

**Newsletter - 7December 2018**

**Our Catholic Mission**

Many apologies for the short notice but the End of Term Mass due to be held in school on Tuesday 11 December 2018 has been **cancelled**. Mrs Briers’s father’s funeral is taking place at this time and another priest is not available. Thank you for your understanding.

Many thanks to all of you who came to our Family Mass for the first Sunday of Advent. Father Anthony was delighted with the turnout and many parishioners commented on how lovely it was to see all the children there.

Thank you to Fr Anthony who has supplied a missal for every child in years 5 and 6 to help with their studies.

**Parish Mass/Children’s Liturgy**

The parish newsletter or website [www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk](http://www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk) contains information about Masses and other church notices.

Mass Times: 6pm Saturday @ SS Peter & Paul

(with Children’s Liturgy)

8.30am Sunday @ Holy Cross
(with Children’s Liturgy)

11am Sunday @ SS Peter & Paul
(with Children’s Liturgy)

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Y4 the class with the highest attendance of 100% this week.

**Y6 Ambassadors**

I would like to say thank you to all of our children in Year 6 who have led tours of the school for prospective parents considering a place for their Reception child next September. Many of the parents commented on how confident, articulate and informed they were, as well as how proud they are to be a pupil at St. Joseph’s. Well done, Year 6.

**Panto Visit**

The whole school made their annual visit to see Dick Whittington at the Lichfield Garrick on Tuesday. As always, this was a wonderful event and the children behaved beautifully. Poor Mr Ashton became an integral part of the performance!

**Christmas Tree**

Our beautiful Christmas tree from Lichfield Garden Centre has arrived and has pride of place in the hall. The children have done a wonderful job of decorating it!

**Y3 Swimming Lessons – Monday 10 December**

To make up for the missed lesson on 26 November the children will have a lesson on Monday 10th December.

**KS2 Carol Concert Rehearsals - Parent Volunteers still needed**

Thank you to those who have already volunteered. If you are able to help walk the children to/from SS Peter & Paul’s on the following dates, please call the office. We’d be very grateful:

* Tuesday 11 December – 1 pm - 3.30 pm
* Thursday 13 December – 9 am – 12 pm
* Tuesday 18 December – 1 pm – 3.30 pm – Please note change of time

**Reception Class ‘Drop In’ Sessions – 13 December (1 pm – 4.30 pm)**

If you have would like to have an informal catch-up and chat with Miss Cartwright about how your child is progressing in reading and writing and their next steps, please sign up on the sheet displayed in the School Office Reception area.

**After School Clubs**

Please see the school website for After School Club information and how to join.

Last dates for this term have been added to the school website.

**Pre-School**

* The letter of the week is “I”

So far we have learnt S A T P I – what can you find that begins with any of these letters at home?

* Please remember to send the children with warm appropriate clothing as we are outside whatever the weather!

**Friday 21 December**

A reminder that school closes for the Christmas holidays at 2.30 pm on this date.

**Reception Class Admissions - September 2019 – Please take action NOW!**

On-line applications for primary school has now opened. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2019. The best way to apply is online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)If your child's 5th birthday is between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 then you will need to apply for a place at First, Infant or Primary School.

**Lost Property**

We have a few items in the School Office, if you have lost an item please ask (jewellery, house key, and pair of glasses).

Lost property will be disposed of on **Friday 21 December**. Please ensure you have checked the box before this date and taken your belongings home with you.

**Snacks**

From 7th January you will be able to pre-book your child’s break-time snack up to 8am on the day required using ParentPay.
Please see the school website for further information.

**School Crossing Patrol**

We have been contacted by Councillor Helen Fisher regarding the proposed removal of School Crossing Patrol Services. As you will be aware this is a service that is greatly needed on our busy road. Unfortunately this is not a cost that could be met from our already stretched school budget. Staffordshire County Council are looking for parent input on how the costs could be met. Please visit <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/SchoolCrossing/SchoolCrossingPatrols.aspx> to share your views.

**PTFA News**

Please see the school website and calendar for more information.

As now is the time for online Christmas shopping, can I please remind you to log in to easyfundraising first and then continue shopping. Lots of the major stores you will be shopping with will then donate money to St. Joseph’s PTFA that we can then spend on our children …it’s as easy as that!

There is a list of the PTFA Christmas Fayre class stalls on the doors by the office – if you are able to help please could you write in your preferred time slot.

BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY…don’t forget to come to the Christmas Fayre. There are lots of stalls offering Christmas gifts, refreshments and of course, the chance to MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS!



**Friday 14 December** – non uniform day – please bring in cookies and cakes.

***And Finally…***



Congratulations to our very own Miss Swan who will be getting married to Guy on 22nd December this year. We will be welcoming her back in the new year as Mrs Dunwoody. I know you will want to join us in wishing them God’s blessings and every happiness for their future life together.

May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary

