



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## NEWSLETTER: 22nd DECEMBER 2023

Dear Families

Phew! What a busy and exciting half term we have had.

Children have wowed us with their fabulous Christmas performances and Advent liturgies.

We had a packed school hall with lots of sleighs for the Christmas Movie Night.

Our Christmas fayre was a great success – a huge thank you to everyone for your donations and support. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

On Christmas party day, we had a visit from Santa Claus himself and all of the children received a gift from him.

We ended the school year with a whole school Mass. Thank you, to Fr Shaun and the parishioners for joining us in our celebration.

Thank you, to the SVP for their kind donations which have helped some of our families. Also, a huge thank you to Deacon Sean and Love Christmas for the donation of food parcels which we have distributed to some of our families.

### **Staff Changes**

We say a fond farewell to Miss Tait, Miss Walton and Mrs Readshaw, who are moving onto pastures new. It has been an absolute pleasure working with you. We welcome Mrs McCormick and Mrs Shiels, who will be joining us in January.

### **Christmas Masses**

Please see below the Masses for Christmas. As you can appreciate, Christmas Eve falls this year on a Sunday but there is still the Sunday obligation to attend mass on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. The mass schedule that weekend will be different and is:

4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	4.30pm (vigil)	Sacred Heart Byermoor
	10:00 am	St Joseph's Stanley
Christmas Eve	4:00 pm	Sacred Heart Byermoor
	6:00 pm	St Patrick's Dipton
	8:00 pm	St Joseph's Stanley
Christmas Day	10:00am	St Joseph's Stanley

Last, but certainly not least, a thank you, to all staff, who work in school. It takes a whole team to make a school successful and I am grateful to each member of our wonderful team for the contribution they have made.

On behalf of all staff and governors, we wish you all a peaceful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your time with families and friends and we look forward to welcoming children back into school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.



### **Star of the Week**

The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this Week:



Nursery	Phoebe	For showing more confidence in play, joining in with the other boys and girls and making up some lovely games!
Reception	Ruby	For showing us her bright, bubbly personality, chatting lots with friends and grown-ups!
Year 1	Nori	For completing a brilliant book review of Stick Man.
Year 2	Harvey	For reading in our liturgy with confidence and a smile on his face.
Year 3	Maisie	For being a very kind friend and looking out for her pee
Year 4	Kacie-Leigh	For a wonderful positive attitude to her learning. You are a Brilliant role model for others. Well done!
Year 5	Arjun	for excellent answers in our Geography lesson about mountains.
Year 6	Sophia	For some excellent, confident reading this week.

## Swimming

Year 5 will be going swimming on a Thursday after half term. They will need a costume, swimming hat, towel and a warm coat as they will be walking to and from the Louisa Centre.

## Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is **Tom**! Well done for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! Children can see all our TTRS winners on our new 'Times Table Rockstars' display board outside the Year 6 classroom.

Well done to **Year 6** who won the final KS2 tournament of 2023 with 677 point. This means that the overall winner of the Autumn TTRS Class Battles is **Year 6**! They fought off stiff competition from Year 4 but managed to win the last three weeks to take the crown!

St Joseph's are currently **9<sup>th</sup>** on the TTRS leaderboard for schools in our area. This is amazing progress from the start of the half term in which we started in 17<sup>th</sup>. Lots of hard work has gone into this from all the children.

**Well done to the children for all their hard work on their tables this term. At school, we have seen huge improvements in your speed of recall and confidence with multiplication facts. This is so important in helping you to become amazing mathematicians!**

## House Points

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week. The house points for this ½ term are:

**St Aidan – 3741**

**St Oswald – 3587**

**St Cuthbert - 3707**

**St Bede – 2921**

Congratulations to St Aidan who earned the most house points this half term. They enjoyed watching a movie in the school hall.