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Newsletter no. 5

4th December 2020

### Upcoming events

**Monday 7th December**  
Reception Christmas Party

**Tuesday 8th December**  
Y1 Christmas Party

**Wednesday 9th December**  
Y2 Christmas Party

**Thursday 10th December**  
Y3 Christmas Party

**Friday 11th December**  
Nursery Christmas Party  
(morning)

Y4 Christmas Party

**Monday 14th December**  
Y5 Christmas Party

Christmas Carols video to  
be shared

**Tuesday 15th December**  
Y6 Christmas Party

Nursery & Reception  
Nativities to be shared

**Wednesday 16th  
December**

Christmas Dinner  
Reception, Y1, Y3 & Y5

**Thursday 17th December**  
Christmas Dinner  
Y2, Y4 & Y6

**Friday 18th December**  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Christmas Stories with Mr  
Craig

End of Term

### Dear Parents

Even though we all recognise that this will be a Christmas like no other, it is still very important, especially for our younger pupils, that we continue with the normal activities (even if in an adapted "safe" format) and enjoyment that takes place at this time of year.

### Winter Weather

The weather is getting colder and so I wanted to remind you that, in the unlikely event that school would have to close due to extremely bad weather (or any other reason for that matter), we will inform parents as early as possible via email, the School's website as well as our facebook and twitter feeds. We always strive to stay open, even in very difficult circumstances. Continuing with the weather theme, a note on the need for pupils to wear outdoor coats. It is extremely important that pupils come to school with a sufficiently warm coat. This is even more important this year as we will be going outside as much as we can at the moment.

### Local Heroes

An amazing well done to Charlie (Y4), Declan (Y5) and Chloe (Y6) who delivered their Local Heroes presentations to the BCCET Trust judges. All three presentations were outstanding and we should hear soon whether they were successful in getting through to the next round!

### New staff

We welcomed two new members of staff this week into our kitchen. Rachel Price (Cook) and Joanna Klosa (Kitchen assistants) both started in our school on Tuesday. Also, Rachael King will be starting with us next week in her role of lunchtime supervisor.

### Nursery & Reception places

Another reminder that applications to Reception closes on January 15th 2021. Parents must apply before this deadline so that they can be shortlisted for a place in our school for September 2021. If you know of families who are looking for places for their child in September, we have produced a new prospectus which is available on our website.

### Christmas Parties

Our Christmas parties begin next week, starting with Reception class on Monday (a reminder for all dates are in the section to the left). Parents only need to concentrate on their child's outfit this year! All foodstuffs have been taken care of, thanks to the Friends of Children. Children can come to school in their party outfit in the morning, rather than our tradition of them going home to get changed.

### Christmas baubles

Thank you to everyone who has helped decorate our outdoor festive fence! Remember, you can still add a bauble to our decorations. We ask that you add them when you drop your child in the mornings as this is usually the quietest time of the day. We also have outdoor baubles available for £1 which you can decorate with your child's name if you wish.

### **Hope for Christmas**

Thank you to the staff and parents who have donated the cost of their Christmas cards to our chosen Christmas charity this year. Remember, instead of buying cards for children in the class this year, you can donate the costs of cards to -

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/St-Joseph-s-Primary-School-Jarrow-Tyne-and-Wear>

### **Travelling Cribs**

If you have a photo of your child using the travelling crib sheet we sent home, please can you send them into our enquiries email as we are making a video of them. Thanks.

### **The Legends Family Challenge**

How much does your family know about online safety? Win prizes for our school with The Legends Family Challenge! The Legends Family Adventure is a three-part animated series following a family of Internauts through Interland. It was developed by Google and Parent Zone as part of the Be Internet Legends programme — helping children to be safer and more confident online. When Lumen's bear goes missing, the whole family must brave Interland to get it back. Along the way, the family learns lessons from the Legends Code — including helpful tips on what to do with cyberbullies, how to spot scams and set strong passwords, as well as important lessons on kindness. And, Lumen discovers they're stronger and braver than they ever thought they could be. Once you've watched the films, it is time to test your family's online safety knowledge by entering The Legends Family Challenge, proving your legendary status and maybe even winning some prizes for our school along the way. You can find out more about the free family resources from The Be Internet Legends programme by visiting [parents.parentzone.org.uk/legendsfamilyadventure](https://parents.parentzone.org.uk/legendsfamilyadventure)

### **Social Distancing**

May we remind parents of the importance of the one way system we operate and to keep your distance from others. Adults must enter the school grounds past the Church entrance and exit via the Black Path gate and not congregate causing an obstruction. Please keep your children with you at all times.

### **Packed Lunch Boxes**

Please can we ask that pupils bring their packed lunches in a disposable bag rather than a plastic packed lunch box.

### **...And Finally**

We will focus calmly on what we can do in the coming weeks and months. Even if the situation keeps changing, we will keep responding, and, on behalf of everyone at St Joseph's Primary School, I want to thank you for your on-going support and flexibility in these increasingly challenging times.



Take care,

Mr P Craig