St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Weekly Newsletter 20th December 2024



In this issue...

- Merry Christmas!
- Message from Governors
- Happy Retirement
- After School Club
- Super Athlete
- Carols on the Green
- Christmas Parties
- Diocesan Christmas
 Card Competition
- Ealing Foodbank
- Advent Service
- Beauty and the Beast
- Carol Singing
- Free Workshops

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of all of the staff at St. Joseph's, I wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. I pray that the New Year bring us all hope and renewed happiness and I look forward to welcoming your child

look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 6th January 2025.

Message from Governors

On behalf of the Governors, we would like to wish all our staff, children and families a happy and holy Christmas. We hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year for another successful term.

Anita and Hilary, Co-Chairs of Governors.

Sunday 22nd December 2024

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44



Elizabeth recognises the unique child that Mary carries within her

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.

Happy Retirement

Today we bade farewell and a happy retirement to Mrs. O'Rourke. She has served Catholic education for over 23 years. She has also been a very active member in the Parish and community and we will miss her. Today she received cards, presents and all of our good wishes for the future. Happy retirement!

Response from Mrs. O'Rourke... I would like to extend my thanks for all the kind words and generous gifts I have received over the past few days. It has been a privilege to work at St. Joseph's for the past 23 years, and it's incredibly difficult to leave a place where I have found so much happiness.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for the future. The children at St. Joseph's are truly amazing, and they are a wonderful reflection of their families.



Love Learn Believe



Reminder - After School Club

After school club will be closing at 4.30pm this afternoon. Please pick up your child by 4.30pm.

Super Athlete

On Sunday 15th December, Aminadab in 4GS raced in the London Olympic stadium over 2km in a time of 11 minutes and 22 seconds. He most enjoyed finishing the race and also getting a medal. He was very proud of himself as he was nearly at the front all the way. Well done Aminadab!

Carols on the Green

On Thursday afternoon, we were treated to Year 2's Carols on the Green. It was a lovely service delivered beautifully by the children. They sang and read wonderfully. Thank you to all the children who took part and to Miss Frost, Miss Fowler, Mr. Buckfield, Ms. Dobbin, Ms. Tybora-Pawlus and the rest of the Year 2 team who helped prepare the children. Our prayers were heard for a dry afternoon and I certainly enjoyed the carols and am still humming them as I write. Well done to all.

Class Christmas Parties

On Monday, all of the children enjoyed their class parties and had a fantastic time. I was able to get around a few classes and was very tempted to join in the games and dancing that was organised. I thank the PTA for organising for Santa to visit St. Joseph's. I am impressed that he was able to take time out his busy Christmas schedule to drop in and visit all the children and hand out goodies. Thank you also to the 72 children who brought in money for Christmas jumpers. We did not actually ask for donations as I felt we had asked for contributions prior to that. The money has been donated to Mary's Meals.

Diocesan Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to Maddy (6WL). She was a finalist in the competition which covered the whole of the Diocese. The organisers though that her card was fantastic!

Message from Ealing Foodbank

Thank you so much for your generous donation to Ealing Foodbank earlier this week. The total weight of the items you donated was 117kg. The food and other essential items which you kindly donated will go directly to those most in need in Ealing. Thank you so much.













Year 5 led Advent Service

On Tuesday evening, Year 5 children led the school Advent Service in the Church. The children's voices melted our hearts as they sang beautifully. The acoustics in the Church made the service even more special. The children who read added to the atmosphere with their clear delivery and message. Thank you to all the children who took part and to Mr. Wesolowski and Mrs. Ingham for their musical input. Thank you also to Mrs. Llewellyn, Miss Richardson, Mr. Sheehan, Ms. Males, Ms. Moat and Miss Law for preparing Year 5 so well. Thank you also to Father Julio who made sure the Church was warm and gave us a final blessing. We held a retiring collection in aid of CAFOD which raised £185.41. Thank you for your gener-



osity. For those who missed the service, here are two recordings from the evening: <u>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WwrU2X7ewbKDoztg4wVIM7kXqCSIuJ5T?usp=drive_link</u>

Beauty and the Beast

On Thursday, the children were treated to a pantomime, "Oh no they weren't", "Oh yes they were!" I hear you cry. The production of Beauty and the Beast was fun, loud and got all the children engaged. A special thank you to the PTA who funded the performances for the children, they loved it.



