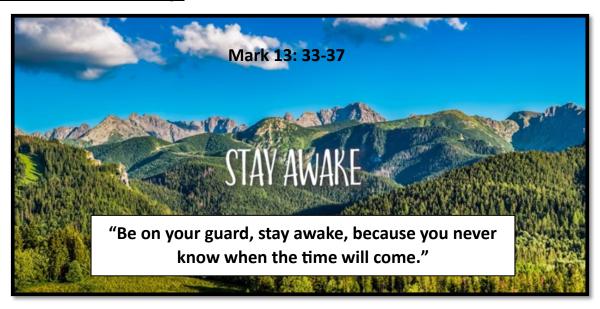


# NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Holloway Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk Tel: 01666 8223331

#### Friday 1st December 2023

### Intermin Co-Headteachers' message



It's the 1st week of Advent and the start of a new year in the Church, a time for renewal. This week we hear how we need to 'stay awake' and be ready for the coming of Christ again.

# **Celebration assembly**

Please note a change to some dates and times over the next few weeks due to Christmas school activities. Parents are invited to attend Celebration Assembly on the following dates:

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 9am
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm

Parents are also invited to join us on the last day of term, Weds 20th December, to sing carols in the school, after which time the children can go home at 1.30pm.

#### **SENCo**

Mrs Haines will be finishing her interim post with us on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. We thank her for her dedication to our children and families. We are advertising for a SENCo to start in Term 3 and until they have been appointed Mr Bacon will be overseeing the special needs provision in the school. Mrs Haines will be contactable by the school to ensure a smooth hand over and support in anyway if needed.

## January – Interim Co-Head teacher update

We know some of you are asking how long we will be staying while Mrs Woods is away from school. We have been asked by the IEB if we can stay on past Christmas if necessary, and we are happy to confirm that we are in a position to do that. After Christmas Mr Bacon will continue working Monday to Wednesday, as at present. Miss Bathe will be in school on Thursday and Friday.

## WOW moments across the school!

"Pupils enjoy coming to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. They find lessons interesting. Pupils are eager to talk about their learning. They feel safe to make mistakes and to learn from them" OFSTED March 2023

Here is just a snap shot of the exciting, wonderful work and activities going on across the school this week.

#### St Teresa

Miss Just: St Teresa class have been so excited to bring in donations for the stalls at our Christmas Fair. They have enjoyed looking through all the donations with cries of "I'll buy this, I'll buy that!"

Thank you so much for supporting our school and we hope to see you at the Fair tomorrow.

We're also hoping to win the prize of extra playtime for donating the most items. Fingers crossed St Teresa!



# St Francis Miss Thomson:

Audrey – "I have enjoyed the times table challenge, because I've been able to get a quicker time so I'm extremely happy!"

Léandra – "I have enjoyed making up and performing our routines in gymnastics."

Leighton – "I enjoyed the maths assessment, because I did well and improved."

# "Dear young people, Christ asks you to be wide awake and alert, to see the things in life that really matter." Pope Francis

The Wednesday Word is available on our website. Follow the link below: https://



www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/prayer-life/

# St Lawrence Mr Wilkinson:

This week our WOW moment has been our science investigation. We investigated how



different surfaces effect how quickly a block would slide down a slope. The children really enjoyed this experiment and were excited to see the effect that different surfaces/materials had on the block.

Finn - "I liked the fact that some things didn't work but some things did."

Harriet - "When we let go of the block on the cloth it stopped the block from moving which was really interesting."

Felicity - "I really liked how we had to use different materials on the slope and it was interesting to see how they reacted differently."

# St Scholastica Mr Heavey: St

Scholastica's WOW moment this week was our visit to Malmesbury



school where we watched a wonderful concert featuring their choir and orchestra. We even got to spot some old St. Joseph's faces.

