

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



HEAD TEACHER: MRS. A. D. THORPE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS. C. HORSLEY

Front Street, Stanley, Co. Durham. DH9 0NP
E.mail: stanleystjoseph@durhamlearning.net

Tel: 01207 232624
Website: www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk

13th December 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Here we are, ready for the final week at school, what a busy time it will be celebrating Nativity performances and Mass in church. We look forward to welcoming as many of you and your families as possible.

Appointments during the school day

Recently, a number of adults have been coming to school asking to collect children early for Dental, Doctors or Hospital appointments. In terms of safeguarding our children, staff cannot release children to adults without their parents express permission; in the form of either a letter or telephone call to the school office. It is obviously important that we are able to account for where our pupils are during the school day; we need to know that parents are in agreement with their children leaving school early with another adult. It would be hugely helpful for us if you could arrange as many of these appointments outside of the school day or during the school holidays, however where this is not possible please could you send a copy of the appointment letter into school, or bring it to the school office and we will copy it for you.

Children's behaviour once they have been collected

As you know, when children are dismissed to their parents in the schoolyard they are then the responsibility of their parent/carer. Staff do not supervise children after that as they may be busy speaking to other parents or returning into school for meetings etc. Please can I ask you to ensure that your child(ren) stay with you and don't run around unsupervised. This will avoid any unnecessary accidents or unwelcome behaviour.

Polar Express Day

Reception are amazingly fortunate to have a Polar Express activity day on Wednesday 19th Dec. Please come dressed in PJ's and school shoes, slippers can be worn once they are inside.

Thank you for the Drive in Movie Night

What a wonderful evening we all had on Wednesday, with children dressed in their PJ's ready to enjoy hot chocolate, marshmallows, gingerbread men and a Christmas movie. Children had obviously had a great deal of fun decorating their cardboard box sleigh's with parents and grandparents.

Christmas Party

Thank you to all parents who have sent in a voluntary donation towards the cost of the Christmas Party. We really appreciate all your support – all your £2's help. Donations can still be sent in next week.

End of Term Mass - Thursday 20th December

Please come and join us in celebrating Mass on the last day of term. It will be a joyous way to start your Christmas celebrations.

Afterschool Clubs

Letters will be sent out in the first week of next term to enable you to book places in the wide variety of clubs staff offer pupils. So far this term children have accessed: Nature Club, Computer Club, Community Club, Science Club, Netball Club, Story Club, Multi-Skills Club, Film Club, Art Club, Dance Club and Running Club to name but a few!!

Chapel Update

In more fantastic news, Father has now blessed our Chapel on Tuesday 4th December, so it is open for everyone to enjoy and benefit from. We would like to invite anyone who would like to come and visit the Chapel to come into school on Monday 17th Dec between 2:45pm and 3:15pm. For those who are unable to make that slot, don't worry as there are lots of photographs going into the school newspaper next week.

Change of finishing time to Reception

As part of our on-going transition from Reception to full-time school, from January 7th 2019, all Reception children will be dismissed at 3:05pm from the main schoolyard. This will also ensure that families have less time to wait to collect older siblings.

Parish News

There is a Partnership Christmas Social Evening at Consett Football Club on 22nd December, Christine Byrne still has some tickets in the Parish Office, please contact her for further details (telephone 299012). A Family New Year's Eve Disco at Stanley Masonic Hall has been organised. The tickets cost £5.00 each and the event will run from 6:30pm – 10:00pm. Tickets are available from the school office or contact Dave Caulfield for further information.

House Points

House points for this week are as follows, well done to everyone for all their hard work.

St Bede – 453 House Points

St Cuthbert – 359 House Points

St Aidan – 405 House Points

St Oswald – 390 House Points

Well done to the winning house, St Bede, for this week. All the children have worked exceptionally hard to earn their House Points, we are very proud of each and every one of them.

