

December 2017

Dear Parents

The pupils and teachers are busy preparing for this joyous season.

The calendar is updated every month so please check.



DIARY OF EVENTS – AUTUMN 2017



DECEMBER 2017

Monday 4 th	Reception class visit to Crayford Library After school – Year 6 boys Football Team – One Form Entry Cup Tournament at Goals
Tuesday 5 th	2.30 pm – 3.00 pm - Years 5 and 6 Carolthon at Bexleyheath Broadway – please complete the permission slip
Wednesday 6 th	3.30 pm – 6.30 pm Open Evening – appointments have been sent
Thursday 7 th	Year 5 boys invite to St Columba's to meet leading author – Dan Freeman 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm Open Evening – appointments have been sent
Friday 8 th	9.15 am – Years 3 and 4 Class Mass in church – parents invited
Monday 11 th	2.30 pm – Infant Nativity – Years R, 1 and 2 – parents invited – ticket only event – ticket letter sent, please return
Tuesday 12 th	pm – Christmas Show – Beauty and the Beast at school – pupils only
Wednesday 13 th	Christmas Party Day – children to wear own clothes, school Christmas dinner 1.30 pm - Christmas Discos Visit from Father Christmas
Monday 18 th	1.30 pm - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Carol Service – parents invited followed by tea, coffee and mince pies in the church hall after the service
Tuesday 19 th	CRIBS Christmas Play Year 5 to sing at Wolsley House for the Alzheimer's Society
Wednesday 20 th	Last day of term
 <p>Christmas Holidays Thursday 21st December 2017 – Tuesday 2nd January 2018 (children return on Wednesday 3rd January 2018)</p> 	
JANUARY 2018	
Wednesday 3 rd	Children return to school
Friday 5 th	10.00 am – Year 3 visiting Shenstone School Playground to study forces for their topic – Mighty Metals
Wednesday 10 th	7.00 pm – PTA meeting
Friday 12 th	9.15 am – Year 3 and 4 Class Mass in church – parents invited After school – Year 6 boys football match – home game to St Stephen's
Thursday 18 th	9.15 am – Year 6 Class Assembly – parents invited 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm – Key Stage 2 Basketball Workshop – selected pupils at St Columba's

Wednesday 24 th	Year 5 Trip – Hall Place
Thursday 25 th	9.15 am – Year 1 Class Assembly – parents invited
Tuesday 30 th	Able Maths Workshops – Years 3 and 4
Wednesday 31 st	Townley Science Club – invited pupils only
FEBRUARY 2018	
Friday 2 nd	9.15 am – Year 2 and Year 5 Class Mass in church – parents invited 7.30 pm - PTA Quiz Night – keep the date!
Tuesday 6 th	Year 4 trip to Sea Life Centre Hastings – Blue Reef topic
HALF TERM Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2018	
Tuesday 20 th	9.15 am CAFOD Assembly – Juniors
Wednesday 21 st	9.15 am Mission Together Assembly – Infants Lunchtime - Year 3 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
Thursday 22 nd	9.15 am – Year 5 Class Assembly – parents invited
Tuesday 27 th	Year 3 trip to Museum of Kent Life – Tribal Tales topic
Wednesday 28 th	Lunchtime - Year 4 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
MARCH	
Thursday 1 st	St David's Day – Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies wear uniform
Friday 2 nd	Year 6 Junior Citizen Event
Wednesday 7 th	Lunchtime - Year 5 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
Friday 9 th	9.15 am – Year 1 and 6 Class Mass in church – parents invited
Wednesday 14 th	Lunchtime - Year 6 Easter Enterprise Sale – junior classes to bring in pocket money (maximum £1.00 in change)
Thursday 15 th	9.15 am – Year 2 Class Assembly – parents invited
Monday 19 th	9.15 am – St Joseph's Feast Day Mass – parents invited – Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies wear uniform Chicks arrive!
Tuesday 20 th	RE Art Day
Wednesday 21 st	Year 2 trip to Chatham Dockyard – Land Ahoy topic am - Catholic Choral Competition for school choir
Thursday 22 nd	Football Workshop – junior children at St Columba's
Friday 23 rd	After School Discos organised by the PTA (letter to follow): - 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm - Infants - 6.30 pm – 8.00 pm – Juniors
Monday 26 th	3.30 pm – 6.30 pm - Open Evening – appointments to be sent nearer the time
Tuesday 27 th	11.15 am – CRIBS Easter Play 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm - Open Evening – appointments to be sent nearer the time
Thursday 29 th	9.15 am – Years 3 and 4 Easter Service – parents invited
Easter Holidays Friday 30th March 2018 - Friday 13th April 2018 INSET Day – Monday 16th April 2018 (children return on Tuesday 17th April 2018)	

