

# 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](mailto:stanleystjoseph@durhamlearning.net)

Tel: 01207 232624  
Website: [www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk](http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk)

29th November 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Uniform

A reminder that in bad weather children can come to school in boots/wellies, however they **MUST** bring their school shoes to change into. Boots are **NOT** to be worn in school.

## Season of Advent

The season of Advent is almost upon us. Sunday 1st December is the first Sunday of Advent and in school, your children will learn about Advent as being the time to prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas and that it is a time for us to get ready. Inviting and welcoming visitors, and preparing for them are all part of this topic which gives perspective to the Christmas Story and its background.

Each child in school will receive a purple ribbon. Your children can wear these on their school jumpers each day during Advent. Children may also wear the nativity pin badges they received last year.

We invite you to support your children's learning about Advent/Christmas at home by:

- Reception/Year 1/Year 2 – Travelling Crib
- Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 – Class Advent Prayer Journals.

During Advent, we will be collecting food items (tins, packets etc) and toiletries (bubble bath, shampoo etc) which we will then donate in a Christmas Hamper to Stanley Women's Refuge.

Thank you for your continued support.

## Christmas Cards

Cards can be posted in the Christmas post box next to the Christmas Tree. Please remember to put the child's class on the envelope as well as their name. Please also put cards together by class with an elastic band.

## Drive-in Christmas Movie Night

The Drive in Christmas Movie Night is on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm. There are still tickets available. If your child is at an After-School Club that day they can still attend the club and bring their pyjama's/onesies/dressing gowns with them to school to get changed into. Please bring sleighs at the end of the school day as we have no where to store them during the day.

## The SUN Free Books

We are collecting the tokens from the SUN and/or The SUN on Sunday between 23<sup>rd</sup> November and 18<sup>th</sup> January. If you or your family/friends read the SUN we would be grateful if you could keep the tokens and hand them into the school. There are some great books within the pack which are relevant for children throughout the whole school.



### Carols by Candlelight

Fr Dermott has informed us that we are unable to have access to the church until 1.45 pm therefore the Carols by Candle light **for the whole school on 18<sup>th</sup> December will be at 2.00 pm** – everyone welcome in church.

### Feeding Families

Please send in any of the above items with your children either on the day allocated on the advent calendar or any time before 13 December 2019.

The food items needed for the hampers are:

- Sponge or Christmas Pudding
- Custard/White Sauce
- Gravy Granules
- Cake (Christmas, Chocolate Log, Chocolate Rolls etc)
- Chocolates or Sweets
- Mince Pies
- Savoury Snacks (e.g. crisps)
- Coffee and Tea
- Squash, UHT fruit juice or fizzy non-alcoholic drinks
- Chocolate Biscuits
- Breakfast Cereal (Medium)
- Jam, Marmalade, or Chocolate Spread
- Part Baked Bread
- Cooking Sauce
- Pasta
- Tinned Tuna/Meat
- Baked Beans/Tinned Spaghetti
- Soup
- Tinned Veg (e.g. sweetcorn, carrots)
- Handwash
- Shampoo
- Shower Gel

If you know of any family who would appreciate one of these hampers, please let Mrs Thorpe know.

### Advent Liturgies

Thank you to Year 1 and Year 2 who led us in our first Advent Liturgy. The children were wonderful. We look forward to welcoming you into school to enjoy the remaining 3 Liturgies.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 9:15am Year 3 and Year 4 families are invited into the school hall
- 9<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am Year 5 families are invited into the school hall
- 16<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am Year 6 families are invited into the school hall

The school doors will open at 9.05 am after all the children have safely arrived in school.

Please ensure that you do not bring hot drinks into school such as tea or coffee during these events as we do not want any accidents and anyone burnt. You will be asked to leave your hot drink outside, in future.

### School Fund Contributions and Voluntary Donations

Thank you very much for your continuing contributions to school fund – so far this year we have received **£254.50** via Parent Pay. As you know, School Fund is used to subsidise trips, activities and events for all children throughout the school year.



The table below shows the cost of some of the additional experiences we have provided so far this year, the donations that we have received so far and the current cost to the school:

Trip	Cost per person	Donation's received	Cost to School
Sunderland Empire	£11.00	£992.70	£3600.00 - £1,000 grant from Stanley Town Council
Christmas Party	£3.00	£174.00	£627.00

Once again, thank you very much for all the support you give to school, it is very much appreciated. If you have not set up your Parent Pay account and require your details and/or further assistance please contact the school office. There is also an iPad held in the office if you need to use it to access ParentPay.

### Charity Donations

Thank you once again for your wonderful support and donations to our chosen charities that we support throughout the school year. We raised £110 for the Youth Ministry Trust with our non-uniform day on Wednesday

### Flu-Like Illness and Diarrhoea/Vomiting in Schools

I have attached a letter from Public Health England promoting the use of good hygiene and information with regard to flu.

### Attendance of the Week

As you are all aware attendance is hugely important, we want all of our pupils to be in school learning. Punctuality is also really important, we often see children getting upset if they are continually brought into school late, we appreciate you all working with us and supporting your children to be in the school yard by 8:50am ready to line up and come into school with their peers.

The attendance for this week is as follows:

Reception	90.0%	Year 1	95.4%	Year 2	94.8%		
Year 3	95.3%	Year 4	96.7%	Year 5	91.3%	Year 6	91.0%

Many congratulations to Year 4 for 96.7% attendance, they will be rewarded with an extra slot of outdoor time in the sunshine! The overall attendance for the whole school this week was 93.5% - we really want to have as many of our children in school as possible everyday – remember your child needs to be in school to learn!

Copies of all letters and dates for your diary are on our website – Letters to Parents page <http://www.stanley-pri.durham.sch.uk/?s=letters+to+parents>

As always, I hope you all have had a safe and restful weekend ready for the new week.

Yours sincerely,

*A D Thorpe*

Mrs A D Thorpe  
Headteacher

