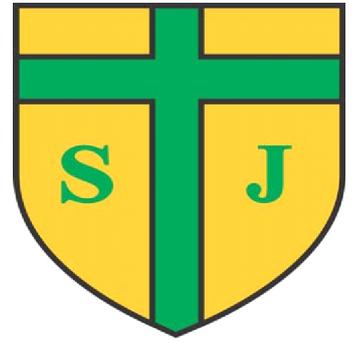


**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC  
PRIMARY SCHOOL OTLEY,  
A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**



**Friday 1st December 2017**

**18TH AND 19TH DECEMBER**

**18th December—Christmas Party Day**

Its that time of year again where the Christmas Spirit comes to St Joseph's! As you may have seen, we have our Christmas Tree up and we are busy practising carols for all the events we are taking part in this year.

For those of you who are new to St Joseph's, the children have a Christmas Party on Monday 18th December in their classrooms, followed by a whole school party in the hall. In order to facilitate this, we ask for parents and carers to contribute to the food for this event. We will send letters home on Friday 8th December giving details of what each child needs to bring with them on the day - please contact the class teacher if you have not received a letter after this date.

**We encourage the children to come dressed in their favourite party clothes (please note—this does not mean fancy dress and please wear sensible footwear!).**

We have done this for a few years now and it has worked well, particularly since we are delighted that parents are so keen to volunteer to help set up tables, food etc. If you can help on the day from 1.15pm, then please contact the School Office. Many thanks.

**19th December—Whole school Mass and Carol Service.**

This will take place from 9.30am on Tuesday 19 December in Our Lady & All Saints Church. We look forward to seeing you all there to enjoy this fabulous celebration with the children and staff.

**Our Lady & All Saints Church**

**Mass Times**

Saturday Morning: 10am

Saturday Evening Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday Morning: 9.30am & 11.15am

There is also a weekday morning mass before school at 8.30am each morning except Tuesdays.

*Please can I encourage parents to take their children to mass on a regular basis and please note that the church is open to parishioners all day long if you wish to spend a few moments in quiet prayer or reflection.*

**EYFS AND KS1  
PERFORMANCE**



Reception, Year 1 & Year 2  
present...

*"Little Angel Gets her Wings"*

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 1:30pm at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

We do not charge for tickets but do ask for donations towards the raffle which is run by The Friends of St Joseph's to raise funds for the licenses for each performance; your generosity with donations and purchasing tickets on the day is always appreciated.

We will offer the remaining tickets on a first come, first served basis from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December @ 9am.

**MUSIC PERFORMANCE**

Our wonderful singing club, known as 'Notes and more' will be performing in assembly on Friday 8th December.

They will be joined by our fantastic musicians who work hard with Artforms and Roundhay Music.

This will be a great opportunity to celebrate some our musical talent.

All welcome.



**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS**

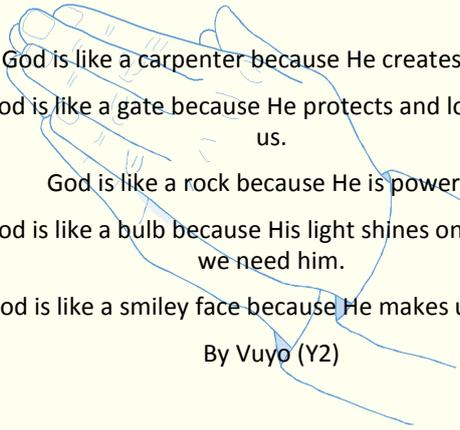
The Christmas Eve Mass at Our Lady and All Saints will take place at 6.00pm, with carol singing from 5.30pm.

If you would like your child to participate in the mass either by reading or taking part in the nativity tableau, then please contact Denise Emmett 07854969701 or [deniseemmett@live.co.uk](mailto:deniseemmett@live.co.uk) by 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you on behalf of the Children's Liturgy Group OLAS.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

God is like a carpenter because He creates things.  
God is like a gate because He protects and looks after us.  
God is like a rock because He is powerful.  
God is like a bulb because His light shines on us when we need him.  
God is like a smiley face because He makes us happy.  
By Vuyo (Y2)



## CHRISTMAS JUMPER / CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

On **Thursday 7th December**, children are invited to wear their best Christmas jumper **and/or** hat as we celebrate our Christmas dinner together.

We will also be joined by some of our local priests, including Father Lawrie.

We will be playing all the favourite Christmas hits and enjoying a wonderful meal prepared by Mrs Brylov and the catering team.



## SKIPPING WORKSHOP

Year 2 had a fantastic time at the skipping workshop learning to double bounce, speed bounce, side swing and many other skills.

We will be practising our skipping skills before the skipping festival on 8th March.

You can buy a skipping rope from Year 2 for £5 so your child can practice. A great stocking filler for Christmas!



## CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to all the children who took part in the cross country races on Saturday morning at Wharfe Meadow. On a cold and very muddy course, all the children did really well.

The next race is Saturday 13th January.

