



## St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

*“learning, growing, belonging ... happy together in God's family”*

Please visit our website that has been updated.

Website: [www.stjprimary.co.uk](http://www.stjprimary.co.uk)



### **A Happy and Peaceful Christmas to all**

All the children, staff and governors would like to wish everyone a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year. May the Lord bless each family with His love.

We look forward to seeing all the children on Thursday 4 January 2018.

### **Class Masses**

During November Fr Malcolm celebrated Mass with each class in lower KS2. In January, he will do likewise with the upper KS2 classes. Please feel free to join us for these Masses. See below for dates and times:

- Y5 Wednesday 10 January at 2.25pm in class
- Y5/6 Wednesday 17 January at 2.25pm in class
- Y6 Wednesday 24 January at 2.25pm in class





In last week's assembly we recognised the following children for outstanding performance this week:

Summer Harris, Bethany Greenhow, Emily Mather, Kiera Spreadbury, Georgie Grimshaw,

Evie Vernon, Kate Sutcliffe, Luke James, Kian O'Brien, Bobby Betteridge, Poppy Gilmore,

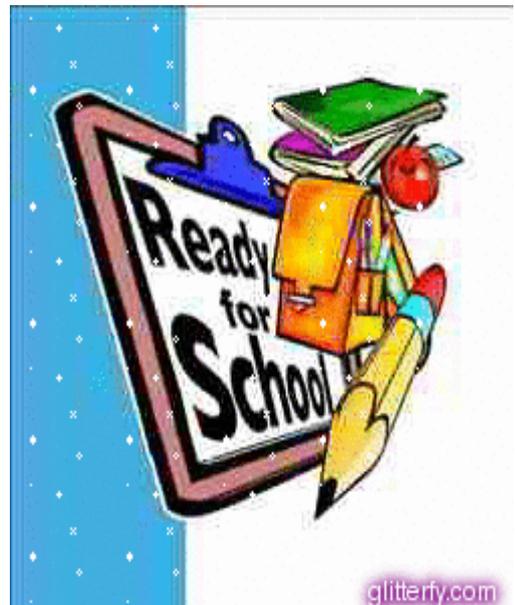
Jacob Wood, Sophia Clark, Alfie Byron, Emily Ryan, Adam Thomas, Isabell Collins,

Gabriel Hubball, Lewis Ryan, Andrei Barrett, Eva Marshall, Phoebe Doyle



### **Bags and Coats**

Many of the children, especially in years 3 and 4, are unnecessarily bringing large bags or rucksacks into school each day. This is causing problems with the cupboards outside classes and ultimately access along the corridors. There is simply not enough space for everything. Children should have their PE kits in school in PE bags on Mondays and take them home on Fridays. Each day the children should bring in their coats, water bottle, their blue book bag and packed lunch. Nothing else is needed. Thank you for your support.



## Homework

We have spent a lot of time this term discussing the efficacy of homework in developing children's learning. The Education Endowment Foundation carried out mega-analyses of the effects of homework across numerous educational systems and concluded that it had a significant effect in secondary settings whilst in primary settings the effect was minimal.

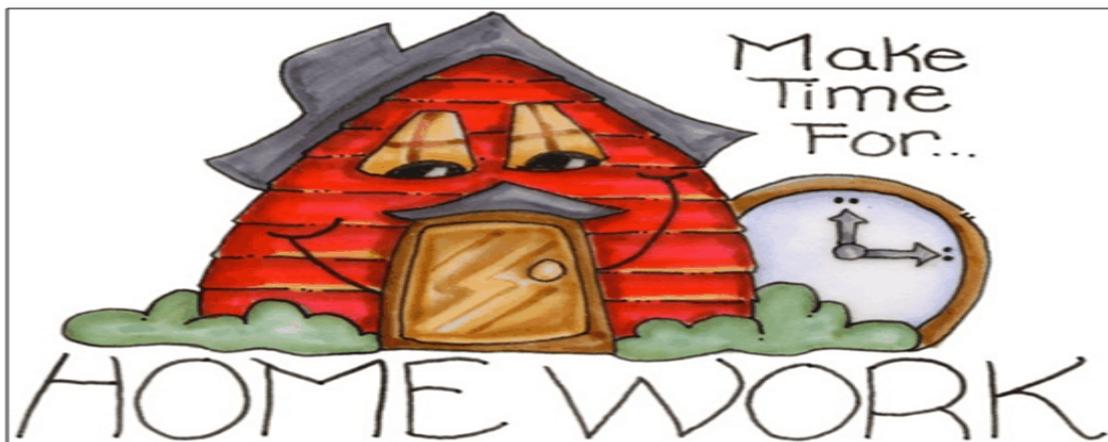
'It is certainly the case that schools whose pupils do homework tend to be more successful. However it is not clear whether use of homework is a reason for this success. A number of reviews and meta-analyses have explored this issue. There is stronger evidence that it is helpful at secondary level, but there is much less evidence of benefit at primary level.' EEF

With this in mind we are changing the type of homework we require the children to carry out. Our intention is to ultimately make it far more productive.

In Key Stage 1 we will set weekly homework of reading about four nights per week, tables and number-bonds work and spellings.

In Key Stage 2 we will set weekly homework of reading for pleasure each night, tables and spellings. In January, we will trial an online Tables platform, *Times Tables Rock Stars*, with a view to supporting tables development.

Additionally, as the year progresses, we will set different work for the older children.





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**easyfundraising** is the simplest **FREE** way to raise money for **St Joseph's PFA** for the benefit of the School and children. A small number of members have already raised over £800 using it!

Shop at nearly 3000 well known retailers listed at <http://easyfundraising.org.uk> website and a percentage of what you spend is passed to St Joseph's PFA **at no additional cost** to you 😊

Retailers include Amazon, M&S, Vodafone, eBay, Tesco, Asda, John Lewis and many more such as holiday firms, insurance companies and phone/broadband providers!

With Christmas Shopping season with us it is a fantastic way to raise more funds for the School.

Please register to support us today every time you shop online at –

<http://tinyurl.com/stjoesef>

Any questions then please contact the PFA by email at [contact@stjosephspfa.org.uk](mailto:contact@stjosephspfa.org.uk) and we will be glad to help 😊

## Dates for your Diary

### December 2017

Thursday 21st December - Christmas family assembly led by Year 5/6—9.10am

Friday 22nd December—Carol service at St Josephs Church at 1.45pm

### January 2018

Wednesday 10th January - Year 5 Mass in the classroom at 2.25pm

Thursday 11th January 3.20pm—Reception Maths meeting

Wednesday 17th January— Year 5/6 Mass in the classroom at 2.25pm

Wednesday 17th January—Parents meeting for safety at 6pm

Monday 22nd January—1st Communion enrolment mass (Year 4 ) time tbc

Wednesday 24th January—Year 6 Mass in the classroom at 2.25pm

### June 2018

Wednesday 20th June—First Eucharist Mass (Year 4) time tbc

**“Did you know that you are automatically a member of our School's Parents & Friends Association (PFA)? If you would like to know more, please visit the PFA page on the School's**