



St Joseph's Catholic Primary
We follow in St Joseph's footsteps building a community of love, trust, respect and learning.



Dear Parents and carers



As we approach the end of this term, it is with a sense of reflection and gratitude that we consider the meaningful experiences our children have enjoyed. This past week, we began our journey by contemplating the significance of Advent, taking a moment to light the third Advent candle. Advent is a period of hope; a hope in anticipation of the forthcoming celebration of our Lord and the hope we continue to nurture for one another within our vibrant school community.

We were particularly delighted to welcome Kay from our local library, who presented our school with a special award recognising the tremendous participation of our children in the Winter Reading Challenge. Congratulations to all who took part; your enthusiasm for reading is commendable and serves to inspire a love of literature that will benefit you for years to come.

The past week was filled with wonderful events that showcased the talents of our pupils. On Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon, our youngest children dazzled us with their Nativity performance. It is hard to express the immense pride I felt for each child as I recognise the apprehension that can accompany performing in front of an audience. Their efforts were truly commendable and embraced the essence of the season. Following this, Thursday showcased our Year 6 pupils, who presented marvellous performances that demonstrated the skills they have honed with the 'We are Music' group. These performances were a testament to their hard work and dedication, leaving the audience thoroughly entertained.



To conclude our term, we held a heartfelt Christingle service; my sincere thanks to all who attended and contributed to its success. This gathering provided a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in celebration, imbued with the spirit of giving. The afternoon was followed by a delightful Carols service, which resonated deeply within our hearts and evoked the festive spirit in us all. It was touching to witness the unity and joy that these celebrations brought forth.

The pennies for the playground incentive has now finished and we have raised an amazing £1105.54, thank you so much to everybody who has contributed. What an amazing amount! Also, Mr. Gueizelar and the PTA are planning something interesting for their next PTA event. Myself and the staff are slightly nervous about what we have agreed too. More information coming soon.

As we look ahead to the next halfterm, please note that Monday will be a Non-Pupil Day, and we eagerly await the return of all children to school on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we will gather for a Jubilee Mass to celebrate the Pope's New Year message of hope. Additionally, on Thursday, our Year 1 and Year 2 children will set forth on an exciting journey as they partake in their first swimming lesson, marking an important milestone in their education.



As we reach the conclusion of what has been a very busy and successful term, I would like to take this occasion to reflect on our shared achievements as we approach the joyous season of Christmas. We should feel immensely proud of what we have accomplished together—staff, pupils, parents/carers, and governors alike. At St Joseph's, our mission stands firm; we aim to guide every pupil towards the fullness of life through the values of Catholic education. This commitment drives us to ensure that all pupils receive the necessary support to achieve their academic potential, whilst providing abundant opportunities for them to express their faith and values through service to others.

It has been heartening to witness our pupils making an excellent start to the academic year and engaging actively across various facets of school life this term. They have participated in liturgies, fundraising and charity events, school trips, sporting fixtures, concerts, and community activities, creating a rich tapestry of experiences.

A particular highlight for me has been the BCCS concerts; it was truly a moving experience to observe our pupils perform with confidence on stage. Congratulations to all who played a part in these productions, which heralded the festive season and reinforced the true meaning of Christmas. Furthermore, our recent Christmas bazaar proved to be a remarkable occasion, uniting families and friends within our community. The overwhelming level of support for this event was heartening, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to its success.

As we draw near to the festive period, I would be remiss not to express my gratitude to the dedicated staff at St Joseph's, who consistently go above and beyond to ensure that every child is cared for and valued. Equally, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to you, our parents and carers, for the crucial support provided throughout this term. Your unwavering commitment has not gone unnoticed and plays an invaluable role in shaping the positive environment we cherish in our school.

In closing, I wish you all God's blessings this Christmas and extend my best wishes for good health and happiness in the New Year.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous festive season.

Take care—God bless—Mrs. Golding

On behalf of the school governors, I should like to wish all parents, carers and pupils a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. I am sure you will join with us in thanking our staff for their continued hard work and commitment. Thank you for your support of our school and the contribution everyone has made to the PTA fundraising activities. I understand that your generous gifts to the classrooms, breakfast club and office have been very welcome.

I hope all the St Joseph's community have a peaceful and enjoyable holiday.

Sheila Davis, Chair of Governors

Attendance Data

	Last week	This week	LATE marks
Class 1	82.86%	75.71%	1
Class 2	92%	95.60%	2
Class 3	88.53%	85.59%	1
Class 4	89.09%	91.21%	1



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Drive, Harwich, Essex CO12 3SU

Certificate Winners

Class 1: Lincoln and Blake

Class 2: Jenson and Larry

Class 3: Lizzie and Emma

Class 4: Blake and Emmie

Whole School Attendance this term: 94.83%

Winning Class this term: Class 2—96.08%



Winning House Team This Week:
ST ANDREW

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 6th January	NON PUPIL DAY
Tues 7th January	Children return to school
Weds 8th January	9.30am Jubilee Mass at School Piano lessons restart
Thurs 9th January	Class 2 Swimming Lessons begin
Weds 15th January	3.30pm Neurodiversity workshop for Parents and Staff in the school hall.
Thurs 16th January	C4 Electric Palace Kindertransport Workshop
Thurs 23rd January	Football League Match at Chase Lane tbc
Fri 14th February	Last day before half-term

MONDAY 6th JANUARY IS A NON PUPIL DAY

PTA NEWS

Since September generated sales/income is £2788.12.

