**Our Catholic Mission**

Many thanks to all families who came to the Family Mass on Sunday and to all children who read, took the offertory or sang in the choir.

Your child took home an advent calendar on Monday with lots of lovely information and suggestions of simple activities to do together as a family. They also received a copy of the times of Masses during the Christmas season.

Our next whole school Mass will be on Tuesday 10 December at 9.30 am in school – you are most welcome to join us.

**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 Y5 the class with the highest attendance this week of 98.0%.

**Term Dates**

Dates for the new term are now on the school website and you should have received a copy through the app today.

**KS2 Carol Concert Rehearsals – volunteers needed please**

KS2 children will be walking to Ss P&P Church for Carol Concert rehearsals on the following dates:

* Tuesday 10 December (leaving school at 12.45pm, returning by 3.30pm)
* Thursday 12 December (leaving school at 9.10am, returning by 12.10pm)

If you are able to help walk the children to/from the church, please let school know. Thank you for your support as always.

**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!

If anybody would like to take the tree when school closes for the holidays on 20 December, please contact the office.

**Reading Workshops**

What a great turnout we have had for the reading workshops over the past few weeks. We hope you found the sessions informative. It was wonderful to see so many of you and thank you for the positive feedback about the workshops.

**School Guided Reading & Library Books**

Guided reading and library books that children take home to enjoy need to be returned on the date requested promptly, so others can also enjoy them. Unfortunately, any damaged or non-returned books will incur a £5 charge per book which will be payable on ParentPay

**Christmas Jumper Day – 13 December**

The children can come to school dressed in a Christmas/silly jumper for a £1 donation towards Save the Children.

**Christmas Lunch Day – 16 December**

Please be aware that there will not be any snacks on Monday 16 December as this is Christmas lunch day!

Snacks will be available for the rest of the week.

**Y6 Junior Cadets Presentation – 15 January**

You are welcome to join Year 6 at 9.15 am on Wednesday 15 January 2020 when they will be presented with their certificates to show completion of the Junior Police Cadets course.

**Farewell to the Martos family**

We say a fond farewell to the Martos family and wish them the very best.

**Reception Class Admissions - September 2020 – Please take action NOW!**

On-line applications for primary school has now opened. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2020. 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 2020 and 31 August 2021 then you will need to apply for a place at First, Infant or Primary School.

**Headlice**

Please regularly check your child’s hair for unwanted visitors and treat accordingly. For more information <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com>

**Communication with parents – School app login**

The way that we communicate with you is changing from the start of the Spring Term (January 2020); we will no longer be using a text message system to send individual messages to parents. Therefore, it is important that you download the school app (School Jotter) to your smartphone/tablet and create your login before this date. If you have not yet set up your log-in you can do so by following the instructions on the school website [here](https://s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/jotter2.files/10839689?response-content-type=application%2Fpdf&response-content-disposition=inline%3Bfilename%3Dhow-to-dowload-and-create-a-password-on-the-app.pdf&X-Amz-Content-Sha256=UNSIGNED-PAYLOAD&X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIH4MJHC24RK4EHAA%2F20191107%2Feu-west-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20191107T145703Z&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Expires=3000&X-Amz-Signature=185914ff6cca3b95efd2625f277c215755e0d45cce08fabd7a9a16e0cc6478bb).

We will be sending a test message on Monday 16th December through the app, if you do not receive this, can you please let us know asap.

**Pre School**

* We will continuing to focus on the letter ‘m’ this week before moving on to the letter ‘d’ next week.
* **Monday 16 December** - Pre School will be visiting Lichfield Cathedral during the morning. If you are able to help on this trip, please let Pre School know.

**“And the word became flesh and dwelt among us”   John 1:14**

* **Wednesday 18 December** – Pre School are going to the panto! Please can all children and parent helpers arrive by 9 am.

**PTFA News**

* Please see the school website (<http://stjosephscatholicprimary.sites.schooljotter2.com/our-school/ptfa>) and calendar for more information. We hope to raise lots of funds for the school this year so do bring your children along to enjoy our events and we’re always happy to have volunteers to run them, just speak to your class rep.
* Please see the school calendar/PTFA Newsletter for Christmas Fayre donation/non-uniform days

**Governing Board News**

* I wish to inform you that Mrs Tina Rowe has been re-elected as Chair and Mr Peter O’Brien as Vice Chair.
* The Governing Board has started the process of consulting on the School Admissions Policy 2021/2022; a copy of the proposed policy has been emailed to you and is available on the school website. The consultation period started on 25 November 2019 and will end on Friday 17 January 2020. Any comments on the proposed policy should be forwarded to Mrs Tonks, Clerk to the Governing Board, email office@st-josephs-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk

***And finally***

The whole school made their annual visit to see Cinderella at the Lichfield Garrick this week. This was a wonderful event and the children, as always, made us proud with their participation and outstanding behaviour!



May God be with you.

Mrs D McLeary