

# St Joseph's Journal



4TH DECEMBER 2020

## Advent



A special thank you this week needs to go to both our Pupil Chaplains and our Mini Vinnies. In addition to 'attending' Mass this week, our children were led in prayer by the Pupil Chaplains

during a Penitential Service, using advent as a special time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus. The service taught us about the importance of preparing ourselves for Christmas in addition to all the materialistic things we prepare for at this time. Our children asked God for help to live a faithful life, making a positive change so that we can receive and share God's love this Christmas.

## Reindeer Run and Christmas Jumper Day Friday 11th December



In order to add a little cheer and raise money for Overgate Hospice, we are planning a Reindeer Run on our Christmas Jumper Day this year. This has been

done with the approval of the Local Authority and a Covid Safe Risk Assessment has been carried out. The run will take place in the school grounds and in our bubbles and the best bit is, we all get to wear reindeer antlers and noses, kindly provided by Overgate Hospice! We are asking that each child brings £2 on this day (or before) and all money collected will go to the charity. Children are being asked to wear tracksuit bottoms, trainers and their Christmas Jumpers instead of their uniforms on this day too. A separate letter has been sent to families this week.

## Nativity



This year we are so disappointed that the children cannot bring you their Christmas performances in the usual way, but with permission from our Public Health Team in Calderdale, we have been able to prepare two short productions that will be recorded and made available to you via a

private link. We are hoping to film the children's work next week and then after a little editing, will make the necessary information available to you. In order to ensure we fulfil safeguarding requirements we will need a code of conduct slip to be completed by everyone, acknowledging that they will not share the performances publicly. A letter will follow with the relevant slip.



## Term Dates

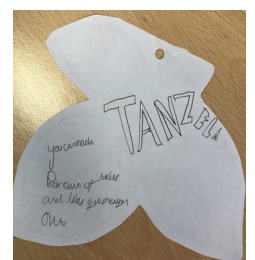
School closes for Christmas on Friday 18th December and reopens on Monday 4th January.

Please note Term Dates for 2021-2022 are also now available on the school website.



## National Tree Week

Each of our classrooms are named after trees and so this week our children researched their own trees and discussed the importance of them, both as part of God's wonderful creation and in our efforts to protect the environment.





**Acorns** Eesa, For being a kind friend and a good role model  
**Beech** Mason, Trying hard in Phonics  
**Cedar** Rayhaan, Always using his manners & being polite  
**Elm** Eden, Always shows respect & super play rehearsals  
**Larch** Sasha, Incredibly helpful and a wonderful friend  
**Oak** Rose, Improved effort



**Acorns** Teddy, For really trying his best in everything  
**Beech** Corey, Amazing Advent wreath in RE lesson  
**Cedar** Tobiasz, Fantastic Maths & Phonics work  
**Elm** Sanaah, Super Maths work this week  
**Larch** Ethan J, For fantastic times tables  
**Oak** Yunus, Super writing

### **Covid Christmas**

We are working within the guidelines and trying to make Christmas for our children as normal as possible. Here are some of the arrangements that we would like to share with you and hope you understand the reasons behind our changes this year.

**Christmas Productions:** there will be no audience for our productions this year but they will be filmed and shared with parents via a private link.

**Christmas Cards:** We are able to accept Christmas cards but



only up to and including Monday 14th December. The children must post them in the post box that is available in their class and must not hand them to children personally. All cards will be quarantined and distributed in a covid safe way during the last week of term.

**Christmas Parties:** These can still go ahead but must be done as bubbles this year. We are not able to have the disco as we would usually but thanks to the generosity of the PTA we are looking at a downloadable Panto, Party Food and games for each bubble, for which all costs will be covered. The children will be able to bring a change of clothes for their party day (please see below).

Upper School: Years 4,5&6 Friday 11th December

Lower School: Years 1,2&3 Monday 14th December

Early Years: Nursery and Reception Wednesday 16th December

### **Dan's PE**

### **Award**

**This weeks**

**winner is:**

**Bethany**



### **Christmas Dinner**

### **Menu**

**Thursday 17th**  
**December**

***Roast Turkey & gravy with sage & onion stuffing***

***Pigs in blankets***

***Baby roasted potatoes***

***Baby carrots***

***Sweetcorn***

***Cauliflower cheese***

***Halal Alternative***

***Jelly, ice cream & wafer***

***Chocolate maltesers cake***



***Please book with the office if your child usually has a packed lunch and would like to book a Christmas Dinner***



**ATTENDANCE**

**This week's attendance: 94.8%**

**This week's top class: Beech 97.4% Attendance YTD: 94.5%**