

Cherry Orchard, Lichfield, WS14 9AN Tel: 01543 263505 1 December 2017

Website address: <http://www.stjosephslichfield.org.uk> Twitter: @StJoesLichfield

**Our Catholic Mission**

You are all warmly invited to join us for our End of term Mass which will be at 9.30 am on Tuesday 19th December in the school hall.

**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: 6.00pm Saturday @ SS Peter & Paul (with Children’s Liturgy)

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

11.00am Sunday @ SS Peter & Paul (with Children’s Liturgy)

**Attendance**

Congratulations to Y2 who for the second week running have the highest attendance with 100% - wonderful!

​​**Is Your Child 4 years old before 1 September 2018?**

The online application service for a school place in September 2018 opened on 1 November 2017 [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions) Please ensure applications are submitted by Monday 15 January 2018. For assistance please call the Customer Contact Centre on 0300 111 8007 or email: [admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk). Copies of baptismal certificates can be handed in to the school office. If you have a child starting school in September 2018 and would like to come and visit the school, we are holding another Open Day on Monday 27 November at 11.00am. Please phone the office on 01543 263505 with your preferred time-slot.

**Garrick (Whole School and Pre-School) – Wednesday 6 December**

On Wednesday 6 December, we will be going to The Garrick to see Aladdin. We will all return to school at approximately 4.30pm. Children in Pre-School, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 can be collected from their classroom doors. Children in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 can be collected from the hall door. If your child usually has permission to walk, we will assume that they are also able to walk home on Wednesday unless you let us know otherwise. Therefore, if you would prefer to collect your child from school, instead of them walking, please send an e-mail to the school office or a note to the class teacher.

**KS2 Carol Service at SS P&P Church - Tuesday 12 December at 6.30pm**

In preparation for the Carol service on Tuesday 12 December, we will be walking with KS2 to SS P&P Church on the following dates: Tuesday 5 December - afternoon. Thursday 7 December - morning. Tuesday 12 December - morning. If there are parent volunteers who are able to help walk up and back to SS P&P’s church on any of the dates, please email the office and let us know.

It is expected that each child in KS2 will take part in the Carol Service. If there are exceptional circumstances which make it impossible for your child to attend you will need to email or write in to school.

**Violin lessons**

Please could children make sure they have their violins with them on Monday 18 December instead of Tuesday 19 December. Thank you

**Football with Paul Agnew on Tuesday afterschool**

For the next few weeks until 5 December football after-school club with Mr Agnew will end at 4.30pm. Football will finish on 5 December 2017 until further notice. Once the evenings get lighter, we will let you know when football starts again.

**Reception and Pre-School Christmas Activity afternoon**

We will be holding a Christmas craft session on Thursday 7 December from 2.30pm until home time. Family and friends are very welcome to join us. We promise there will be lots of glitter and fun!!

**Online Safety**

We have recently had some concerns that some children may be accessing online content at home that is unsuitable.  Are you aware of what types of online content your children can access at home? Please read the attached leaflet which is a very helpful checklist regarding dangers for children online.  There are also some very good websites with latest information and helpful tips for how to help your children stay safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/about-us/partners/nspcc-o2-online-safety-partnership/>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

**Snacks**

There will be no snacks Wedneday 6 December (Panto), Monday 18 December (christmas dinner) and Tuesday 19 December (last day).

**Netball**

Well done to our Year 5 & 6 Netballers who made it through the first round of the district schools tournament. They won all three matches winning 6-0, 3-0 and 2-1. Despite the freezing and dark conditions they played incredibly well and were a credit to St Joseph’s – they are made of tough stuff! Netball club is on a Monday after school with an England Netball qualified coach, there are still some spaces available.

**Sent on behalf of Public Health England**

* All children aged 2 and 3 years old (i.e. children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2015) will be given their free flu vaccination at their general practice, usually given by the practice nurse.  Parents should contact their GP to make an appointment.
* All children in reception class and school years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be offered their free flu vaccine in school, via the school-based immunisation programme.  If a child in this age group, also has health condition that puts them at increased risk from flu, parents can ask their GP surgery to provide the vaccine, if they don’t want to wait until the school vaccination session or if this is what they prefer.

The contact details for the school aged immunisation service in Staffordshire are: SSOTP School Age Immunisation Service: Phone: 0300 124 0366

Email: [school.immunisation@ssotp.nhs.uk](mailto:school.immunisation@ssotp.nhs.uk) (South Staffordshire); [schoolimmunisation.north@ssotp.nhs.uk](mailto:schoolimmunisation.north@ssotp.nhs.uk) (North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent)

* Children aged 2 to 17 years old with a long-term health condition which puts them at greater risk of flu who are not offered their free flu vaccine as part of the school based programme, should be given their flu vaccine at their General Practice. Parents should contact their GP to make an appointment.

