



## *St Joseph's Nursery and Reception Nativity!*

*On Tuesday and Thursday of this week, our youngest children from Nursery and Reception presented their wonderful Nativity to their parents and family.*

*We all enjoyed this traditional re-telling of the Christmas story in which we were reminded about the circumstances around the birth of Christ.*

*Our 3, 4 and 5 year olds were absolutely amazing! Their confidence in singing and performing to an audience is truly inspirational.*

*We do hope that you enjoyed watching your children as they continue to grow and develop in their learning experiences at St Joseph's.*



### *Christmas Dates*

*Please note the dates of the children's Christmas celebrations:*

*12 Dec: KS1 parents to attend 10.00am Nativity at Our Lady of Willesden*

*19 Dec: KS2 parents to attend 10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Willesden  
Woolly Jumper Day and Children's Christmas Lunch*



### *Christmas Breakfast*

*Thank you to all the parents that were able to join us for our special fundraising Christmas Breakfast on Friday morning.*

*It was wonderful to have the opportunity to look after our parents with this lovely treat. We hope that you also enjoyed the wonderful school choir and musicians who were delighted to share their fantastic talents.*

*The Christmas Breakfast raised further funds for the Stained Glass Window which is being installed next week!*



### *Year 6 Visits*

*The Year 6 children have enjoyed 2 very special events this week. They attended the Catholic Schools' Mass at Westminster Cathedral and also visited the Victoria and Albert Museum.*

*Here is a report from Abbisha, Nia, Kaci, Julia and Marcela:*

*The Mass began with a choir singing in the centre of the Cathedral. Actors played the important roles in the Christmas story and there was a real sheep and donkey involved too! This was an interactive experience in which we could sing along and answer the questions asked by the angel!*

*At the Museum, we saw many different sculptures, artefacts and clothing from historic periods. It was very exciting to learn about ancient objects and historic people such as William the Conqueror.*



*Please remember that school is closed on Friday 14 December for staff INSET  
Children return to school for the last week of term on Monday 17 December*

*Children finish school at 1.00pm on Friday 21 December*

*Children return to school on Tuesday 8 January*

**THE HEADMISTRESS, MRS TITUS, INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR  
THE TOP PERFORMING STATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ENGLAND**

**RECEPTION CLASS 2019-20**

Applications are invited for admission to Reception Class in St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School, Goodson Road, London, NW10 9LS for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015. **Please contact the school for an application pack.**

Please be aware that in addition to the supplementary application form for the school you must also apply online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk) This can also be accessed via the Brent School Admissions webpage.

**The closing date for both forms is 15 January 2019.**

**NURSERY CLASS 2019-20**

Applications are also invited for our Nursery Class for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

**The closing date is 15 January 2019.**

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School  
plays a vital role in developing educational  
excellence within the Diocese of Westminster

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

*Attendance*

*The classes with the best attendance so far this year are:  
1F, 2H, 3W, 4G, 4M, 5M and 6M*

*If your child is not going to be in school please call the  
office on 020 8965 5651 or email the school at:  
[admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk) before 9.00am on every day of  
absence.*

*In addition to making a telephone call by 9.00am on  
every day of absence, this must be followed up in writing.  
Parents may complete a **Reason For Absence** form  
(available from school office or school website) or you  
may write a letter / email to confirm the reason for the  
absence.*

*When you know in advance that your child will be  
absent, please inform the school in advance and provide  
appropriate documentation such as the medical  
appointment letter.*

*Please remember that all school policies are in place  
for a reason with the main purpose being to ensure the  
safety, well-being and secure development of your child.*

*If we have any concerns about a child's absence, we  
may carry out a home visit. We may also contact Brent  
Education Welfare and Social Services.*

*Please remember term time leave for family holiday  
and celebrations are not permitted in line with our  
Attendance Policy. Unauthorised absences are referred  
to Brent Education Welfare who have the authority to  
issue Education Penalty Notices of £120 per child, per  
parent. This reduces by 50% if paid within 21 days.*

*Luxury Christmas  
Hamper*

*We have been selling  
tickets for the fabulous  
Christmas Hamper.*

*Tickets have been  
sent home with the  
children so if you wish  
to be in with a chance  
of winning the  
hamper, please return  
the tickets to school  
with £3 per strip.*

*The raffle draw will  
take place on Thursday  
20 December.*



**School Health Questionnaire**

Our colleagues from Brent's School Nursing Team are asking parents of Reception children to complete an online questionnaire.

Please [click here](#) to access the questionnaire.

Your response will help Brent School Nursing to prioritise their services.

**Christmas Cards**

Post boxes have been placed by the Nursery classrooms and by the main school office.

Children should ensure they write clearly on the envelope using their usual cursive script writing.

Remember to write on the envelope the name of each child and their class.

**Parent Communication**

Parents are reminded that it is very helpful for school to be kept informed of any factors that may impact on your child's learning or well-being.

This is to ensure that we are all doing everything we can to support your child and family. Please make an appointment to see our Education Support Manager, Mrs Studd, to discuss any matters that school should be aware of so we can make informed decisions together.

**Celebrations**

We are very happy to share news about the children's achievements outside of school.

Please email details and photos to:

[info@stjo.brent.sch.uk](mailto:info@stjo.brent.sch.uk)

# From Advent to Christmas

## - Year C

Linking School, Parish and Home



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**Religious Education**

This framework of learning is intended as the second in the Academic year 2018/19. As the resource which teaches both Advent and Christmas it begins the Liturgical cycle of Year C - the Year of Luke. As the name suggests the content of this resource is the season of Advent and the birth of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. It builds on the learning of the previous resource by further developing knowledge of God, in particular knowledge of the second person of the Trinity, Jesus the Christ.

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**Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions**

<p><b>Spiritual Outcomes:</b> It is hoped that pupils will develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sense of wonder about the coming of God into the world</li> <li>• A disposition of prayer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An openness to the mystery of God, incarnate</li> <li>• An appreciation of the gift of Christmas</li> </ul>
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**Activities to try at home**

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs. This resource teaches the practices of Advent and Christmas. Your children will be asked to think about their own birth and how you prepare for the birth of Jesus. Talk to them about what you do: do your rituals and customs reflect your cultural background?

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**An idea for prayer at home**

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**Prayer Activity**

Prayer throughout Advent. Make an Advent wreath and pray for the coming of God in Jesus.  
 God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us.  
 God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us.  
 God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us.  
 God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre, the focus of our lives always and particularly this Advent time.