All the results are on the following website: <http://www.lsa.org.uk/CC.htm> Thank you to all the parents for their support.



## OTLEY FESTIVE LIGHT COMPETITION



# FESTIVE LIGHT COMPETITION

Are you aged between 4 and 11? If so, Otley Town Council would like your ideas to design a new festive motif for the Town Centre.

The best design, to be judged by our panel consisting of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Executive Officer will be produced as a new motif for next year's display.

Any design can use up to FOUR colours but must NOT include words. Entries should be submitted on A4 paper. Entrants should also remember it has to be made into a motif so should not be too complex.

"We are open to any ideas the children have for what would make a nice new festive motif in the Town Centre" said Executive Officer, Suzanne Kidger. "It could be a traditional Christmas image or a more up to date vision of what Christmas means to them".

Please remember to put your name, age and contact details of a parent, carer or guardian on the back of the design. Entries are open until Friday 5th January 2018 and should be submitted to Otley Town Council, The Core, Unit 11, Orchard Gate, Otley, LS21 3NX or via e-mail to [eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk). The new light will be unveiled at the Festive Lights Switch-on to be held on 26th November 2018 where the winner will be invited on stage to see their design switched on. The winner and runners up will also receive gift vouchers.

The photograph is of the Otley robin which was designed by previous winner Milly Spencer.

## DATES FOR DIARY

### FOSJ CHRISTMAS DISCO

**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

**DISCO TIMES : REC & KS1 3.30PM – 4.45PM. KS2 5PM – 6.15PM**

The disco will run in two parts; Reception and KS1 together followed by a KS2 disco

- Reception class children must be accompanied by an adult
- Reception and KS1 children can bring disco clothes to school and get changed in their classes after school
- A £2 charge is payable on entry to the disco: KS1 children should have this in a sealed, labelled envelope to prevent it being lost. Their class teacher will collect the money from them on the morning of the disco
- The £2 charge will include entry, a drink, a bag of crisps and a glow item
- Children can bring more money to buy sweets and or chocolate (freddos). The sweets will be pre-bagged and will cost 50 p per bag. Please ensure you only send your child to the disco with the money that they need
- When parents collect their KS1 children (and when reception children leave with their parents) please ensure that you “check out” with the staff on the desk
- KS2 children should come to the main entrance at the start of their disco. They should “check in” with staff and pay at this time.
- When you collect your KS2 child, please ensure that they “check out” with the staff on the desk

**PLEASE NOTE KS2 CHILDREN MAY NOT ATTEND THE KS1 DISCO AND SIMILARLY KS1 CHILDREN MAY NOT STAY FOR THE KS2 DISCO**



Thank you for your support

FOSJ



## CHRISTMAS DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find some dates for the ‘Christmas diary’ listed below.

Please note that these events are subject to change and we will keep you updated as the weeks go on.

Sunday 3rd December	Victorian Fayre
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 8th December	School Disco
Thursday 14th December	KS1 Performance
Monday 18th December	Christmas Party Day
Tuesday 19th December	Whole School Mass





# Class News



## Year 2 News



In Maths this week, we looked back on the data that we collected on Year 2's favourite season, so we could record the information on a pictogram. We also learned about a new word, axis, and what it represents in our work. The most popular season was winter, because some of the children thought they could have fun when it snowed!

In R.E we have been busy with our writing and painting in representing and describing what God is like. "God is like a shield because he keeps us safe everywhere," said Rhys. We have also learnt about Advent and made Advent angels with a special secret message for a classroom friend.



Our nativity rehearsals are going well, with the children growing in confidence with their lines. Thank you to the parents who have brought in costumes already. We hope to have everyone's costume in by Monday.

## Year 5 News



In science this week, Year 5 had a very exciting lesson. We have been learning about forces and this lesson was all about air resistance. Our special mission was to create a parachute for a soldier.

We were able to use lots of different resources to create our parachutes including; plastic bags, tin foil and string. We also had to think about how we were going to attach them to our soldiers too, this was quite challenging as sometimes attaching it to the soldier meant it was unable to open properly. We quickly dismissed some materials like the heavy felts and wool, and most of us used plastic or napkins instead. Next week we will be testing out parachutes and finding out which is the best material.

In English this week, we have been continuing to read Friend or Foe. We now finally understand who the book title is referring to, a German bomber who has crash landed on the nearby moor side. We could see both sides of the argument for helping the German and for handing him over to the army. On Thursday we wrote a balanced argument to show these ideas.

Please ensure children have full winter kit for PE. We are outside for PE every lesson and children must be appropriately dressed.

## Year 6 News

This week in Year 6, we have worked hard in Maths tackling challenging percentage problems where we have all solved problems.

In English we have been preparing to write our own narrative and this week we have been recapping our knowledge of different sentence types and looking at how to write an effective opening to a story.

On Thursday, we made our Advent wreath together prior to Friday where we reflected on what Advent really means with Year 4 in their collective worship assembly. We then got onto making our Christmas crafts, a variety of different decorations and cards.

Make sure you try to spot our wooden cross stitches and glittery baubles on the tree in the hall!



## Year R News



Reception have been very busy this week practising for our nativity with KS1. Please support your child to learn their lines at home if they have them. Also a reminder for those children who were asked to bring clothing in please can this be in school in a named bag by Monday 4th December ready for our dress rehearsals.

In Literacy this week we have been writing our Christmas lists to Santa. Heidi said she was hoping for a toy reindeer, Austin for Hot Wheels and Joseph J would like Ninjago Lego!

In Maths we have been continuing our money topic; learning to identify coins and use them in situations to buy things.

We have been very impressed with some of the reading the children have done at home, please keep it up it really does make a difference to your children's progress.

## Year 4 News

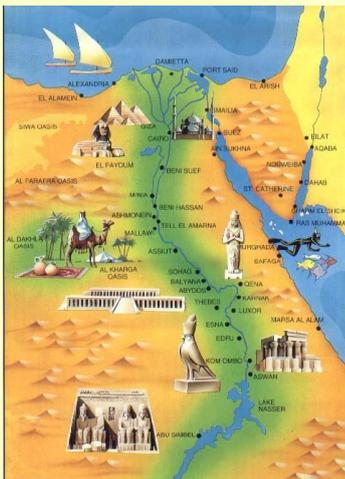
In Maths this week, we have continued to look at our times table facts as well as re-visiting negative numbers and rounding numbers. There is a rounding activity on Activelearn that the children can have a go at.

In English, we have been writing a recount about a memory and we have been trying to use a variety of time connectives rather than just saying "and then"!

In Geography, we looked at where Egypt is on a map and why the River Nile was so important to Ancient Egyptians ready for our history topic after Christmas. Before the Christmas holidays, we will hopefully make some boats in DT. Please can the children start collecting small boxes to use (about the size of box that oxo cubes come in or variety packs of cereal).

In RE, the children made their own Advent Wreaths learning about what the different elements mean. The children then led the school in our blessing of the Advent wreaths whole school collective worship this morning.

Our class mass is on Thursday 7th December at 9:20am, all family and friends are very welcome to join us.

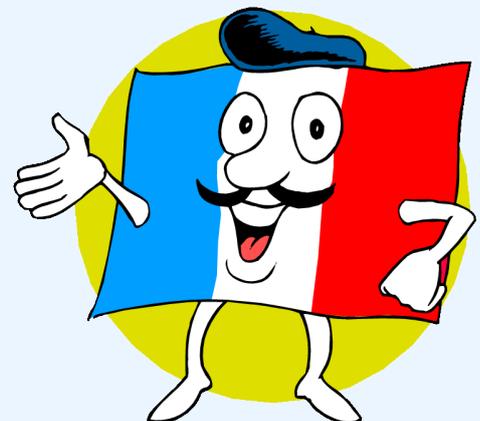


## Year 3 News

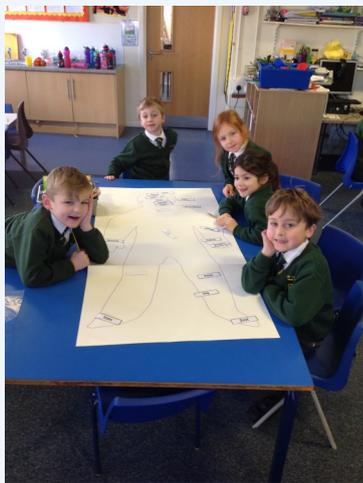
In English, this week we have been looking at humorous poems. We then we were put in groups and learnt the poems and added actions. After we practised them we then performed them in front of the class.

We have had lots of fun learning greetings in French this week. We played games and really tried to practise our French accent.

We have really got in the Christmas spirit this week, we have been doing lots of arts and crafts for Christmas. The children have really enjoyed making a card, calendar and decorations.



## Year 1 News



Year 1 have been getting into the Christmas spirit this week. In RE we have been making our advent promises, we had lots of lovely ideas how we could help those around us.

In English we have been learning how to follow then write instructions. We are now fantastic at making paper snowflakes!

In maths, we have been doing all about 2D and 3D shapes.

In science we were carrying on with our animals and us topic - we learnt all the different parts of the body.

To end the week we had a productive Christmas craft day, we were super busy with our Christmassy creations!

## OUR CLASS ADVENT WREATHS

On Friday, Year 4 led a wonderful collective worship explaining the importance of Advent.

We were joined by Father Lawrie who blessed our Advent Wreaths as we began preparation for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus at Christmas.



Year 3



Year 5



Year 4



Year 2



Year 1



Year 6



Year R



*Advent*  
A Season of Hope  
& Expectation

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT DAY

On Friday, the whole school took part in a Christmas Craft Day. We spent the day making festive decorations and Christmas cards. We had a lot of fun and it definitely got us in the Christmas Spirit!



On the Golden Table last week:  
Harry (YR), Orla G (Y3), Maja (Y4), Alicia (Y5)



Autumn Term 1	Class Mass	Class Assembly
Thurs Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>	Y4	
Tues Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mass - whole school	