



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 2022-23 #5
20th December 2022

St. Joseph's is a joyful community which follows the example of Jesus, helping, accepting and respecting everyone, as we learn and grow together, safe in His love.

At the end of my first term as Head Teacher, a really big **THANK YOU** to all the children, staff and parents who have welcomed me into this wonderful school community. I realise how fortunate I am to be working here at St Joseph's, in what is a thriving Catholic community. I would also like to thank Fr Matthew and Rachel for all the great support that comes from the parish.

**I wish you all every peace
and blessing at Christmas.**

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THANKS

A really big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who helped at the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 10th December. Special thanks to all the members of the PFA, especially Charlotte Tobin, Joyce Tan, Mhairi Walsh, Claire Pope, Danielle Long, Michelle Harris & Marianne Calver for all their work organising the wonderful event. In the region of £3,000 was raised.

Year 1 & 2 Nativity

Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed performing their Christmas Nativity on Tuesday 13th December and Wednesday 14th December to their loved ones. They had fun practising with their classes and performing their dress rehearsals to the rest of the school too. Thank you Year 1 and Year 2 for reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas.



Year 5&6 Carol Service

The children of Year 5 and 6 led the school community in a beautiful Carol Service on Thursday 15th December.

Through prayer and Scripture, accompanied by the singing of both traditional and contemporary songs, the children brought us together in the true spirit of Christmas.

Year 4 Choir at Waitrose

The Year 4 Choir was invited to sing at Waitrose on Friday 11th December. Shoppers stopped in the aisles to listen and sing along.



Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch was enjoyed by all the children and staff. Everyone looked great in their Christmas jumpers.



Emma and her team dished up an amazing Christmas dinner and the children really enjoyed their food. Staff served the dinner, we had crackers, Christmas tablecloths, balloons and music. "Oh we wish it could be Christmas everyday...!"

Donations From The Christmas Events

Thank you for your generosity, we raised over £1,300 for Christmas events & other resources for the children.

PFA Coffee morning

Yesterday, we had lovely morning enjoying some coffee and cakes AND we were entertained by some special Christmas performances. Thank you to everyone who attended and organised the event.

Attendance Praise.

Well done to the 65 children who have achieved a magnificent 100% attendance this term. Amazing attendance is a key contributory factor in success at school, and you should be really proud of your wonderful achievement.

Maranatha! *Sue Cooper, CAFOD*

Maranatha!

Open our eyes to the dignity of all people

And our ears to the cries of the earth.

Maranatha!

Let us walk in solidarity with the poor

And cleanse our world from oppression.

Maranatha!

Let us shout out for justice for all

And renew our hope for change.

Maranatha!

The Lord is coming

Let us share the Good News!

Amen.

Thanks

On behalf of all the staff, we wish to thank you for your lovely cards and generous gifts. Please know that you and your families will be in our thoughts and prayers over the festive season.

OFSTED REPORT

Following our inspection on 1st & 2nd November, the report is available to read on the school website. [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | School Inspections \(st-josephs-upminster.net\)](https://st-josephs-upminster.net)

Help for Households

You can find more information about the broader support available to help with the cost of living on the Help for Households website. https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/?utm_campaign=Dec+2022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Childcare offers for parents

The Childcare Choices campaign aims to raise awareness and understanding of the support available from the government with the costs of childcare.

With the school Christmas holidays here and looking ahead to half term in February, it is more important than ever that parents can access the financial support they qualify for. You could be entitled to:

- up to £2,000 a year of Tax-Free Childcare per child (or £4,000 if disabled) for children up to 11, or 17 if they're disabled
- help with up to 85% of their childcare costs for children up to 16 with Universal Credit
- 30 hours of free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds if they're a working family in England.

Go to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> where you can easily find the right offers of childcare support for you.

Notices

Vacancy for Relief Midday Supervisor St. Joseph's School is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic Midday Supervisor to join their friendly team. If interested, please email

office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk. Please note that the school follows safer recruitment practices.

Vacancies Unusually, St Joseph's School has three vacancies in their current Reception Year. If you hear of parents wishing to transfer their child to the school, please ask them to email

office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk for further information.

DIARY DATES

JANUARY			
Thurs	5 th	Spring Term begins – Children Return to School	8.45a m
Tues	10 th	Year 1 Stay and Pray, Church	9:15a m
Tues	10 th	6B Writing Workshop for Parents (1 parent per family), School Hall	9am – 10am
Weds	11 th	6S Writing Workshop for Parents (1 parent per family), School Hall	9am – 10am
Thurs	12 th	2P Writing Workshop for Parents (1 parent per family), School Hall	9am – 10am
Fri	13 th	2F Writing Workshop for Parents (1 parent per family), School Hall	9am – 10am