



School Newsletter

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Friday 8th December 2017

Dorset Road
Christchurch BH23 3DA

Number 7

Dear Parents

Advent Liturgies

Thank you to all those involved in our Advent liturgies this week, the children for leading them so well with prayer and song, to those parents who were able to join us, the teachers who prepared them and to Deacon Hugh Parry for welcoming us to the church for our school service, along with attending the services within the school itself. Thank you also to Maggie Belcher for her wonderful piano playing.

PTA Christmas Disco

Thank you to everyone who helped with the disco. I hope the children had a lovely time. If your child enjoyed the disco please can you consider becoming involved with the PTA as at present I am having to be the Chair - and in the future may not have the capacity to continue this role.

Nativity Tickets

You will have received your allocated two per family tickets by now along with an additional ticket should you have been fortunate in the draw. We now have an extra opportunity for you to apply for one extended family ticket for the performance on Thursday 14 December at 1.30pm, on a first come first serve basis. If you would like to apply for a ticket please come to the school office. Every year I have someone who turns up without a ticket or a family brings additional family members. This is always embarrassing to deal with because if I let them in it is not fair on all the other families. Please come with your allocated tickets.

School photographs

You should by now have received your child's school photograph, which was sent home this week.

Parking

We are currently receiving regular complaints from our neighbours about inconsiderate parking. Parents are parking across driveways and when approached there have even been times that we are told parents have been rude. As a school we

really value our neighbours and it is important that we get on with them. We advise neighbours to phone the police if there is an issue. I'd like to remind you that the Somerford Pub has confirmed that they are happy for parents to park to the left of the car park for drop off and pick up.

Sports Update

Handball Festival

On 29th November we took two teams to the Handball Festival at The Grange. The event was opened by Liz Roberts from Phoenix Handball and gave a quick demonstration and explained the rules. We played a round robin tournament with 8 teams and came 3rd and 5th. A great time was had by all.

Football County Finals

On 1st December our Year 5 and 6 football team took part in the County Finals at the Littledown Centre, Bournemouth. In the group stages we played some fantastic football beating St Katherine's, Dorchester and Allenbourn and won our group. We then came up against a resolute Stourfield in the semi-finals and unfortunately lost 1-0. We played against St Michael's of Wimborne in a 3rd / 4th play-off place and won comfortably 4-0. We are extremely proud of Oliver, Charlie S, Charlie R, Jayden, Riley, Hughie and Freddie in achieving this result. We are now the third best team in the county.

House Football Matches

Over the last few weeks we have been holding our House Football Matches after school. The standard has been very high and it was great to see so many parents supporting their children even during the cold weather! The winning teams that will compete in our School Games Final in July will be St John's and St Mark's.

Code of Conduct for Sports Events

Recently we adopted the Christchurch Schools PE policy that has a Code of Conduct for all involved in sporting events - from competitors, school staff and spectators. While we are fortunate enough to only have very supportive (and impeccably behaved) parents I have been asked to draw your attention to it. The policy is

on the sports page on website and will also be referred to in all future letters.

Parents/supporters will...

Recognise and encourage good sporting behaviour of all children.

Act as a good role model for the children to copy.

Actively discourage unsporting behaviour.

Offer praise and encouragement rather than criticism during the activity.

Applaud the efforts of all teams.

Discourage other supporters from using inappropriate spectator language or interfering in coaching decisions made during the activity.

Support the teacher's match and kit arrangements.

Encourage the children to respect the decisions of the officials.

Be aware that shouting can intimidate children.

Ensure our participating children are presentable and sport ready (correct kit, no jewellery, hair up) to set a good example and to ensure the safety of all participants.

Late Register Closing

The registers will not be closed until 10am on Friday 15th December, following the Christmas Play evening performance. This is to allow those that are attending these performances to have additional sleep! Older siblings in Years 5 and 6 may also come in later to help the logistics of school runs! We will still be receiving children from 8.45am as usual.