Details of all our regular school clubs are detailed below

Day	Club	Dates and Times
Mondays	Pro Futures Football Club Years 3, 4 and 5 Contact www.profuressoccer.com 01322 278677	3.15 – 4.30 pm 11 th September – 11 th December
	Orchestra – Mrs Martin Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 18 th September – 11 th December
Wednesdays	Dance Club – Mrs Sweeting Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Contact 07984 952445	3.15 – 4.15 pm 13 th September – 13 th December
	Tiny Artists (contact club directly) phoebefricker@googlemail.com Contact 07891 733059 – Phoebe Fricker	3.15 – 4.15 pm 13 th September – 13 th December
Thursdays	Pro Futures Football Club Years 1 and 2 Contact www.profuressoccer.com 01322 278677	3.15 – 4.30 pm 14 th September – 14 th December
	Mathletics – Mrs Vidler Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 21 st September – 14 th December
	Choir – Mrs Martin Please contact via your child's Contact Book	12.45 pm – 1.15 pm 14 th September – end of term
Fridays	Football Club – Mr Hobson Years 6	3.15 – 4.20 pm 15 th September – 15 th December
	Netball Club – Mrs May Years 5 and 6 Please contact via your child's Contact Book	3.15 – 4.15 pm 15 th September – 15 th December

Smiley Ark Breakfast Club – 7.30 am – 8.45 am – Monday - Friday
After School Club – 3.15 pm – 6.00 pm – Monday - Friday

For further details please contact Susan Ikpefuran on 07956 263531 or e-mail kids@smileyark.com

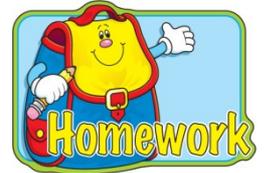
**Clubs re-start in January, second week back beginning
8th January 2018**



NEWSLETTER

Support with English Homework Presentations

About 30% of parents came to our recent English, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar workshops. Parents left the presentations with a greater understanding of the terminology associated with the new English Curriculum. For parents who were not able to attend, we are currently in the processes of uploading the presentations for each year group onto our school website www.stjosephcrayford.org.uk Take a look over the next few weeks.



Open Evenings – Wednesday 6th/Thursday 7th December 2017

Appointment letters have been sent home via pupil post. Apologies for the 'typo'; Open Evenings are on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December 2017. It is very important that parents meet their child's teacher for a progress report and an opportunity to look at your child's work. Children will be at their happiest and most successful when school and home can work together.



Sports Premium

The sports coaches on the junior playground at lunchtimes ensure everyone has the opportunity for an active lunchtime whilst also helping to improve their sporting skills.



The school has entered a number of sports competitions this term. The boys and girls Year 6 football teams have had a number of matches and show increasing skill and confidence.

The speed stacking teams from Years 3 and 4 did particularly well and were awarded the Team of the Competition certificate for the most skilled team.

The year 5 and 6 handball teams enjoyed the match competition against Royal Park and showed real competitiveness combined with a strong sense of team spirit. Well done everyone.

Internet Safety!

Don't forget if Santa is bringing new computers, iPads and games to the children this Christmas it is very important that parents understand the potential risks and how to keep their children safer. Take a look at these videos available on You Tube to understand some of the associated hazards of unsupervised internet access:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lOOon2wR8bU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ApfDVJbcS0>



Primary Reception Places – September 2018

The application period is now open. The 'Admission to Primary Schools in Bexley 2018' booklet is available to view at www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions and the school office have a number of paper copies. Applications must be made online to www.eadmissions.org for Bexley residents. The closing date for applications is the 15th January 2018. For Kent residents the website is <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places> and the closing date is also the 15th January 2018. Our Supplementary Form is available on our school website or paper copies are available from the school office. This must be completed by all families and returned directly to the school.

Car Parking and Behaviours

Fr Ignatius has noted a number of parents starting to use the car park again. Please be advised that this is not the school car park and I ask we respect Father's wishes.



I also have had a few neighbours and parents expressing concern over poor parking and dropping off/collection habits. Please do not park in front of Shenstone gates or on the school Zig Zag lines. Also stopping in the middle of the road and letting children run into school is very dangerous!

Concern has also been expressed by someone witnessing a parent acting aggressively towards their child. Life is full of stresses and strains but please remember what it important.

PTA



The children had a great time at the November PTA disco. Thank you to all the PTA members who gave their time to support the event, a total of £535.00 profit was made. The PTA has already started planning events for 2018. A 50p Tuck Shop Friday will start the second Friday back in January and the Parents/Friends of St Joseph's Quiz Night will be on Friday 2nd February 2018.

The Chair of our PTA has asked me to remind you not to forget to sign up for St Joseph's School Lottery. There is a guaranteed cash prize to one of our supporters every week, plus a chance to win £25,000! To start supporting, please visit www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for St Josephs without the apostrophe.



