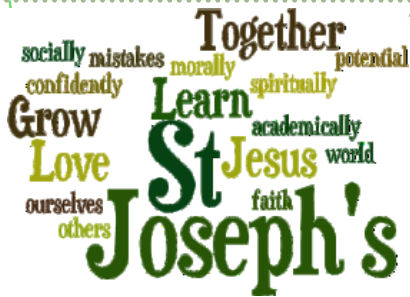


St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Gospel reading for
Sunday 1st December
First Sunday of Advent
Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Christmas has officially started here in St Josephs day! It was so lovely to see all the children coming into school today dressed in their Christmas jumpers, ready to 'dress the tree' with all the fabulous decorations they have made. We sang songs and I shared a story called, 'The Christmas Eve Tree' by Delia Huddy, which focused upon the message which was shared by 4GF during their assembly yesterday—'Its not what's on the outside that counts: it's what's on the inside that counts', Douglas Feavel. We reflected upon those who find Christmas difficult: those alone, the homeless, those living in war torn countries and reminded ourselves of all the things we can do to help others. We even watched children opening shoeboxes like the ones we have collected for over recent weeks. The children know we need to spread love to create joy. As we prepare for Christmas, please do speak to your child about those less fortunate and reflect upon ways that they can give of themselves this Christmas.



Please be reminded that this is an extremely busy time of year. All information regarding the forthcoming events has been sent out so please ensure that you have booked tickets and saved the date!



Awards

Class Champions this week:

Well done to all our class champions this week, who displayed the qualities of their class saints.

These children will all have VIP privileges next week.

Daniel Nyembwe (RMG), Oliver Duffy (RC), Amelia Bull (1B), Tilly Williams (1D), Felicity Sheehy (2ME), Ramaisa Nasir (2E), Livvy Rowan (3D), Edan Chisanovici (3S), Reggie Williams (4B), Archie Lomng (4G), Cara Rowan (5F), Cecilia Sheehy, Harvey Beech (6O), Bailey Whelan (6ST)



Our Rainbow Award Winners this week:

These children all displayed one of the following characteristics:
reflective, bounce-back, teamwork, curiosity, motivation, independence.

Chloe Donovan, Layton Hayes, Ava McDonagh, Ritchie Johnson, Jacob Fowler, Patrick-Gabriel Kambo Danalia, Maahi Sharma, Elsie Harrison, Jacob Furnish, Pablo Hernandez de la Cuesta, Olivia Choinkowska, Harper Muller, Danylo Minenko



HOUSEPOINTS THIS WEEK (RUNNING TOTALS)

St David

81 (684)

St George

72 (550)

St Andrew

79 (703)

St Patrick

74 (669)

Attendance : Week Ending 22nd November 2024

CLASS	%	CLASS	%
RC	95.8	RMG	87.1
1D	96.4	1B	89.6
2ME	95.2	2E	94.6
3S	95.8	3B	99.0
4B	96.2	4GF	96.5
5F	93.1	5D	96.0
6O	99.1	6ST	96.7

*The highest class
attendance last week was
6O with 99.1%.*



If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

Well done to **Rayan Aziz** who won our attendance goody bag this week for achieving 100% attendance.

Reminder that children who have 100% attendance for the week are entered into the weekly raffle for the prize bag. Each week all the children are entered into the termly raffle for the £50 Amazon voucher.

Y1 Science Trip

Year 1 visited the Science Museum on Thursday.

After a delayed start to the day, the children enjoyed exploring different sounds and feeling different materials. After learning about the first successful flight in school, they were able to find The Wright Brother's plane and saw how aeroplanes have developed over time.

The children looked at different inventions throughout history including carriages, trains and cars!



Parenting Support



The Chalfonts Community College

Success is an Attitude!

The Chalfonts Community College is running a Christmas Gift Appeal to support families in our community during these challenging times. Thanks to the generosity of our students, parents, and sponsors like Card Factory, we have a selection of gifts ready to share with children of all ages for families who are struggling this Christmas



What's on Offer?

- 📦 Beautifully wrapped gifts for children, ranging from toddlers to teenagers.
- 📦 A welcoming, discreet collection process.
- 📦 A chance to brighten your family's festive season.

More Information

Please Scan The QR Code Below



Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parent Line). If you require emotional support, information, advice or guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life—call 0808 800 222.

Parent Reminders



Advent Calendar 2024



Please remember to login to your ParentPay account to make a payment or give permission for your child to attend the Pantomime in December.

Please remember to check the Advent Calendar that has been sent to all parents. The Calendar contains the link to all relevant letters containing details of event. The letters are loaded separately to the School Newsletter under the News / Events Tab—Newsletters.

