

Deputy Head Teacher Infant School Ms. K Gaynor
Saint Joseph's Infant, School Waverley Ave, Wembley, HA9 6TA

Executive Head Teacher Mrs. A. Whelan

Deputy Head Teacher Junior School Mr. S Nicklin
Saint Joseph's Junior School, Chatsworth Ave, Wembley, HA9 6BE

Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools **Parental Letter Friday 28th November 2025**

Value for November- Tolerance

Breakfast Club Daily
7:45-8:30 a.m.
Junior School Hall-
registration required
After School Club Infant
/Junior School Monday-
Friday
3:00 -4:15p.m

Monday 1st December
Dance Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Taekwondo
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday 2nd December
Gym Club
3:30-4:30p.m.
Chess Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Archery
3:30-4:30

Wednesday 3rd December
Football Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday 4th December
Art Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Year 3 Computing Club
3:15-4:15 p.m.
Fencing
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday 5th December
Gym Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

In assembly this week we thought about the end of the liturgical year with the feast of Christ the King. We thought about what it meant to be a king and how Jesus was a King to all people. We also thought about the Kingdom of God. Our Mission was to think about how we can honour King Jesus by showing love and kindness every day.

Justice and Peace Christmas Charity Collection

The Justice and Peace group from Saint Joseph's Parish Church have asked us to support their Christmas charity collection for the Catholic Children's Society. They are focusing on collecting for children aged 0-10 years of age. Items requested are as follows:



- Food items-tinned food (long expiry dates)soups, baked beans, macaroni cheese, biscuits, chocolates,pasta and rice
- colouring books and board games
- toiletries- nappies, wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoos, body lotions, conditioners
- Clothes- mittens, gloves, baby socks, socks for children, woolly hats, scarves, towels, children's clothes (0-10)

If you are able to donate one thing it would be greatly appreciated.

We will be accepting donations until Tuesday 9th December.
Thank you to those who have sent donations in already.

Parental Prayer Group

The next prayer group will take place on Friday 5th December from 8:30a.m. in the Prayer Room.

OPAL Newsletter

A newsletter with an update on our excellent progress with our playtime improvement project has been sent to you with this newsletter. Please take a moment to read it. We are also asking for some parental support to help with the next exciting new additions such as a digging area and a sandpit. Any volunteers to help to create these areas would be appreciated.



Christmas Bazaar- 1 week to go!

The Christmas Bazaar is next Saturday 6th December from 12-2:30 p.m.

We are really looking forward to having a great event.

We will have a pre loved items stall and would appreciate any donations of games or toys in good condition to sell next Saturday. Please could you bring these into school on Wednesday 3rd December.

There will be an own clothes day on Friday 5th December to get donations for the ever-popular tombola stall. Please ensure that your child is still dressed appropriately if they have P.E on that day.

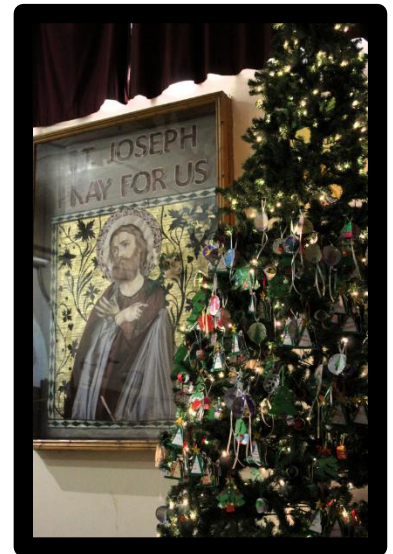
Parents will be in the playground after school each day next week selling raffle tickets. Please see the flyer on page 9 for prizes. A big thanks to the parents who took the time to come to see the presentation last Friday which secured our main donation. Raffle tickets will cost £2 each.

Catholic Children's Society Advent Collection

Thank you for your donations to this charity collection today. We raised a magnificent £ 543.09!