**Beaver Leaders**

The Beavers, who meet on Monday evenings at Holy Cross from 5.15-6.35pm, are looking for Leaders over the age of 18. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Coy on 01543 253009.

**Vacancy**

We have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant in Pre-School. If you are interested in the post, the application form and supporting documentation can be found on our website. We will also be in need of dinner supervisors in the new year. If you know of anyone who might enjoy this job please let them know.

**Christmas Fayre – Friday 8 December**

Thank you so much for all the teddies, toys and games today. The next donation day is Friday 8 December which is a **Non-Uniform day** - please bring in cakes. Could you also remember that between now and Thursday 7th December we need lots of Christmas Jars (please fill washed and clean jam/coffee jars with sweets, hair accessories, crayons etc and decorate with stickers, glitter, ribbon or tinsel.) Many thanks to all the parents who have said they can help at the Fayre. There are sheets up in the foyer for you to sign up if you can help even for an hour.

**Holy Cross - Barn Dance – Saturday 2 December 2017**

If you would like tickets for the Barn Dance on 2nd December, 7.30 at Holy Cross Hall, they are now available from Dave Brown (685335), Wendy Cleary ([admin@holycrossoffice.plus.com](mailto:admin@holycrossoffice.plus.com)) or Sue Whale (264877). Ticket price£10 including Fish & Chip Supper. Proceeds to FHL and the Haiti Project.”  Clare and Dudley Ray are providing the music!

**Christmas Lunch**

This year’s Christmas lunch is on Monday 18 December 2017. This is always such a lovely, festive event. If your child would like a Christmas lunch please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return by MONDAY 4 DECEMBER 2017. Please note we are aware the majority of KS1 children, and quite a few in KS2, have a school lunch every day; however we need to ensure numbers are correct and ask that everyone completes the form below to confirm the orders. Even if your child is in KS1 and receives infant free school meals, we still need this to be completed.

**Free School Meals**

Parents claiming some benefits can claim free school meals for any of their children who are registered at a Staffordshire school and who would normally be at school at lunch time. School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime, and you can save yourself time and money.

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps the school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives. Even if your child is receiving free infant school meals, and you may be eligible, please apply.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals/free-school-meals-information-leaflet-PDF-.pdf>

***And Finally…***

It is the first Sunday of Advent on Sunday – please try to attend one of the Parish Masses detailed earlier in this newsletter.





May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary

**Christmas Lunch – Monday 18 December 2017**

**I confirm that my child/children would like to have a Christmas Lunch @ £2.20 per child**

**Name of child: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………Y……………………………………………**

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**Please ensure this is returned to school by Monday 4 December 2017**

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L**ooking Ahead…**

**School Dates –**

**Changes in red**

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| --- | --- |
|  | Autumn term |

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| Wednesday 6th December | Pantomime trip to the Garrick - pm |
| Thursday 7th December | PTFA last minute prep for Christmas Fayre |
| Friday 8th December | PTFA – Non uniform Day for Christmas Fayre (cakes)  Y5 – Christmas Journey Wade Street church  PTFA – Christmas Fayre – Opens at 4.30pm |
| Monday 11th December | 9.10 am Mission Assembly |
| Tuesday 12th December | Homework due  6.30pm KS2 Carol Service at Ss P& P |
| Wednesday 13th December | Christmas Plays:  Pre- School & Reception- 9.30am  Year 1 & 2- 2.00pm |
| Friday 15th December | Party & Toy Day |
| Monday 18th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Tuesday 19th December | Whole School Advent Mass 9.30 am  No homework set  Finish @ 2.30pm |
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| Wednesday 3rd January | **INSET** Day |
| Thursday 4th January | Children Return to School |

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| **Autumn Term - 2017** | |  |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Monday 4 September*** |
|  | School Opens | Tuesday 5 September |
| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 20 October |
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|  | ***Inset Day***  School Opens | ***Monday 30 October***  Tuesday 31 October |
|  |  |  |
| 2.30pm | School Closes (Christmas) | Tuesday 19 December |
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| **Spring Term 2018** | |  |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Wednesday 3 January*** |
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|  | School Opens | Thursday 4 January |
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|  | ***Inset Day*** | ***Friday 26 January*** |
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| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 16 February |
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|  | School Opens | Monday 26 February |
| 2.30pm | School Closes (Easter) | Thursday 29 March |
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| **Summer Term 2018** | |  |
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|  | School Opens | Thursday 12 April |
|  | **Bank Holiday** | **Monday 7 May** |
| 3.30pm | School Closes (half term) | Friday 25 May |
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|  | School Opens  ***Inset Day*** | Monday 4 June  ***Monday 25 June*** |
| 2.30pm | School Closes (Summer) | Friday 20 July |
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