

# St Joseph's Journal



27TH NOVEMBER 2020



## **Advent**

Advent is the liturgical season that precedes and prepares us for Christmas. It is a season of hope and of longing, of joyful expectation and of peaceful preparation. Advent is that time of the year when we prepare to welcome Jesus into the world and our lives again.

This year we must face the prospect of experiencing Advent in a different way as Coronavirus restrictions continue to impact our daily lives.

Bishop John has encouraged us and those in our households to find time to pray together and to create a space where we can build Church at home. The Diocese of Salford have prepared resources to help to sustain our prayer life this Advent and can be found at [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/advent-at-home/](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/advent-at-home/)

We will be celebrating Mass in school next week to open the Season of Advent and will prepare the children for the real meaning of Christmas throughout the coming weeks.



## **Red Wednesday**



This week we took part in Red Wednesday, an annual event promoted by Aid to the Church in Need. Red Wednesday is a worldwide event aimed at highlighting and praying for all those who are suffering because of their faith. The fundamental belief of Aid to the Church in Need is that each person is a child of God and therefore each person should have the things they need to

live a good, happy and free life. Red Wednesday is a chance to acknowledge that this is not always the case. Each class, created a Red Corner, which helped both the children and adults focus their prayers towards all those around the world who are suffering because of their faith.



## **Road Safety Week**

This week we focused on Road Safety across the school. Pupils were reminded about the dangers of simply crossing the road and ways that we should always keep ourselves safe. Some pupils turned their classroom into a street for the week, with zebra crossings, allowing the pupils to practice stopping and looking before crossing the road. Pupils have created posters and engaged in quality discussions across all classes. Please continue to support your children with this essential area of learning. Road safety resources are readily available at [roadsafety-week.org.uk](http://roadsafety-week.org.uk)

Can we also take this opportunity to remind parents to keep hold of their child's hand at the beginning and end of the school day. There have been reports from concerned parents & local residents of unattended children leaving the school grounds.

**NO NEED  
TO SPEED**  
ROAD SAFETY WEEK



- Beech** Subahaan, for always making us smile
- Cedar** Noah, such a good role model
- Elm** Bethany, always showing respect and using her manners
- Larch** Christopher, for being a super mathematician
- Oak** Natalia, for her work this week in writing



- Beech** Sonny, for his superb effort in writing & name writing
- Cedar** Pippa, Superb Phonics and writing
- Elm** Mariam, Fab Maths with Mr Sutcliffe
- Larch** Fizza, for making incredible progress in reading
- Oak** Maliaka, for her work this week in reading

### Dan's PE Award

**This weeks  
winner is:  
Aleeza**



Through our reverse advent calendar, we will be collecting items for our local food bank.

We will start collecting items from 1st December, letters will be sent home next week...

### Raffle Tickets

**Don't forget that this is the last week to buy and raffle tickets.**

**Thanks to those who already have**



### Christmas Shoe Boxes

Huge thanks to all who donated to the Rotary Christmas Shoe Box appeal. We were able to send off over 20 boxes, packed full of fantastic toys, clothes and toiletries thanks to your generosity.

*'Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me'*



### Free School Meals during school holidays

The Government has provided a COVID Winter Grant Scheme to support those most in need across England with the cost of food, energy and water bills and other associated costs. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will provide funding to the Council who will administer the scheme and provide direct assistance to vulnerable households and families with children particularly affected by the pandemic. This will include families who normally have access to benefit related Free School Meals during term time. Eligible families will be contacted by the Welfare and Benefits team to make arrangements for one payment to be made directly to them in December which will cover the school holidays over Christmas and February half term. There will be support from Easter through the Department for Education's Holiday Activity and Food programme which will provide funding from Easter to Christmas 2021.



**ATTENDANCE**

**This week's attendance: 93%**

**This week's top class: Oak 95.3% Attendance YTD: 94.4%**