Carol Singing

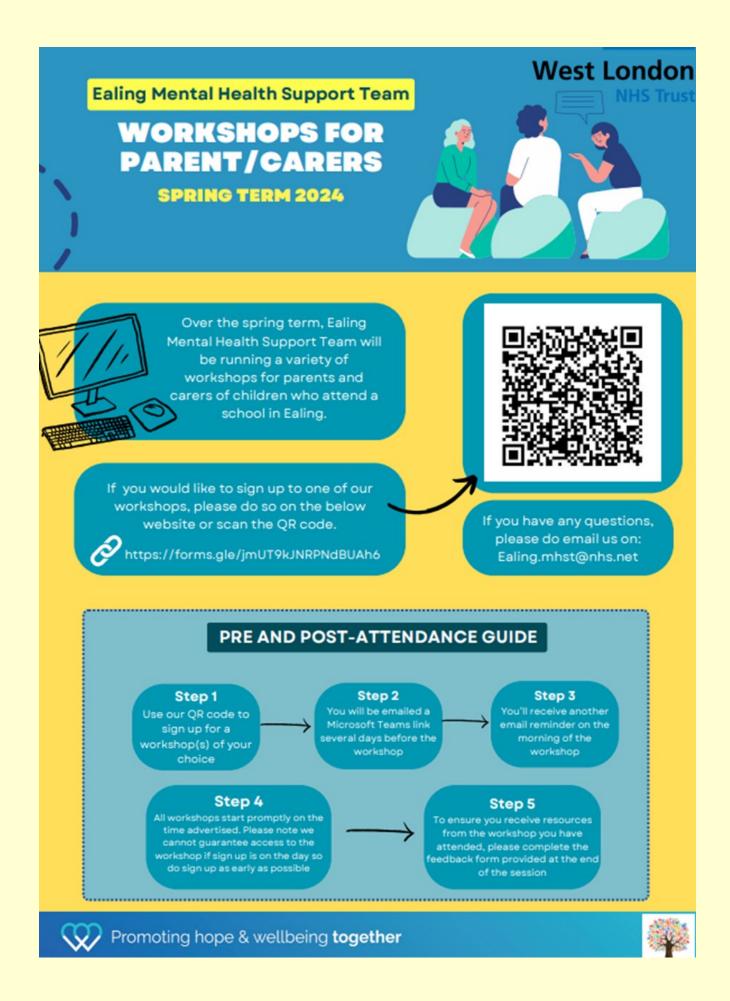
On Tuesday and Wednesday evening, our Carol Singers sang carols at Hanwell Station. They impressed commuters so much that they raised £282.14 (and a few Euros) for CAFOD. Well done to all the carol singers – current pupils, former pupils, mums and governors who turned up for this festive treat over the two days. Thank you to Mr. Wesolowski for organising the children and music and to Mr. Doak for helping to supervise. Apologies for Wednesday picture which only shows a fraction of the participants. This was down to a technical glitch with the later picture, my thumb!



Free Online Workshops or help

Please look at the back of the newsletter for free workshops and help.

Love Learn Believe



SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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This workshop is aimed at parents of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary** who would like to learn more about how to manage anxiety in young people, as well as helping to build their confidence.

Date: January 16th 2024 Time: 11am - 12:15pm

TEEN LOW MOOD

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This workshop is aimed at parents of **secondary**-aged children, who would like to know more about what may cause low mood and gain knowledge of strategies that can help to improve low mood.

Date: January 25th 2024 Time: 1pm - 2:15pm

AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM

This workshop is aimed at parents of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**, who would like to know more about Autism and how to support children where Autism may be suspected or diagnosed.

Date: January 26th 2024 Time: 1:30pm - 3:00pm

MANAGING EXAM STRESS

This workshop supports

parents of secondary-aged

children to identify and

manage exam stress in

strategies to promote

wellbeing in students before,

during and after exams.

Date: February 22nd 2024

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Time: 1pm - 2:15pm

SUPPORTING FRIENDSHIP IN CHILDREN

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This workshop is aimed at parents of **primary**-aged children to provide information to help you support your young person with building and managing friendships, including supporting with social anxiety.

Date: February 12th 2024 Time: 11am - 12:30pm

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UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH IN ADOLESCENT BOYS

This workshop supports parents of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the causes of declining mental health in adolescent boys and equips parents with strategies to promote positive mental health.

Date: March 14th 2024 Time: 11am - 12:30pm



This workshop is aimed at parents of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**. The workshop introduces how and why behaviours may occur in children with a range of additional needs, and how to support positive behaviours in

children.

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Date: February 13th 2024 Time: 11:30am - 1pm

AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM IN ADOLESCENTS

This workshop supports parents of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the changes and impact of adolescence within autism, equipping parents with strategies to promote positive mental health among autistic teenagers.

Date: March 19th 2024 Time: 10:30am - 12pm

SUPPORTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN CHILDREN

This workshop supports parents of **primary**-aged children. It introduces parents to common behavioural difficulties, factors that influence behaviour and strategies to manage your child's behaviour. It'll also consider the impact of screen time and how to promote boundaries with this.

Date: March 28th 2024 Time: 11am-12:30pm

Promoting hope & wellbeing together



Actonians Girls

Football For Girls of all ability aged 5-11 Starts Monday 6th January 2025 6-7pm Boddington Garden Sports Ground, W3 9AP email info@actonianslfc.com for more details