Christmas Party Day

On Friday 15th December we will be hosting our own St Joseph's Christmas Party Day. There will be no hot meals that day – all the children should bring in a packed lunch in a decorated festive lunchbox. There will be no school uniform that day so children can come dressed in suitable party clothes. Children still need shoes that they can run in and warm coats. If you prefer you may order an Away Day Packed Lunch – please contact Chartwells directly to organise this.

Well done to past St Joseph pupils

Congratulations to past St Joseph pupils who won awards at St Peter's as follows;

Dance - Jarrad J

English Literature - Jessica M

Computing - John C

Textiles - Chelsea T-C

R.E. – Daniel B

We are very proud of them.

School Uniform

Mrs Medcraft at QDOS can be reached on 01202 434233 or 07971 309826 should you wish to buy uniform directly from her. There is also a downloadable order form on our school website:

www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk

for your

convenience.

Christmas Messy Church

Christmas Messy Church will be held on Thursday 14th December. It starts at 3.15pm with an hour or so of craft followed by a short assembly with a story and songs and finish with a cooked two course meal for everyone. All at a cost of £1.00 for those who wish to eat.

Dates for 2017- 18

Wednesday 13 th December, 1.30pm	Christmas Play (Year R- 4)
Thursday 14 th Dec., 1.30pm and 6.30pm	Christmas Play (Year R- 4)
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Party Day Non-uniform day
Monday 18th December – Monday 1st January (inclusive) Christmas Holiday	
Tuesday 2 nd January	Inset Day - school closed to children
Wednesday 3 rd January	Children return to school
Tuesday 16 th January	PTA meeting all welcome
Monday 12th – Friday 16th February Half Term Holiday	
Wednesday 7 th March	Inset Day - school closed to children
Week beginning Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs (tests)
16 th – 18 th May	Year 5 Leeson House residential visit
Week beginning 21 st May	Year 6 Avon Tyrell residential visit
Friday 8 th June	Summer Fayre
Wednesday 25 th July	Inset Day - school closed to children

School Closure - Inset Days

Please note Tuesday 2nd January and Wednesday 7th March are training days and so the school is closed to children.

Please note the final inset will be Wednesday 25th July 2018. This means that the final day of the school year will be Tuesday 24th July 2018. I am letting you know this early so you can book your holidays accordingly.

PTA Events

Thank you for everyone who turned up to the meeting last week. We mainly discussed the Christmas Disco and Party Day. With next year in mind we discussed the possibility of a sponsored bounce before Easter and a Quiz Night. We finalised the date for the Summer Fayre which will be held on Friday 8th June 2018, so please put this date in your diary.

The next PTA meeting is set for Tuesday 16th January, 7pm

Year 5 Fundraiser

On Monday 11th December, Year 5 will be holding a sale to raise money for refugees. The money raised will be going to Samara's Aid. Year 5 will be selling Christmas hand-sewn decorations for £1 and selling raffle tickets for 20p each. We hope you will come along to the sale after school on Monday to help our Year 5 raise money for this charity.

First Holy Communion

Dates are as follows:

Session 3 - Saturday 9th December 9-11am

You are all invited to Mass- Sunday 10th

December 9am

Parents' session- Tuesday 9th January 7.30pm

Weekend Mass Times - please note changes

Mass at the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph's Church, Purewell are; *Saturday vigil - 6.30pm, Sunday 9am*

Mass at Holy Redeemer, Highcliffe, is: *Sunday 11am* Website: www.avonstourpastoralarea.org

CAFOD World Gifts

If you are lacking inspiration for that person who has everything, I would like to remind you of Cafod's World Gifts. Your donation will allow a family to have the tools, seeds and training to grow their own crops, or to help provide a haven for someone seeking refuge from slave-like conditions. In exchange, a certificate is provided to say that the gift will make a lasting difference to someone in need. They can be bought from www.cafod.org.uk

Best wishes – and good luck to anyone
Christmas shopping this weekend!

Louise Buxton

