

Love, Learn, Grow

December 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and friends

I would like to start by saying congratulations to all the children. There are few things more special at Christmas than listening to children's voices raised in song proclaiming the birth of Jesus. However, every year, our children surpass expectations to deliver glorious singing, confident speakers and cameo performances. We are very lucky to see their talents on display.

Yet, luck alone is not the reason these performances excel. It is through the dedication and care of all the staff at St Joseph's School that our children are taught how to sing, read and act at events like these. I am very grateful to the staff and especially Mrs Lovegrove for encouraging our children to be the best they can be and for nurturing their talents.

Christmas is a time for families and I would just like to reflect for a moment on our St Joseph's School family. We (parents, friends, carers, staff, governors) are a family and all families have their triumphs and their tribulations, just as the Holy Family did.

The world today is full of bad news and hardship. It can seem too much of a challenge to find the joy and light in our everyday lives. But we are luckier than most because we have each other and we are joined together by the love we share for our children.

As a Governor, I am privileged to see the staff and children 'behind the scenes'; working, laughing, playing and caring for each other. I wish I could show all of you the thousand kindnesses that our community gifts to one another each term.

Instead, I would like to invite all the parents, staff and children this Christmas to reflect on the blessings and joys that being part of our St Joseph's School community gifts to us each year. I would like to invite you all to write down just one of those blessings and send it to me, via blessings@stjosephschalfont.school. In the new year, I will read them all and create a **Blessings Tree** in the school reception to display the love that we share as a school.

Joy, hope and love are the foundations of our faith. My earnest prayer this Christmas is that we focus on the blessings we share and share the challenges we face together, one family in Christ.

On behalf of the Governors, I wish you and your family every blessing this Christmas.

Kind regards



Gillian Matthews
Chair of Governors

