

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 7 Friday 24th November 2023

www.stjosephsschooldorking.co.uk

"Learning and Growing Together in the Light of God's Love"



DEADLINE TODAY

The deadline for booking for the Christmas Social is today,
Friday 24th November at 3.15pm.
Book **NOW** to avoid disappointment!



SPORTS NEWS



On Thursday 23rd November, the Year 6 boys participated in a football tournament against other local schools. The team won 3 matches and a total of 7 goals were scored. A special mention to Mason for scoring a hat trick and Joshua for his brilliant 'goalie skills'! The team not only showed excellent sportsmanship, but worked brilliantly as a team. A special thank you to Miss Nurse who gave up her time to accompany the team, to Miss Devlin and to the referees from Dorking Wanderers.

AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR

During a lunchtime this week, a pheasant wandered into the Year 2 classroom and settled down in a teacher's bag. The visitor was safely removed and released back into the woods!



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our caterers will be serving Christmas lunch to the children on **Monday 18th December**.

The Christmas Lunch is free for all children in KS1 (Yrs R, 1 & 2) and those children in KS2 (Yrs 3-6) who are eligible for free school meals. The cost of Christmas lunch for the remainder of pupils is **£2.70**.

If children do not wish to have the school Christmas lunch on offer (see menu sent out earlier in the week) they may bring a packed lunch.

If you would like to order Christmas Lunch for your child **please complete a form for each child** via the link emailed earlier in the week.

INFANT NATIVITY PLAYS

Year R: Wednesday 13th December 9.30am
Year 1 & 2: Tuesday 12th December - 9.30am & 2.30pm; Wednesday 13th December 2.30pm
(Grandparents Performance)



Please book your spaces via the links e-mailed out last week. A reminder that only those on the list of attendees will be admitted and tickets may not be transferred between families.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MORNING

This popular event takes place on
Friday 15th December.

It is an opportunity for the children to buy small gifts for the members of their immediate family.

FOSJ are asking for donations of small, good-quality items to sell, please refer to their letter for more details.

Donations can be left in the containers in the Entrance Foyer. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please let Mrs Cook know and she will pass your name to the event co-ordinators.





SUPPORTED LODGINGS & FOSTERING

Supported Lodgings, and Fostering are both incredibly rewarding experiences that can transform the lives of both the children/young people being supported and the carers' themselves. Children and young people who enter the care system have often experienced trauma and instability in their lives, and a stable and supportive carer family can make a significant difference in their wellbeing and development.

Nationally, there are currently over 70,000 children living with carer families in the UK. However, there is still a significant shortage of Supported Lodgings and foster carers, with around 9,265 new carer families needed in the next year alone. In Surrey, there are over 1,000 children in care and Surrey County Council have just under 400 carer families.

Supported Lodgings is targeted at young adults aged 16-21 to help them build their independence skills ready to live independently in the future, from the security of a caring, stable home environment.

Supported Lodgings Carers and Foster carers come from all walks of life and backgrounds, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to caring. Whether you are single or married, young or old, own your own home or rent, you can still become a carer. The most important thing is a willingness to provide a safe and loving home for a child in need.

This is the message that Surrey County Council is promoting in national recruitment film 'Any of Us'. The short film has been jointly funded by over 80 councils across England and aims to raise awareness about fostering, particularly among those people who may not have previously considered themselves suited to caring for vulnerable children and young people. The film looks at the potential of three people from different backgrounds to become carers, and the potential of children they care for to grow and thrive. 'Any of Us' is available to watch from the 26th September.

If you have ever thought about fostering, or offering Supported Lodgings, now is the time to take that first step and find out more. The more people who consider caring, the greater the chance of finding loving, stable homes for children in Surrey who desperately need them.

You can contact Surrey County Council Fostering Service on 0300 123 1620 (this is the General Fostering Duty telephone, please ask for the Supported Lodgings worker, when connected), via email at supportedlodgings@surreycc.gov.uk or by visiting the website; www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering

You can watch 'Any of Us' via [Any of Us - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnyofUs) and connect with the Fostering Service on social media via @surreyfostering"

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Instead of buying individual Christmas cards to send to each other in school this year we would like to raise money towards CAFOD's World Gifts charity. We would like to suggest that each child sends just one Christmas card to their whole class which can be displayed in the classroom. The card can be shop-bought or handmade. The money that has been saved by not buying lots of cards can be donated to the class World Gifts collection pot. Each class can then use their money to buy a present from the World Gifts catalogue. World Gifts are a range of charity gifts that help transform the lives of poor communities and families in developing countries, for example chickens, bees, goats, mosquito nets, access to fresh water or even teaching a child to read! Sending fewer cards will also be better for the environment!

Cards and donations can be brought into school from Monday 4th December.



As we enter the season of Christmas Shopping, a reminder that St. Joseph's is registered with [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), a scheme which allows us to raise **FREE** funds for school if you shop on-line, at no extra cost to you!

A wide range of over 4,300 retailers participate including a number of familiar High Street stores and supermarkets and signing up is easy. Please see the attached flyer for more details or visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjosephsdorking/> You can download the App or add the Donation Reminder to your browser so you never miss a donation opportunity.

Don't forget to tell your friends and family too!