



Autumn Term, Issue 9, Friday 8th December, 2017

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

A Voluntary Academy

Newsletter

Lidgett Lane, Dinnington, Sheffield, S25 2QD

Tel 01909 550123 Fax 01909 560283

www.stjosephs-dinnington.co.uk

E mail: stjosephsdinnington@rotherham.school

Headteacher: **David Hickey**

Dear Parents,

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of ADVENT ~ a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. We had our Penitential Service in school on Tuesday morning and thank you to Father Andy, parents and parish who came to support the school. Advent is one of the most beautiful and symbolic seasons of the liturgical year with wonderful readings, Advent candles and colours, the Jesse Tree and those evocative hymns that we only sing at this time of year. Advent is a time to reflect on the priorities and direction of our lives. An opportunity to spread joy and peace to those we live with by the small everyday things we do both at home and in our places of work. With the dark evenings and short days now upon us, light is a powerful symbol. It only takes the light from one small candle to dispel a great deal of darkness and one act of kindness can change someone's day.

**Bring a Bottle and Non Uniform Day
Wednesday 12th December**



There will be a non-uniform day in school on Wednesday 12th December and children can wear something festive as well as bring a bottle to donate towards the tombola stall at the Christmas Fayre on Friday 15th December.

Our ethos statement for the week

I try to stand up for myself and others without hurting others.

Advent Service in Church: There will be an Advent service in church on **Monday 18th December at 6pm**. It is expected that all KS2 children will be involved as we would like as many children and parents as possible to attend.

Key Dates

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| Community Carol Concert at St Mary's Herringthorpe | Monday 11th December 6pm |
| Non Uniform Day - Bring a bottle | Wednesday 13th December |
| St Joseph's School Christmas Fayre | Friday 15th December 2pm -4pm |
| Advent Service in Church for the whole school | Monday 18th December 6pm |
| EYFS Nativity | Tuesday 19th December 9:15 am |
| KS1 Nativity | Wednesday 20th December 9:15am |
| Sleeping Beauty Panto pm | Wednesday 20th December 1:30pm |
| Christmas Dinner | Thursday 21st December |
| Break up for Christmas | Friday 22nd December |
| School reopens | Monday 8th January |
| Epiphany Mass at St Joseph's Church | Wednesday 10th January 10am |
| Break up for half term | Thursday 8th February |
| INSET DAY | Friday 9th February |
| School reopens | Monday 19th February |
| Kingswood Year 5 | Wednesday 7th March - 9th March |

Christmas Dinner: Children will have the opportunity to have a Christmas dinner on Thursday 21st December and a letter will be sent home next week with all the information.

Stars of the Week Assembly
Stars of the Week - Friday 1st December

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| Reception Apple | Ethan Powell for being a happy and smiley friend. Jacob Cutts for always trying his best |
| Birch | Jake Forster for a positive attitude in everything he does and for being a good friend. Selena Ruth -Pearson for excellent attitude and skills in her cookery club. |
| Cherry | Brooke Reeder Great work with finding change from amounts of money Ethan Yates For being brave and beginning his work independently. |
| Pines | Oliver Gregory For using superb fronted adverbial phrases. Sienna Buxton for trying really hard in literacy in bringing a character to life. |
| Maples | Annika Poce For always working hard and producing work to a high standard. Honey Ledgerd Always giving 100% and working with a fantastic attitude. Blake Morgan For working hard to improve his all round approach to learning |
| Oaks | Robbie Gregory, Elle Hinchcliffe, Abbie Forster, Isabelle Gruszka for producing wonderful portraits of Picasso. Taylor Cooper For really trying to improve in all areas. |
| Hero of the Dinner Hall Blake Morgan for doing things without being asked. Mr Hickey's Star of the Week Honey Ledgerd | |

Stars of the Week - Friday 8th December

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| Reception Apple | Kye Hinchcliffe for always trying his best Francesca Wilson De Rose for always working hard |
| Birch | Tommy Batty for being a superstar learning his sounds and blending them Amy Kissack for being a good role model in class and trying hard in all that she does. |
| Cherry | Julia Kurzak For trying hard with her writing. Matilda Marshall For amazing fraction work |
| Pines | Evie For being an always child and someone who is always a lovely caring member of the class. Lucas Searson for always trying his best in everything that he does |
| Maples | Joe McLaughlin For amazing imaginative ideas for his story writing Amelia Ashmore A positive can do approach to everything that she does |
| Oaks | For ALL Year 6 - For a great residential at the Briars. |
| Hero of the Dinner Hall Blake Morgan for doing things without being asked. Mr Hickey's Star of the Week Amelia Ashmore | |

Reading Morning: A big thank you to all the parents who turned out for our reading morning on Wednesday this week. It is so important that we support our children so that they can become hooked on books. We have plans in place to develop reading areas in and around school in the coming months. Two areas we are looking to prioritise is the library as well as having a reading area outside on the playground.



Reception place applications: A reminder for parents of reception children to make sure that you apply for your child's school place. The final closing date is 15th January 2018. Please return the forms that will have been mailed out to you from RMBC.

Free School Meals Application: If you have a change in circumstances and receive a qualifying welfare benefit (income support, income based jobseekers allowance, income related employment and support allowance) you may be eligible for Free School Meals. All you need to do is apply by telephone 01709 336066 or ask at the school office for a form.

Applying helps the school apply for extra funding known as Pupil Premium payment, and this helps the school to provide extra resources.

Attendance week beginning
4th December
Well done to Reception children with the best attendance!

| Class | % Percentage | Lates |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Apple | 97.9% | 1 |
| Birch | 97.8% | 0 |
| Cherry | 93.3% | 6 |
| Pine | 94.7% | 6 |
| Maple | 96.8% | 5 |
| Oak | 93.9% | 4 |
| Total | 95.6% | 22 |

Thank you for reading this newsletter,
David Hickey