

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

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Saint Joseph's Junior School, Chatsworth Ave, Wembley, HA9 6BE

Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools **Parental Letter Friday 21st 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 24th November

Dance Club

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Taekwondo

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday 25th November

Gym Club

3:30-4:30p.m.

Chess Club

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Archery

3:30-4:30

Wednesday 26th November

Football Club

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday 27th November

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 28th November

Gym Club

3:30-4:30 p.m.

In assembly this week we thought about our worries and who we can share them with. We also discussed tolerance and showing respect for everyone as we are all part of God's family. Our mission was to think about how we can offer support to someone today.

Saint Christopher led a wonderful assembly on Thursday all about baptism and preparing for the birth of Jesus.

Our Mission was to try and welcome Jesus in to our life.



Forward Notice Parental Workshops- Reading and Phonics Workshops

These will take place at 8:45 a.m. in either school hall- workshops usually last about an hour.

Thursday 27th November Year 3

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

Schools Association Meeting



The Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday 6th December from 12-2:30 p.m. We are really looking forward to having a great event. We really need parental help ahead of the day and on the Saturday to help to run some of the stalls. The day can only be successful if we have the volunteers to help. **There will be another planning meeting on Friday 28th November from 8:30 a.m. onwards in the prayer room.**

The QR code to join the helper's group is below.

Please only join if you are prepared to help prepare or run this event. Please try to attend the meeting or message on the helpers WhatsApp group to let them know your availability.

Open this link to join the helper's WhatsApp

Group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LrYJeSMoNYJ3mN18aeSwfC>



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.

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 will be the dressing of the Christmas trees in both schools. The children will be able to wear their own clothes to school on Friday 28th November. Instead of sending the collection boxes home for Advent this year, we are asking for children to bring in a donation of £1 which will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society. Some of the Prayer Leaders will deliver our donation in person when they attend the Catholic Children's Society's Advent Mass on Wednesday 3rd December at Westminster Cathedral. The infant tree is outside so please ensure that all children are dressed appropriately for the cold weather. Please also make sure if your child has P.E on Friday the clothes are suitable.



- Dressing of the Christmas Tree Friday 28th November- own clothes £1 donation please
- 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.

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 28th November Year 5

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.

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 8.

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 will be 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 Teresa Wednesday 26th November

Saint George Wednesday 26th November

Saint Angela Thursday 27th November

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

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 'Snapchat' please see page 7.

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 John Paul with an excellent 99%.



House Points

				
	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
	1st 8960 points	2nd 8766 points	3rd 7991 points	4th 7459 points

House point totals 21st November 2025

Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Luna
 Saint Patrick- Ryan
 Saint George- Jacob
 Saint Teresa- Riley
 Saint John Paul- Stella
 Saint Angela - Zac
 Saint Christopher- Zuzia

Saint Catherine- Ethan
 Saint Jude- Anaida
 Saint Mary- Abiel
 Saint Francis- Alan
 Saint Joan of Arc- Rikhil
 Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Watson
 Saint Faustina- Keenetha
 Saint Vincent De Paul- Johann







Prayer for Christ the King

Dear Jesus, our King,
Today we celebrate Your love and Your goodness.
You are a King who is gentle, kind, and always caring for us.

Help us to listen to You,
to choose what is right,
and to love others the way You love us.

Guide our school family
to be peaceful, helpful, and joyful.
May Your light shine in our words and actions each day.

Jesus, King of our hearts,
stay with us and lead us always.

Amen.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Whelan



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

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

SNAP STREAK

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 📱 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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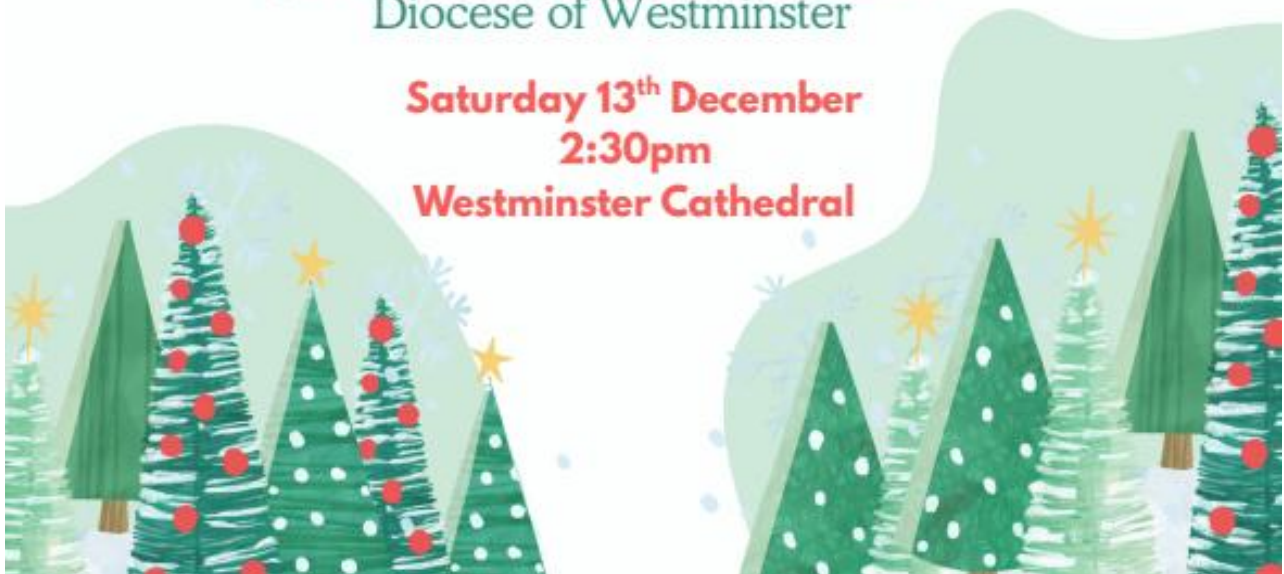


WESTMINSTER SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME

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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HA9 6TA

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

