

Headteacher's New Year Message

Dear Parents & Families

Happy New Year & A Big Thank You

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and all the very best for 2024. On behalf of all staff at St Joseph's I would like to thank you and your children for the Christmas wishes and many wonderful gifts that you sent in to school. We are humbled by your generosity and kind words.

We return to school ready for a busy term and lots of exciting learning. We are delighted to have appointed additional staff for the school and they will be working with the Pre-School and Midday Supervisor teams.

EPIPHANY - 6th January

We will be talking to the children about the Feast of Epiphany and considering how we can all continue to give gifts to Jesus throughout the year - Gifts of caring, sharing and showing love to others.

Epiphany - also known as Three Kings' Day - is a feast day which falls on 6 January. It is a special date for many Christians as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi - also known as the Three Kings or the Wise Men - to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born.

The children will also be reminded that our 'Star Awards' school assembly that we hold each week, recognises children who have been stars, leading the way to Jesus (like the star did for the Wise Men). Our weekly 'stars' have been spotted helping us to find Jesus by showing us how to be kind, sharing, being thoughtful, forgiving, helping others, remembering to follow rules or taking care of themselves and others.

Helping Others

I do hope that all our families have been able to find time to rest and relax over the break. The focus for our prayers this term are families around the world. We especially pray for the children caught up in conflicts around the world, and those suffering from the devastation caused by natural disasters.

Many children are in need across the world and this year we will be fund raising for the Charity CAFOD during Lent. I hope that you will support us in our activities this term (more information to follow) to help us help others to make a difference for children in difficult situations.

Parent Feedback

We have gathered the information you submitted in the travel questionnaire and it has made interesting reading which we will be considering of the next few weeks. We will be looking at the results with both St Edward's and advisors from the Trust and using the information to inform future planning.

Results and feedback on the survey will be made available on the school website. Thank you to all those who completed the survey.

Good News

We are delighted to announce that we have been able to maintain our Bronze Travel plan award for the work the school does in promoting healthier, more environmentally friendly journeys to and from school.

A big thank you goes to Mrs Robson who leads us on this and tracks and monitors our efforts and progress. Well done everyone - staff, parents and children have supported us and helped us earn this together. I am proud to say we never give up on trying to make travel to school more sustainable and safer.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and a great Spring Term.

Regards

Mrs Ann Taylor

Headteacher