This doesn't include Bags2School, Christmas card commission and the ASDA Cashpot (£341.00)

Therefore generated income is in excess of £3000.00—as Greg says
“unbelievable”

Pennies for the Playground scheme raised £1100.00 and that is exactly what it is for—new equipment for the children.

The PTA have also been able to lay on the Bazaar which included visiting Santa, Santa classroom visits including a gift for every child, helping with Christmas dinner and supplying decorations, the Christmas trees, Residential treat and giving to MacMillan. It has been a great and very busy term.

Thank you for all of support from Greg and his team.

Week Beginning 7th January 2025
WEEK 1 of the Dinner Menu

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Week 2

Monday

Chinese Chow Mein

Served with noodles and mini spring roll

Jacket Potato

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

Tuesday

Katsu Cottage Pie

served with broccoli

Jacket Potato

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

Wednesday

Roast Chicken

served with Mashed potatoes and savoy cabbage and cauliflower

Jacket Potato

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

Thursday

Pasta with Peas & Bacon

served with crispy leaf salad

Jacket Potato

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

Friday

Fillet of Fish

served with crispy chips and peas

Jacket Potato

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

Available everyday

A healthy salad bar, fresh fruit, and yoghurt, water and milk



Fresh
All our food is
cooked fresh each
day

Healthy
Our pasta, rice and
breads are healthy
wholemeal products

Checked
We always use
reputable suppliers
and where possible
use local produce



Menu

St Joseph's are occasionally asked to promote activities from local groups, such as the Swimming Pool, the Sports Hall, Church Groups etc....

Such activities are not quality assured by the school and parents should be aware of the need to reassure themselves of the quality and safety of the services on offer, for example by visiting, looking at inspection reports etc.

Our website can be accessed at
<https://www.st-josephs->



**COMING
SOON**



TEACHER

~~I'M A CELEBRITY~~

Get Me Out Of Here!



Exciting Films Coming to the Electric Palace!



Paddington in Peru- PG

- Fri Dec 6 - 7:30 pm
- Sat Dec 7-10.30am Relaxed Screening
- Sat Dec 7 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm
- Sun Dec 8 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm
- Mon Dec 9 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm
- Tue Dec 10 - 4:00 pm

Wicked- PG

- Fri Dec 20 - 7:30 pm
- Sat Dec 21 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm
- Sun Dec 22 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm
- Mon Dec 23 - 2:30 pm 7:30 pm

Moana 2- PG

- Fri Dec 27 - 2:30 pm
- Sat Dec 28- 10.30am Relaxed Screening
- Sat Dec 28 - 2:30 pm
- Sun Dec 29 - 2:30 pm
- Mon Dec 30 - 2:30 pm
- Tue Dec 31 - 2:30 pm
- Thu Jan 2 - 2:30 pm

Bookings available on our website: www.electricpalace.com

Essex Library Service

Winter Reading Challenge



The Dragons' Adventure!

Thursday 2 January to
Saturday 22 February

**Help the dragons get home out of the
cold by completing fun challenges!**

Sign up at any Essex library.



@essexlibraries

*DOES YOUR CHILD ENJOY
SWIMMING?
WANT TO TAKE IT FURTHER AND
START COMPETING?*

**HARWICH
SWIMMING CLUB**

*ARE RECRUITING SWIMMERS
AGED 7 AND OVER CURRENTLY
SWIMMING AT STAGE 4 AND ABOVE*

**STAGES 2-7 SWIM THURSDAY EVENINGS AT
DOVERCOURT SWIMMING POOL.**

**STAGES 8 AND ABOVE TRAIN
ON SUNDAY, MONDAY AND THURSDAY
EVENINGS**

to book a trial, please e-mail:
membership.hdpssc@gmail.com



**HARWICH
KIDZ**

HOLIDAY FUN

**Friday 27th December,
Monday 30th December and
Thursday 2nd January**

**PLEASE BOOK ON THROUGH YOUR
FREE SCHOOL DINNER CODE LINK.**

IF YOU REQUIRE A PAID PLACE PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.

HARWICHKIDZ@GMAIL.COM OR 07476 915241

**WE ARE ALSO ON FACEBOOK: HARWICH KIDZ AND
INSTAGRAM : HARWICH_KIDZ**



**AT HARWICH AND DOVERCOURT
RUGBY CLUB
SWIMMING POOL ROAD, WICK
LANE, HARWICH**