Christmas Events

We have a variety of special Christmas events planned across the remainder of the term. I look forward to seeing many of you at these. The first event to mark the beginning of Advent was the dressing of the Christmas trees today in both schools. Reception enjoyed dressing the tree for the first time at Saint Joseph's!



- Christmas Fayre 12-2:30 p.m. Saturday 6th December Junior School- volunteers to help needed
- School Choir singing at Middlesex Care Home 11 a.m. Tuesday 9th December
- KS2 Carol Service 6p.m. Wednesday 10th December Saint Joseph's Church
- Year 2 Nativity 9 a.m. Thursday 11th December Infant Hall
- Christmas Jumper Day Thursday 11th December- children to wear their jumpers with their normal uniform
- School Choir singing at Westminster Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. Saturday 13th December
- Christmas Surprise Day Tuesday 16th December
- Christmas Dinner Wednesday 17th December children can wear Christmas jumpers in again
- Christmas Party Day Wednesday 17th December
- Whole School Christmas Advent Mass Saint Joseph's Church Thursday 18th December 1:30p.m.
- School Choir singing at Ikea Friday 19th December 9a.m.
- **Forward Notice School will break up for the Christmas Holidays Friday 19th Dec at 1.10 pm (for Reception, Years 3 and 5), 1:15p.m. (afternoon nursery and Year 1), 1.20 pm (for Saint John Paul, Years 2, 4 and 6).**

Reconciliation

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the following days as part of their preparation during Advent:

Friday 5th December Year 4

Friday 12th December Year 6

KS2 Carol Service 6p.m. Wednesday 10th December Saint Joseph's Church

Year 3 and Year 4 will lead our annual Carol Concert on Wednesday 10th December from 6-7p.m in Saint Joseph's Church. This is a whole school community event and it would be lovely for as many families to attend as possible. Father Joseph will also be attending.

We are expecting all Year 3 and 4 pupils to attend as well as all pupils in Years 5 and 6 who are the choir for this event. Children should wear their school uniform to the carol service. More details will be sent home closer to the day.

Year 5 Sweet Sale- Message from Year 5

On Monday 1st December, Year 5 will be hosting a Sweet Sale in the Upper School playground at 3pm to kick off the Christmas season! We are raising money to support our school trips this year, especially as costs continue to rise.

Bags of sweets will be available for just 50p each, so don't forget to bring along some spare change and enjoy a festive treat while supporting a great cause!

School Choir

The choir will be performing at a variety of events in December. One of these is at the Westminster Schools Singing Carol Service on Saturday 13th December at 2:30 p.m. This will take place in Westminster Cathedral. Entry is free and all families are welcome to attend. Further information can be found on page 10.

The choir will also be performing in Middlesex Care Home on Tuesday 9th December and in Ikea on Friday 19th December.

Christmas Poem

We will again be learning a whole school poem and recording this as our special Christmas message.

Different year groups and classes have different sections. The poem has been posted on Google classroom.

Please support your child with learning this poem over the next few weeks.

Class Prayer and Liturgy

We are offering parents a really special opportunity to attend one of your child's class liturgies across the term. This is a special class liturgy organised and led by the children. These will take place on the following days at 2:50p.m in your child's classroom.

Saint Catherine Monday 1st December

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Tuesday 2nd December

Saint Joan of Arc Tuesday 2nd December

Saint Faustina Monday 1st December (change of date)

Saint Vincent De Paul Wednesday 3rd December

Saint Christopher Thursday 4th December

Saint Jude Friday 5th December

Saint Bernadette Monday 8th December

Saint Mary Tuesday 9th December

Saint Patrick Monday 15th December

Online Safety

Each week we will include an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world. This week the National Online Safety guide is about what parents and carers need to know about 'Setting Boundaries Around Gaming' please see page 8.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we try our best to support you particularly in terms of the dangers that children may encounter online. If you have any concerns, please contact me. All school staff and Governors have regular training. I remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Staff who have had additional higher-level training in safeguarding.