Attendance of the Week

As you are all aware attendance is hugely important, we want all of our pupils to be in school learning. The attendance for this week is as follows:

Reception	96.6%
Year 1	97.3%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	93.7%
Year 4	96.0%
Year 5	98.3%
Year 6	94.3%

Many congratulations to Year 5 who had the best attendance this week, those pupils will be rewarded with an extra slot of fun-time! This gives the school an overall weekly attendance of 96.23% for the week – Well Done!

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful weekend and arrive back in school rested on Monday for the last week of festive fun before Christmas!

Kind regards,

Mrs A. D. Thorpe
Headteacher

The Autumn Term 'Dates for the Diary'

Date	Details of the Events (Updated 14/12/2018)
November	
1/11/2018 8:30am	Nurse Alison – Whole school Health Profile
1/11/2018 11:00am	All Saints Day Mass in Church – Year 5 & Year 6 to attend – All are welcome
6/11/2018	Year 3 Stone Age Day
7/11/2018	Flu immunisations for R to Y5 in school
8/11/2018	Shoe Box Appeals – boxes will be collected today from school. Details to follow
11/11/2018 11am	Remembrance Day Mass lead by the Bishop - All are welcome
12/11/2018 9:15am	Remembrance Service in school followed by a Y6 memorial at the church Cenotaph – all are welcome to attend
12/11/2018	'Odd Socks Day' for Anti Bullying week
12/11/2018 – 16/11/2018	Anti-bullying Week – There will be a number of events going on in all the classes at an age appropriate level
12/11/2018 – 16/11/2018	Parliamentary Week – Pupils will be learning about the British Values of democracy and fair elections
15/11/2018	Gemma Gibbons to visit school – Inspiring our pupils to be a better version of themselves
16/11/2018	Children in Need – 'Do your Thing!' Own clothes or activities outfit
16/11/2018	Carol Henderson from the Woodland Trust – Whole school assembly
19/11/2018 9:15am	Year 4 families are invited to come to their Class Liturgy in the school hall
26/11/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 1 – Year 1 & Year 2 Families only in the school hall
27/11/2018 – 28/11/2018	Northern Dance – in school working with all pupils on the meaning of our Northern Saints: St Bede, St Oswald, St Cuthbert, St Aidan
30/11/2018 2:00pm	Christingle Service in Church as it will give us more space – All are welcome
30 th November 2018	Last Afterschool Club Session for the term except for multiskills and netball
December	
03/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 2 – Year 3 & Year 4 Families only in the school hall
4/12/2018 10:30am – 11:30am	Prayer Stations set up in school around the Theme of 'Say Yes to God's Love' All are welcome to come and drop into school at any point in that hour
4/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – All welcome
4/12/2018 10:00am	Father Kevin to bless the new St Joseph's School Chapel
10/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 3 – Year 5 Families only in the school hall
11/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – (Cancelled by Father Kevin as he was away)
12/12/2018	Christmas Lunch in school
12/12/2018 4:30pm	Christmas Drive in Movie Night – Tickets will issued nearer the time
13/12/18	Last afterschool club for multiskills (11/12/218) and netball (13/12/18)
14/12/2018 am	Reception and KS1 Gibside Trail – information to follow
14/12/2018 2:30pm	Carols by Candlelight in Church as it will give us more space – All welcome
17/12/2018 9:15am	Advent Liturgy 4 – Year 6 Families only in the school hall
17/12/2018 2:45pm – 3:15pm	The Chapel is open for visitors – please feel free to come and spend some quiet moments in prayer – it's a really peaceful place.
18/12/2018 9:30am	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Nativity Families
18/12/2018 2:00pm	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Nativity Families
18/12/2018 5:30pm	Bedtime Stories in Church – All welcome
19/12/2018	Polar Express Activity Day (PJ's and school shoes)
19/12/2018 9:30am	Year3, Year4, Year5 & Year6 Christmas Production Families
19/12/2018 2:00pm	Year3, Year4, Year5 & Year6 Christmas Production Families
20/12/2018 9:30am	End of Term Mass in Church – All are welcome
20/12/2018	Christmas Disco in school (Party clothes changed into at school after lunch)

Christmas Holidays	
21/21/2018-06/01/2019	Christmas Holidays including an Inset Day on 21/12/2018