

St Joseph's Journal



18TH DECEMBER 2020

Message from the Calderdale Children's Public Health Team

The Government's announcement that we can form a "Christmas bubble" over the festive break gives us all a much longed for opportunity to meet up with friends and family, some of whom we may not have seen for many months. It is important though that we do this as safely as possible, so as not to put those we love at increased risk.

- Christmas bubbles can be made up of people from up to three households. You can only be in one Christmas bubble though, so you can't change your bubble from day to day.
- If you're meeting indoors over Christmas, try to keep some distance from others; keep windows open as much as the weather allows; wash your hands often; and wipe down frequently touched surfaces regularly.
- If anyone in your household develops any of the three main COVID-19 symptoms, arrange a test and don't meet with friends and family.
- Look after friends and family who are clinically vulnerable by reducing contact with them.

Remember, you don't have to meet up with others over the Christmas break if you don't feel comfortable doing so. Unfortunately, COVID-19 hasn't gone away. If you are struggling, there is help available:

- Calderdale Council COVID-19 support: 01422 392890
- Citizens Advice: 0300 330 9048
- Healthy Futures Calderdale (for families with school-aged children): Tel 0303 330 9974 or text 07480 635297 (young people) or 07507 332157 (parents/carers)
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Samaritans: 116 123

Reporting Covid Positive Cases

If your child develops symptoms at anytime **up to and including 3:30pm on Sunday 20th December**, not only would we urge you to follow the usual procedure of self-isolating as a family and booking a COVID test for your child, but please would you also contact the **emergency** out of hours school phone number (Tel Number 07990 407907) We will then be able to advise you and inform any other families in the event of a test being returned with a positive result. Thank you.

Please do not allow your child to return to school on January 4th if another family member has symptoms and either does not have the results of their test back or they have had a positive test and a period of 10 days (revised guidance) has not yet passed.

Arrangements for the Christmas Masses

Mass will take place on: Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December at 7pm; Christmas Day Friday 25th December at 10am.

There are 35 places available at each Mass, with the remaining 5 taken up by 4 stewards and Father Peter. In order to reserve a place, parishioners must contact Gay Ogden by phoning 07969426484.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday 23rd December, and there are still a few places left. The church has been cleaned and is clearly marked out. Please wear a mask and use the hand sanitiser on entering church. Parishioners will be guided to their seats when they arrive. Although Lauren has kindly volunteered to play Christmas Music please do not sing. The church will be decorated and the crib figures will be in front of the altar. However, restrictions mean no-one is allowed to go up to the altar to pray. During Holy Communion, stewards will indicate when parishioners can go up to receive the Host. At the end of Mass, the stewards will guide parishioners out bench by bench so that social distancing can be maintained.

Father Peter has kindly requested that no-one remains in the parish room or in the church grounds to talk to others after Mass and he thanks you for your patience and co-operation.



All the Teachers would like to say a huge well done to each and every child, for their wonderful effort this term.
Well done to you all

Thank you

Thank you to each and every parent who has made this term work and for all your support in following the many guidelines that had to be in place. Whilst the term has felt very different, we have still achieved so much and are grateful to have been able to keep our children in school week after week. Thank you for your understanding with the many changes, especially in keeping the communication channels between school and home as open as possible. The Governors and Staff would like to wish each and every one of you a very Happy and Holy Christmas and pray that you can have some safe, quality time in your family groups this year.

Return to school Monday 4th January



Reverse Advent

A huge thank you for all your kind donations of food for the food bank, I know it will all be greatly received by people in our community. We wish you all the very best for a peaceful Christmas and a joyful New Year.



Good Luck

Good luck Miss Pounder in your new job next term.



Christmas Nativity Productions

We hope all those parents who have signed the disclosure have now received their link to view the productions put on by our Early Years Bubble and our Lower School Bubble. I'm sure you will want to join me in thanking our staff who have prepared these and put in so much additional time to bring these special memories to you. We are also really grateful for the filming equipment and the editing skills of Mark Wharton from Flix who has made our virtual productions so professional this year. Well done children, you were all fantastic!

ATTENDANCE

This week's attendance: 97.0%

This week's top class: Beech 100% **Attendance YTD: 94.8%**