Weekly Attendance Award

Well done to the winners of the attendance award for last week.

Junior School: Saint Catherine with a fantastic 100%!

Infant School: Saint Angela also with a fantastic 100%.



House Points

				
	Mark 1 st 9933 points	Matthew 2 nd 9492 points	Luke 3 rd 8619 points	John 4 th 8126 points

House point totals 28th November 2025

Value Awards- November – Tolerance

Saint Patrick – Kellina and Riaan	Saint Bernadette- Asher and Emily
Saint Teresa- Aloysh and Gwen	Saint George- Spencer and Alyssia
Saint John Paul- Kevian and Krizzan	Saint Christopher- Eline and Roshvan
Saint Angela- Amelia and Enoch	
Saint Catherine- Calysta and Rylan	Saint Jude- Deidra and Stalon
Saint Mary- Nathan and Avia	Saint Francis- Veltroy and Cheryl
Saint Joan of Arc- Bresha and Adriel	Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Lilly and Rayshawn
Saint Faustina- Alexander and Alvisha	Saint Vincent De Paul- Cavalli and Amanda

Congratulations to all of the children who demonstrated an understanding of the value of 'Tolerance'.

Our value for December is '**Humility**'. The Prayer Focus sheet and activity to complete together can be found on page 7.



Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Alana
Saint Patrick- Jazlynn
Saint George- Edma
Saint Teresa- Bryan
Saint John Paul- Jayden
Saint Angela - Snyza
Saint Christopher- Lester

Saint Catherine- Chris
Saint Jude- Denver
Saint Mary- Mary
Saint Francis- Trenvis
Saint Joan of Arc- Adriel
Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Ariston
Saint Faustina- Anailen
Saint Vincent De Paul- Linsey



Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

Lord God, on this First Sunday of Advent,
open our hearts to the coming of Your Son.

Renew our faith, deepen our hope,
and fill us with the peace only Christ can give.

Help us to prepare with watchful hearts,
to welcome Your presence in our lives,
and to walk in Your light each day.

Amen.



Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Whelan





St Joseph's Infant and Junior School Prayer Focus December 2025



Advent is a season of preparation and expectation as we await the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas and look forward to his second coming. This four-week journey invites us to focus on hope, peace, joy, and love, fostering a spirit of prayer, reflection, and anticipation.

Dear God,

As we start Advent, help us make room in our hearts for Jesus.
Show us how to slow down, listen, and notice the good around us.

Help us to be kind, patient, and hopeful, even when it's hard.

Let the candles we light remind us of Your love
and the joy that Jesus brings to the world.

Guide our words, our choices, and our actions
so we can share Your light with others every day.

Amen.



Humility

This month our gospel value will be humility. We will be focussing on why it is important to have humility in our lives.

Lord Jesus, teach me to walk in humility as You did. Help me to put others before myself, to listen with patience, and to serve with a willing heart. Quiet my pride and fill me with Your gentle spirit, so that in all I do, others may see Your love in me. Amen.

Homework

Think of ways that you can put the needs of others before your own needs during the season of Advent.

A regular safeguarding update will be provided with this newsletter to ensure that you have access to current useful information and guidance.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and V247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.

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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



GRAND RAFFLE

Prizes:

1st Prize: Thermomix TM6
(Market price is £1200)



2 x 2nd Prizes: £25



Raffle price: £2
Sold by Parents during drop and pickup!

Draw:
Saturday, 6th December 2025
at the Christmas Bazaar

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, WEMBLEY

See the Newsletter and School Jotter for full Christmas Bazaar details.

Organised by the Parents Association.



NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME



WESTMINSTER SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christmas Carols and Readings
performed by children across the
Diocese of Westminster

Saturday 13th December
2:30pm
Westminster Cathedral





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St Joseph's Rc Infant School -
19/07/2024

