



We are starting the season of advent and in school we are preparing for Jesus' birthday. We will be having an advent wreath and discussing the symbolism this brings.



The **1st Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

The **2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The **3rd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The **4th Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

The **final candle** is lit on Christmas day to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

Reading

We are having a big push on reading in school and using quality books to inspire children to be fluent questioning readers and writers. Children who can read fluently are better able to access all areas of the curriculum. Here is an interesting fact: By the age of 3, children who have good adult language models experience 33 million words and 1700 hours of stories. Those who do not only experience 9 million words and 25 story hours. It is really important that you enjoy books together and encourage school reading.

St Joseph's Parish Centre offer a Drop in Centre for Asylum Seekers and refugees every Monday 12-2pm.

Diary Dates

Christmas Holiday

Break up on Friday
22 December and return on
Monday 8th January 2018

Dates for your Diary

6 December — Christmas Dinner - come to school in Christmas clothes

8 December 2pm—4 pm
Christmas Fair - We would welcome donations for raffle prizes, tombola prizes, toy stall, bottle stall etc.

12 December - Movie night
3.30 pm to 5.30 pm

14 December - 2.15 pm Early Years Foundation Stage & KS1 Christmas Performance

15 December 9.30 Early Years Foundation Stage & KS1 Christmas performance

18 December — 2.15 pm KS2 Christmas Performance

19 December — 9.30 am KS2 Christmas Performance

20 December 1.30 pm EY & KS1 Christmas party (please note change of date from 22nd Dec)

21 December 1.30 pm KS2 Christmas party

22 December—Rainbow Assembly 9am

Class Liturgy Dates:

All 9 am in School hall

1 December — Y3/4

8 December—Rec/Year 1

After School Clubs

After school Clubs run each day, there are spaces available in each club (table attached) A 20p contribution is required to help clubs run.

Information

Attendance

Good news most classes have achieved 95% or more each week so far this term. Children with a 100% attendance for this half term will have a crafts for Christmas session.

Dinner money is £2.00 a day, £10.00 a week, and payable on a Monday, for children in y3 - y6. Children can only change from dinners onto packed lunches after a half term break. The office must be informed of any changes to ensure that numbers are correct for the kitchen.

Children in Reception and Key Stage One receive fruit as a snack each day. Children in Key Stage Two can bring a piece of fruit for a snack. Can we ask that grapes are halved to reduce a choking risk. If you receive benefits please could you let the office know if you have not completed the Free school meal form as school is entitled to extra funding for your child.

Fundraising

We raised £295.93 from the Halloween Disco—thank you

School fundraising goes towards extra things for the children like Christmas presents, extra activities etc. We have currently bought the kit for the children to design and build their own electric race car which will be raced in the summer term at Croft race course against other schools. We will be working with engineers from Cummins to do this. and hopefully this will be a yearly event.