



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Christmas Newsletter 6

Christmas

We have reached the end of a busy term. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and dedication to the children. The last few weeks have been great fun with Christmas Discos, Nativity concerts, Rock band performances and the carol service. It has been wonderful to welcome parents and visitors to share our celebrations and be able to showcase our amazing children and their learning.



On behalf of the staff and I, thank you for the kind wishes, chocolates and gifts that you have sent over the last few days. They have certainly helped to keep the energy levels up. Have a joyful Christmas in the peace and love of our Saviour, Jesus. May the blessings of the new born king be with you all. Happy Christmas.



Moses class have been reading The Gingerbread Man story. They made gingerbread men this week and there was a delicious smell of baking across the school. The children had great fun decorating the biscuits and then sharing them with staff.



The Rock bands performed for the school on Tuesday showing off their skills. It was impressive how well the children played the instruments and the confidence they showed in their performances. If you would like your children to take part in the Rock tuition next term please contact the office for more details.



Friends fundraising

Congratulations to the Friends of St Josephs for their fantastic fundraising efforts this term. The events have been very enjoyable for the school community as well as raising money for the school. The Friends have raised £725 at the Christmas Fair; £300 for the disco, £361 from the cake and uniform sales and £ 318.40 from the Christmas raffle at the performances this week. We are very grateful for the hard work which has gone into organising the events this term. The funds will be used to subsidise the pantomime for the children in January and to pay for coaches for school trips during the year. Thank you all for your generosity.

Online Safety

The Children's Commissioner for England has released a new guide for parents called 'What I wish My Parents Knew' which focuses on keeping children safe online. It coincides with the Online Safety Act coming into force. The guide is designed to demystify some of the issues around keeping safe online and to help make talking to your child about them easier. It offers advice on setting boundaries and bringing up difficult topics that cannot be ignored – not just once, in a cursory way, but regularly. I hope it will help you navigate an online world that is not built for children, nor designed with their safety at heart. Children and young people have helped to put the guide together so it reflects their views and concerns too. The Children's Commissioner is asking parents to be role models and consider their own use of phones and IPADs over Christmas and have time as a family when devices are switched off and put away so you can enjoy family time without the distraction of notifications and scrolling. More information is available here <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

Free activities during school holidays for families who need support

With the school holidays a week away, children from families in need of support can book onto discretionary places for free activities coordinated by West Suffolk Council. The national Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is primarily aimed at children under 16s who receive benefits related free school meals. The winter programme in West Suffolk includes swimming, various sports, arts and crafts, roller skating, outdoor cooking and more. See the #westsuffolkwinterhaf25 posts on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Or <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/holiday-events.cfm>

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 5pm at St Joseph's Hadleigh with carols from 4.30pm

Christmas Eve 7pm at Our Lady's Sudbury with carols from 6.30pm

Christmas Day 10am at Our Lady's Sudbury

Diary Dates

Christmas Holiday	Mon 22nd Dec-Mon 5th Jan
Tues 6th Jan	Children return to school
Mon 12th Jan	Pantomime & workshop

Mon 16th Feb– Fri 20th Feb Half term