

St Joseph's Convent School Advent Newsletter



26th November 2019



Dear family and friends of St. Joseph's,

This weekend marks the beginning of Advent; a time of hope and anticipation of the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. The children are learning about Advent and preparing for this holy season with prayer, reflection and an understanding of the true meaning of Christmas.

Our Christmas appeal this year is working alongside Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, to support their "Take a minute 2019" campaign. The charity supports young children's emotional health and wellbeing and we are proud to be supporting this special cause. Your kind donations will aid the charity's good work and upon return of your filled envelope, your daughter will receive a gift of reindeer food to use on Christmas Eve night!

Over the upcoming weeks, the children are preparing for the celebration of Jesus' birthday with many exciting events taking place within our school community. Please join us in our celebrations as we prepare for Christmas.

Upcoming Events:

Friday 29th November: Travelling Cribs to be sent home for all year groups so that families can spend some time talking and thinking about the Christmas story.



Sunday 1st December: 1st Sunday of Advent



The first Advent candle is purple and symbolises Hope and known as the 'Prophecy Candle.' We are reminded of the prophets, especially Isaiah who foretold of Jesus birth.

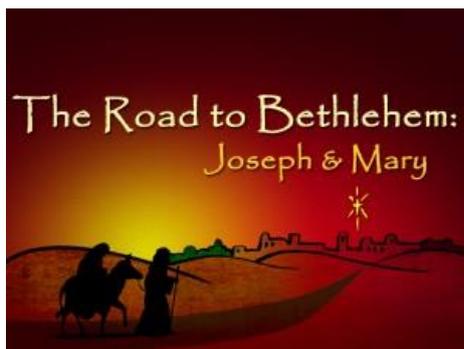
Tuesday 3rd December: Prep 2,3 and 4 children to visit Our Lady of Lourdes Church for a joint Reconciliation Service with Our Lady of Lourdes Junior school, Years 4,5 and 6 celebrated by Father Pat.



Thursday 5th December: Infants Nativity Dress Rehearsal

Friday 6th December: Infants Nativity at 2pm. Refreshments (made by the Prep children) will be served at 1:30pm with all parents and guests warmly invited to join us.

Sunday 8th December: 2nd Sunday of Advent



The Second Advent candle is also purple and symbolises Faith. It is known as the 'Bethlehem Candle' and reminds us of the journey made by Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

Monday 9th December: Feast day of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Monday 9th December; Sleeping Beauty pantomime in school for all.

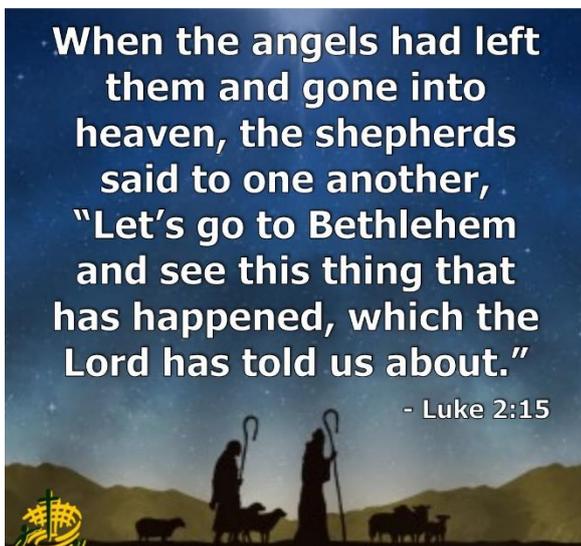
Wednesday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas dinner for all children. Christmas Jumper to be worn instead of the school cardigan today.

Wednesday 11th December: Carol singing by Prep 3 and 4 children at Weavers at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Thursday 12th December: Foundation Day of the Sisters of Mercy.

Thursday 12th December: Prep Carol and Orchestral Concert at 2pm. Refreshments (made by the Infant Children) will be served at 1:30pm with all parents and guests warmly invited to join us.

Sunday 15th December: 3rd Sunday of Advent



The third Advent candle is pink and symbolises Joy. It is also known as the 'Shepherds candle'. Rose is the liturgical colour of joy. It is also called *Gaudete* Sunday and we are reminded of the joy the world experienced at the birth of Jesus.

Sunday 22nd December: 4th Sunday of Advent

The fourth advent candle is purple and symbolises Peace. It is known as 'The Angels' candle. It reminds us of the message of the angels: Peace on Earth, Good Will to All.



Wednesday 25th December: Christmas Day where the white central candle of the wreath is lit at the first Mass of Christmas. The candle is called the 'Christ Candle.'

We look forward to celebrating this holy season with you all.

