



'Live, love and learn in a caring Christian community'

### **Newsletter December 2025**

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe we are at the end of another term! There has been so much to celebrate within our school family, and I have tried to capture as much of that as I can in this newsletter. Please see the separate sporting news – there were too many achievements to include here!

#### **Awards Assembly**

Each half term, we recognise the children who have made a huge effort to follow our school rules.

<b>S</b>	Safe choices and listening.
<b>A</b>	Always remembering to be honest, kind and gentle.
<b>I</b>	I do the best I can, and I help others to do the same.
<b>N</b>	Noticing and acting when someone needs help.
<b>T</b>	Treating ourselves, our community and our property with respect.
<b>S</b>	St Joseph's is a place where we follow in Jesus' footsteps.

This half term, we say a huge 'well done' to the following children:

<b>S</b>	Bailey, Jacob K, Jessica, Jack, Victoria, Maria, Eva, Megan G, Poppy L, James A, Olivia T, Daniel S.
<b>A</b>	Hugo, Gaia, Amelia T, Emily H, Miski, Nichola, Myla, Margot, Jude, Sophia F, Amelia H, Emily D.
<b>I</b>	Ahisa, Louis Ta, Emma P, Casey, Tami, George J, Giorgia, Isabel L, Daisy, Francois, Joel, Lily K.
<b>N</b>	Charlie C, Tonye, Millie, Eoin, Jerome, Marco, Scarlett, Oliver C, Josiah, Sebastian, Ocean, George H.
<b>T</b>	Claire R, Sochima, Louie, Lottie, Tabitha, Ruari, Reuben, Millie Mo, Annabelle, Abigail O, Eleni, Adam N.
<b>S</b>	Verity, Arthur, Noah S, James F, Shay, Maggie, Param, Leonardo, Miriam, Claire B, Manaeli, Lucy G.

#### **House points:**

St Margaret Clitherow – 3,604

St Pope John Paul II – 3,812

St Anthony – 2,715

St Bernadette – 2,845

St Oscar Romero – 3,585

Congratulations to the children in St Pope John Paul II - we look forward to rewarding you all in January!

### **Inspection News: St Joseph's is Outstanding!**

Thank you for all the kind words of support following our recent inspection. If you have not yet had a chance to read the inspection report, you can find it here: [St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Catholic Schools Inspection Reports](#)

### **Remembrance Day:**

Our House Captains, Vice House Captains and Prefects led our school in the commemoration of Remembrance Day, both at the War Memorial in Bishop's Stortford and in sharing heroic figures across our school.



### **Year 6 Trip to Harry Potter World:**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, Year 6 embarked on a magical journey to the Warner Bros. Harry Potter Studios in Watford. To help inspire us for our own fantastical setting description, we experienced 'Hogwarts in the Snow'. We saw all the incredible sets, costumes, characters and even witnessed some amazing creatures come to life! A fantastic day was had by all ... and the teachers are pleased to report that the writing after was pretty fantastic too!



### **Advent Preparations:**



We started our journey towards Christmas with an Advent liturgy led by Fr Marco and two visiting Redemptorist priests; they reminded us that Advent is a time to wait joyfully for the coming of Jesus.

Our Year 1 pupils led a wonderful Advent reflection for their parents; their singing was incredible as they showed the importance of preparing our hearts for Jesus during Advent.

A huge thank you to all of you for your donations to the food bank. The team were overwhelmed with the generosity of our families, and I know that every single item will bring some much-needed Christmas cheer to families in our local community.



### **Christmas Celebrations:**

Year Two brought the true story of Christmas to life in their heartfelt Nativity performances. The children joyfully shared the birth of Jesus, speaking clearly, singing beautifully and reminding us all of the wonder of God's love. Their dedication and reverence shone through every scene, making the celebration a special moment for families and friends. Well done to our Year Two pupils for sharing the joy of Christ's birth with such warmth and faith.



### **Trust Carol Concert:**

Our Singing Club took part in a special Trust carol Service on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at St Augustine's Church, Hoddesdon. The children joined in congregational carols but also sang 'The carol Of The children' by John Rutter as a school contribution to the service. It was a lovely service and the parents who attended all said how 'special' it was and how it helped them to celebrate the Christmas story. Special thanks go to Ms Roper for conducting the entire service, enhancing the quality of the singing.



### **Our Christmas market:**

Our school Christmas Market was a joyful celebration of the season! Families and friends came together to enjoy festive stalls, delicious treats and wonderful crafts, creating a warm and merry atmosphere. The market was full of laughter, fun and special memories, making it a truly magical start to the holiday season. A big thank you to everyone who helped make it such a memorable day!



### **A Christmas Prayer for you:**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the wise men. Above all, may you be filled with the peace of the Christ-child. Amen



On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a peaceful and joyful Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Ann Cassidy-Jones  
Headteacher