



## Newsletter | Autumn Second Half Term 2018

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A very warm welcome back to everybody after the half term break. We hope you all had a lovely week off and have come back to school refreshed and ready for a busy eight weeks as we build up to Christmas! Don't forget that you can keep up to date with everything that is happening at school on our school website, or by following our Facebook and Twitter feeds.

[www.washingtonstjosephs.com](http://www.washingtonstjosephs.com)

 [www.facebook.com/stjosephswashington](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephswashington)

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### Coats, bags and belongings for the winter

As the weather gets colder, please ensure that your children come to school with suitable clothing such as coats, hats and gloves for play times and dinner times, and that your child has their name in **all** items. Can we also please remind you that the children only need to bring their book bag, PE kit and lunch bag/box into school with them – please do not bring in large bags or backpacks as there is not enough room to accommodate these on the pegs and they are regularly falling on the floor which causes a hazard in the corridors and cloakrooms.

### October - Month of the Rosary

A very big thank you to our Mini Vinnies, who have led the Rosary in the hall every Tuesday and Thursday at play time during October. The sessions have been very well attended by the other children, from the youngest to the oldest, and have been a lovely opportunity to spend some prayerful time worshipping together.

### Tuck shop

Due to the fact that Traidcraft, the company who supplies the goods we currently sell at our tuck shop, is ceasing trading, we can no longer order new supplies from them. Therefore, once the current tuck shop stock has been sold, we will no longer have a tuck shop in school on a Friday.

### Harvest food donation

A huge thank you to everybody who donated some food to our Harvest appeal. The food has been taken to Washington Community Food Project based at Oxclose Church, where it was very warmly welcomed.

## St Joseph's Family Masses

We have been delighted by the response to our first two Family Masses, which will continue to take place at Our Lady's Church on the last Sunday of every month. We have had some lovely comments from parishioners, parents and Fr Paul and Fr Jim, who have said our two masses so far. Our next Family Mass will take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November for the celebration of Christ the King. It would be wonderful to see as many children and families there as possible.

## Masses and Liturgies

Here are the dates for the upcoming Masses and Liturgies this half term. Everybody is welcome to join us at these celebrations, which are a huge part of our school life. The children really value the support of their friends and families, and love to see you all in the hall or at church.

Date	Celebration	Time	Location
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Christ the King Family Mass	11:00 am	Our Lady's Church
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Start of Advent Year 2 Liturgy	9:15 am	School Hall
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Advent Liturgy	9:15 am	Year 3 Classroom
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Advent Liturgy	9:15 am	Year 1 Classroom
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 Advent Liturgy	9:15 am	Year 5 Classroom
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service Year 2 - Year 6	2:00 pm	Our Lady's Church
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> December	Family Mass	11:00 am	Our Lady's Church

## First Holy Communion

Our Year 4 children have now begun their preparation to make their First Holy Communion in May next year. Please keep the children in your prayers during this very special time.

## Restart a Heart Fund

A very big thank you for supporting our Restart a Heart day in school before half term. The children looked brilliant in their red outfits as they all completed different heart related activities in their classes, and really enjoyed visiting the cake sale! When we added together the donations from the children, some very generous donations from parents, grandparents and members of the parish plus the profits from the cake sale and the money raised from the raffle at last year's Year 6 production, we raised an incredible £552.70 towards the parish fund to buy a defibrillator. Very well done everybody!

## **Remembrance Day Service**

Our Remembrance Day Service will take place on Monday 12th November. Once again, we invite all parents, carers and children to gather around our cenotaph in the yard at 8:45am where the Year 6 children will lead us in a short service before the children enter school at 9:00am. If the weather is poor, the children will be invited inside for the service.

Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday 5th November until Friday 9th November, as well as a range of Remembrance Day stationery. Pencils, rubbers and sharpeners will be priced at 50p and rulers will be £1.00. As usual, poppies are a donation of your choice.

## **Children in Need - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

The theme for this year's Children in Need is 'Do Your Thing!', so we are inviting the children to do just that! The children can 'Wear Their Thing' for a £1 donation to Children in Need, and each class will be holding a talent show in their classroom where the children really can do their thing! Maybe you are a superb singer, marvellous magician or delightful dancer – whatever your talent, now is the time to start rehearsing! It could be a solo act, a duo or a small group, and each class will then choose one act to represent their class at the whole school talent show in the hall in the afternoon, and we can't wait to see the range of talents on show as the children do their thing!

Our School Council have also been planning some other Children in Need activities which will take place in school throughout the day.

For more information visit [www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk](http://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk).

## **Year 6 Virgin Money**

The Year 6 pupils have been challenged to be entrepreneurs! Virgin Money have loaned each pupil £5 and asked them to work together to make their money grow. They will be working as a team to create four great Christmas opportunities this December! Christmas tattoos will be on offer for £1, Christmas cookies will be on sale for 50p, or you could get your nails painted and sparkle for the rest of the week for £1.

This will all take place in school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December so don't forget your pocket money!

There will be a Christmas raffle with tickets priced at 20p each or £1 a strip on sale from Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, with the draw taking place during our sing along coffee morning on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

## **Dogs on school premises**

Please can we remind all visitors to school that dogs are not allowed anywhere on school premises unless they are registered guide dogs.

## Important dates for your diary

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Science lesson at St Robert's
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 cinema visit
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Day Service, 8:45am
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need 'Do Your Thing!'
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Year 3 synagogue visit and chocolate factory visit
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Handball tournament
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Start of Advent Liturgy led by Year 2, 9:15am
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Year 4 Advent Liturgy in Year 4 classroom, 9:15am
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Advent Liturgy in Year 1 classroom, 9:15am
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – PTFA Christmas Fair
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Year 3 Warburton's sandwich workshop
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Reception class Nativity, 2:00pm
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Reception class Nativity, 9:30am
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Movie Night
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Year 5 Advent Liturgy in Year 5 classroom, 9:15am
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Flu vaccines in school
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery Nativity, 9:30am
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Movie Night
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery and Reception visit to Whitehouse Farm
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 to 6 Pantomime in school
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service, Year 2 to 6, Our Lady's Church, 2:00pm
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 and 2 Christmas party
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Year 6 Virgin Money 'Make £5 Grow' day
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery Christmas party
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Reception and Year 6 party
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Year 3, 4 and 5 Christmas party
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Sing along coffee morning with children and staff wearing festive attire, plus Year 6 cake/biscuit sale and raffle.