Packs of Christmas Cards, designed by Harper in Y6, will be on sale from next week via the School stationery shop and at each Nativity Production. . These cards are sold at £6.00 per packet in support of the [Alistair Roberts Memorial Fund](#)

School Information

PARKING—MALTMAN'S GREEN SCHOOL

We have been contacted by Maltman's School to alert us that parked cars are causing an obstruction along the footpath/access lane at the front of the school. Cars parked here restrict access for emergency vehicles.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THIS FOOTPATH / ACCESS LANE

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO BLOCK ANY DRIVEWAY

PLEASE ALWAYS PARK CONSIDERATELY

We have been made aware of an issue with the **SchoolComms/ Gateway App**, and concern that some parents are not receiving text messages, even though the App has been downloaded.

Advice from School Comms is to delete and re-install the App to ensure that the most up to date version is loaded to your phone. This link will share some [troubleshooting](#) tips....

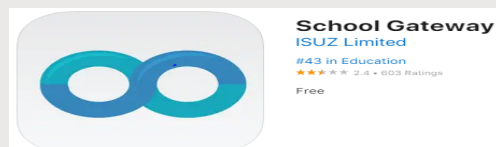
It is important for you to check that your **SchoolComms/Gateway App** is receiving text messages. Relying on other parents or WhatsApp groups may result in missed, or incorrect messages.

Thank you for your support.

Email communications are sent to you via

Schoolcomms

To ensure **text messages** are received, please visit the [App Store](#) to download



Enter your email address and mobile phone number that you have shared as your contact information for school

A PIN number will be sent to you and text messages will appear via this App.

WITHOUT THE APP YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES

School Information

Chalfont Fun Night Friday 6th December

All children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to join us outside the old Co-op / new Tesco for our annual carol singing, as part of the fun evening in the village.

We will be gathering at 7.15pm

All those who are joining us should come along in school uniform.

We look forward to entertaining the local community with our wonderful singing.

Events over the next few weeks have been sent out on a separate letter with a calendar of all the key productions, concerts, parties etc for your reference.

Please ensure that you keep this document handy so that you are up to date on what is happening and don't miss anything.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Over the past few weeks we have drawn attention to our uniform policy and teachers have followed up with parents. Thank you to all those parents who have made the necessary adjustments where uniform was not correct. Your support in upholding our policy and standards is appreciated.

A reminder that children must have **black shoes only (boots and trainers are not part of our uniform)**

Outdoor **coats must be black, navy or dark green.**

If you have not made the necessary adaptations to adhere to this policy (which all parents agree to as part of initial admission to school) we would ask that you please rectify this over the weekend.

If you are unable to do so for financial reasons—we are happy to support from our second hand uniform shop. Please let us know if you need assistance.

Welcome to our new Governors

I am delighted to inform you of two new additions to our Governing Body.

Mr Matthew Talks—MTalks@stjosephschalfont.school

And Mrs Malgorzata (Gosia) Dec-Leventis—MDec@stjosephschalfont.school

Problems with Attendance & Punctuality

Are you having problems with:

- *Getting your child to bed at night or out of bed in the morning?*
- *Finding uniform, school books or bags?*
- *Your child eating breakfast slowly?*
- *Your child not having done their homework?*
- *Your child watching too much TV or spending too much time on electronic gadgets?*
- *Your child getting anxious about school work or tests?*
- *Your child asking for a day off because of birthdays or other family events?*

Have you tried:

- Establishing set times and routines for bedtime?
- Asking your child to prepare their school bag and uniform the night before?
- Establishing a set time for breakfast where the family eat together?
- Having a daily homework slot?
- Limiting TV viewing or screen time on other devices to a set period each evening and morning?
- Talking about school in a positive way and speaking to your child's Class Teacher about any concerns / anxieties?

St Joseph's does not authorise term-time holidays. Whenever the need arises to take a child out of school during term time, parents must complete a Leave of Absence Request Form (available on the school website under "Parents" "Useful forms"). The Headteacher will consider each application individually and consider whether the reason for absence constitutes exceptional circumstances. At St Joseph's, exceptional circumstances are emergency or unavoidable events which relate directly to the child or immediate parents/carers, i.e.. mother/father. In each leave of absence request, the Headteacher's decision is final.

Absence will **NOT** be authorised for the following:

- Illness of a parent
- Holidays
- Day Trips / Long Weekends
- Birthday, weddings or other family celebrations
- Visits to family abroad or families working abroad
- Surprise visits or trips booked without knowledge

Absence may be authorised for the following:

- Illness
- Medical or Dental appointments* (which should be made to ensure the least disruption to your child's learning and, where possible, after 3.30pm or during school holidays)
- Performing Rights e.g. Theatre Productions
- Examinations of dance, music or school entrance tests
- Family Bereavement
- Religious Observances

*Proof of appointments will be required before any absence is authorised. Leave during term-time for appointments will not be authorised without proof.