

Friday 20th December

Dear all,

We have had such a lovely week at St Joseph's. The classes have been filled with Christmas music and the children have had a great time playing party games and doing Christmas activities. Thank you from myself and all the staff for the lovely cards and presents we have received; people have been very generous.

Advent Service

The children from Beech and Maple class performed their Advent Service in Church on Tuesday night. It was a beautiful service with some really moving and powerful readings and drama included. I was so proud of all the children and many thanks to Mrs Jukes and Mr Edmunds for all their hard work organising it. Thank you for all the donations given at all our Christmas performances this term. I will let you know in the New Year how much we raised for the Balloons charity.

Carols around the Christmas Tree

Many thanks to everyone who attended the carol singing. Although the weather interrupted us I think the children did an excellent job of moving into the hall and carrying on their singing indoors. I hope you enjoyed the carols, it definitely got me in the festive spirit!

Headteacher contract

As you are aware, earlier this week the Bishop granted permission for me to become the permanent Headteacher of St Joseph's, rather than just Acting Headteacher. I am extremely pleased to be able to stay on at St Joseph's and continue moving the school forward. Many thanks for all the congratulations and cards I have received. It is very much appreciated and really kind of you.

Clubs

After Christmas, Science Club will move to a Monday night. A separate poster has been sent about science club but it is a fantastic club, run by qualified teacher Mrs Williamson. For further information regarding places please email Mrs Williamson at: yates.claire@btopenworld.com

If your child attends Spanish Club which starts later than 3.30pm, please be aware that they are not allowed to be left without adult supervision whilst waiting for the next session to start. Our playground and field is not supervised after 3.30pm and gates are open so children are not allowed to be out there unattended.

Upcoming dates:

Monday 7th January – Non-pupil day, staff training

Tuesday 8th January – Children return to school for the Spring term.

We are all aware of the pressure there is to buy our own children amazing presents that are often too expensive to afford. I just wanted to reassure you all that at school when the children come back after Christmas we don't hear about all the presents, we hear about the lovely time the children had with Mummy/Daddy being at home, playing games and all the things they found funny - like the roast potatoes being left in the oven or granny falling asleep during the game of cards! The children talk to you lots about what they want but to us they tell us all the fun they had with their family. So if you can't afford that present they keep asking for, remember what they really value and remember are the memories that they made with you. Please enjoy this lovely time together.

From all the staff at St Joseph's we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a lovely, safe and relaxing break with family and friends.

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Headteacher's Awards: Sycamore – Max, Cherry – Lewis, Freddie, Beech – Jeff, Darcie

Gospel Value Bronze Awards: Oak – Finley, Shiloh, Jack S, Lusi, Jacob, Willow – Halley, Beech – Charlotte, Darcie, Felix, Freddy, Billy, Erin

Star of the Term Awards: Oak – Daisy, Riley, Rowan – Archie, Maria, Sycamore – Annie, Owen, Cherry – Ben, Zaylea, Willow – Ben, Lily, Maple – Jack, Olivia S, Beech – Radina, Freddy

Breakfast club Award: Emma & Shiloh