Weekly Attendance Monday 27th Nov — Friday 1st Dec	
St Teresa 98.3%	St Lawrence 96.4%
St Francis 98.5%	St Scholastica 99.5%



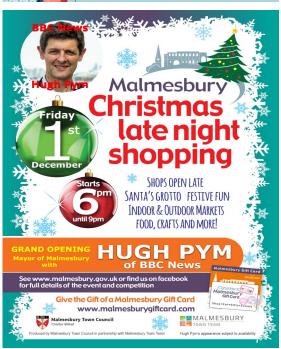
### **Christmas Bazaar TOMORROW!!**

We are looking forward to seeing you tomorrow at the St Joseph's Christmas Bazaar from 11am for lots of festive fun.

Don't forget your raffle tickets if you haven't returned your stubs and cash already. More tickets will be available to purchase at the event for the chance to win £100 Cash, a wheelbarrow full of festive cheer, a luxury hamper and many more prizes.

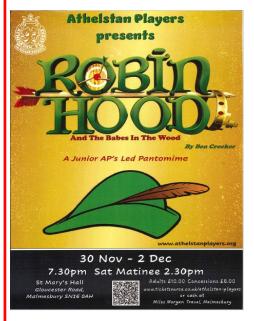
There is also still time to make a bid for one of the items in the Auction of Promises—you can access the auction now via the link below:

https://auctionofpromises.com/ StJosephsCatholicPrimarySchoolAOP



# School Choir Performing Tonight

Don't forget the school choir will be performing tonight at the Malmesbury Late Night Christmas Shopping event. They have the opening slot at 6.10pm! Please go along and support them if you can.



# Need more time to prepare for Christmas??

With only 13 school days left until the children break up for the holidays, could you do with a couple of extra days for some last minute shopping, wrapping or just relaxing before the Christmas festivities begin? Why not book the children



into our Opportunities Holiday Club where they can burn off their excitement and enjoy lots of Christmas themed craft, baking and other festive activities.

The club will be open on Thursday 21st December, 8am until 6pm, and Friday 22nd December, 8am until 4pm. Booking forms are available on the school website or from the office. Places are limited so don't delay!

https://www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk/breakfast-after-school-holiday-clubs/

#### Thank you from St Aldhelm's Church

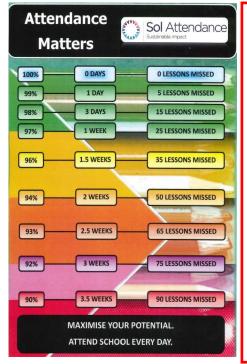
A huge 'thank you' to St Joseph's school children and parents, joined by friends of St Aldhelm's parish, totalling 23 children, who participated in a Children's Advent Preparation event at school, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.

A fun and faith filled creative three hours was had by all, making 9 Advent themed arts and crafts, in preparation and anticipation of celebrating the birth of Jesus. Feedback on the event was wonderfully heart warming, with requests for more!

With special thanks to St Joseph's school staff for their assistance with the venue, plus parent/parish volunteers and Fr Thomas who joined the event.

Some simple, seasonal family prayers are provided by separate attachment to this newsletter.





### **Attendance**

Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise the educational opportunities available to them. We review attendance regularly, both within school and with the Education Welfare Officer (EWO). Where attendance falls below 90%, this is classed as persistent absent and we will be sending letters home to parents of those children where this is the case in the next week. Please contact the school if we can help to support timely and regular attendance in any way.



# PUPIL LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

# Important notice to all parents and carers

The Local Authority has amended its Local Code of Conduct in respect of Penalty Notices issued for truancy to include unauthorised pupil leave of absence in term time. If a pupil accumulates 10 or more sessions of unauthorised leave of absence within the previous 6 month period of a current academic year, the school must notify the Local Authority and a Penalty Notice will be issued to each parent for each child where that applies.

A penalty of £120 will apply, if paid within 21 days this is reduced to £60. £120 21-28 days. If after 28 days the penalty has not been paid, legal proceedings will be taken through the magistrates court for the unauthorised absence.