Cold Weather

Please ensure children wear coats to school. It would be most helpful if all garments are labelled, including gloves, scarves and hats. Please avoid animal hat/scarf combinations as these are so big they are difficult to hang up.

Should there be adverse weather conditions, please find listed below the system to inform you that the school is closed or will be closing early due to poor weather.

To check to see if the school is open the 'Open Check' service can be viewed on-line by following a link on the school website. The autotext system will be used if the school needs to close early during the school day.



For parents without access to the internet, the status can be checked by calling 0208 408 7508 and keying in our DfE code which is 3033502.



SIMS Agora – Online Parent Payment System

In the New Year the school will be introducing a new online payment system for paying for school dinners and school trips. Parents will be able to access the system using their child's log in details. The system is widely used across schools and is secure. Please look out for information in the New Year including your log in details. Mrs Heron will be running a number of workshops to support parents in setting up the system. Parents may choose to continue to pay by cash or cheque for the foreseeable future if they wish to.



Well Done

Well done to Samuel O for winning the Bexleyheath Broadway 'Design a Christmas Card' competition. We are all very proud.

Metropolitan Police – Christmas Tree Project

This Christmas, give a present to a child in your borough who might not otherwise receive one. Please visit www.met.police.uk/christmastree



Love in a Box

Thank you for your generosity. It is a lovely feeling to think that the gift chosen by you and your children will make a child's Christmas a happy one, in some distant part of the world where there might not be too much else to be happy about.

St Mary of the Crays – Thank You

Thank you to all parents who donated a bottle for the tombola. The Church Bazaar was a great success and I know Fr Ignatius appreciates the support given by the school.



Christmas Dates for your Diaries

Please find attached the Christmas dates for your diaries.

Writer of the Week

Each week a teacher nominates a child who has produced an excellent piece of work or has considerably improved their writing. November's winners were:

Year R	Zoya	Kekoa	Arwa
Year 1	Daisy	Florence	Lilly
Year 2	Erykah	Lucy	Jazeel
Year 3	Anna	Annie	Derin
Year 4	Isabella	Brianna	Niamh
Year 5	Annalise	Connor	-
Year 6	Samuel	Honey	Malika

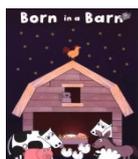


Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas!

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Sinclair
Head Teacher

CHRISTMAS 2017 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Infant Christmas Production

The infant Christmas production will take place in school on Monday 11th December 2017 at 2.30 pm. A ticket request letter has already been sent out; please reply in order to receive tickets.

Junior Christmas Carol Service/Coffee and Mince Pie Event

The Junior Carol Concert will take place in church on Monday 18th December 2017 at 1.30 pm and will be followed by mince pies and coffee in the church hall. All welcome. Donations of mince pies would be most welcome from Monday 11th December onwards.



Donations for St Joseph's Grand Raffle

We are holding a 'Grand Christmas Raffle' with lots of lovely prizes! The draw will take place on Monday 18th December 2017 during the serving of coffee and mince pies, for parents and parishioners, following the Junior Carol Concert. A letter was sent out yesterday with raffle tickets attached.

Donations are needed for our Grand Raffle. If you would like to donate a gift for our Grand Christmas Raffle i.e. box of biscuits, chocolates, Christmas cake etc – please ensure perishable items have a sell buy date of at least 31st December 2017. All monies raised will go to the school Voluntary Fund that is used for the extra expenses the school has to incur during the year, this includes end of term treats, discos and subsidy for outings.



Christmas Show

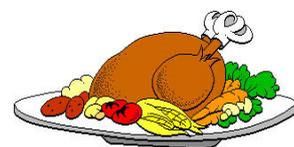
On Tuesday 12th December 2017 there will be a production of Beauty and the Beast performed to children in Years R - 6. This will be paid for by the school from School Fund and Pupil Premium money.

Christmas Party Day

Father Christmas will be visiting St Joseph's on Wednesday 13th December 2017 and there will be a School Disco in the school hall for all the children. Children may come to school in their party clothes for the day but please remember to dress sensibly for the weather as children will be going out on the playground for breaks.

Christmas Lunch

This year our Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 13th December 2017. All children can opt to have Christmas dinner. If your child currently has a packed lunch and you wish your child to have a Christmas dinner please indicate on the slip below. We require the £2.30 payment no later than Friday 8th December 2017.



Christmas Production

Christian Resources in Bexley (CRIBS) will be performing to the whole school on Tuesday 19th December 2017 – children only.



Christmas Holidays



The last day of term is Wednesday 20th December 2017. Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.

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RETURN NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2017

CHRISTMAS DINNER – WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER – ONLY TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN HAVE PACKED LUNCHES.

I would like my son/daughter to have a Christmas dinner this year.

Name of child/ren Year (s):

Signed.....

I enclose £2.30 per child (Junior classes only)

