & Y6) Christmas Performance in Church at 1:30pm -Refreshments will be available for parents/carers in the school hall after the performance finishes.

Friday 13th December - Early Years and KS1 followed by KS2 (YN, YR, Y1, Y2 followed by Y3, Y4,Y5 & Y6) Christmas Performance in Church at 10:00am-Refreshments will be available for parents/carers in the school hall from 9.10am before the performance starts.



Christmas Dinner Day

Christmas Dinner Day will take place in school on **Thursday 13th December**.

If your child is usually on packed lunch and you would like them to have a Christmas Lunch this day, please use link to complete form <https://forms.office.com/e/zUq44nu5pp>

Please ensure that if you wish your child, who usually has a packed lunch, to stay for Christmas dinner that you complete this form at the latest by **Friday 22nd November**.



Christmas Party Day

Christmas Party Day will take place on **Monday 16th December**. Children will have their party in the morning, a party lunch in school and then Christmas activities in the afternoon. We ask that on party day children come to school dressed in their party clothes. Please be mindful that children will still be

going outside for lunch and playtimes so will need to wear clothes that are warm enough to be outside in potentially cold weather. Please ensure that children also wear safe footwear on party day and not high heeled shoes etc.

If your child has packed lunch but you would like them to have a school party lunch on party day, please follow this link to book their lunch - <https://forms.office.com/e/rxeME4sfB6>

As always we are sure that party day will be really special for the children!



Festive Fun Run

On Wednesday 18th December, all pupils will take part in a Festive Fun Run hosted by the School Sports Partnership. Children are invited to come into school in warm outdoor clothing (they will need to wear trainers) including something festive if possible. This could be a Christmas Jumper, a Santa's hat, a red or green t shirt or some Christmas socks.

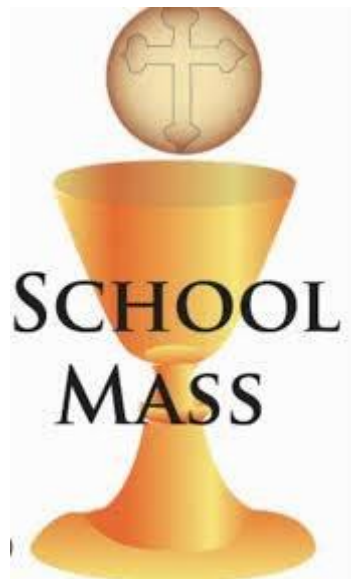
Please can children also bring with them their school uniform and shoes to change into following the run. They will also need a water bottle.

This will be a fun morning, full of festivity. We look forward to sharing the photographs with you on our website and Facebook page.



Whole School Mass

On **Thursday 19th December at 9:10am** we will be ending our term with a Whole School Mass. All are welcome to join us in church for this special time of prayer and reflection. What better way to prepare for Christmas than to join together and be lead in prayer by our wonderful children.



Break up and Return to School

Children will break up from school at **1pm on Friday 20th December** and will be return to school, after the Christmas Break, on **TUESDAY 7th JANUARY 2024**.



Contact Us

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. As always, we seek to make communication between home and school as effective as possible. If you have any queries, or would like to contact school, please see the information below.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Coast Road

Blackhall

County Durham

0191 5864308

office@stjosephsblackhall.net

Executive Headteacher -Mrs Ashton

Visit us on the web at www.stjosephsblackhall.net