

Dear parents and carers,

Well, the snow came out of nowhere on Wednesday! I suppose winter is upon us, and as we approach December, it is time to reflect on Advent and Christmas.

Firstly, the teacher and parent in me asks that you ensure your children have coats, hats and gloves every day, even if they don't feel like it! It's a battle I have at home, too.

But secondly, and more importantly, this is the time of year where we prepare for the greatest story ever told: the birth of Jesus Christ, the son of God. I know we have heard the nativity many times, but every year God invites us to understand it and experience it in a different way. My favourite way of immersing our family in the nativity, beyond the St Joseph's performances of course, is to go to Wintershall, in Bramley. Acted both outside and in a barn, it feels like you are in Bethlehem! [Please take a look at the website link here](#), and consider taking your children - it is a very special experience.



God bless

Sam Crome



IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Advent Dates

Thurs 11th December, AM
Yr R Nativity to Parents

Tuesday 16th Dec PM
Y1&2 Nativity 1

Wednesday 17th Dec AM
Y1&2 Nativity 2

Wednesday 17th Dec
Christmas Lunch

Thursday 18th December
KS2 Advent Service 2PM

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

[Book a school tour:](#)
[01306 883934](tel:01306883934)

SNACKS AT SCHOOL AND AT CLUBS



Snacks at school: these should be fruit based and not biscuits, sweets, chocolate, etc. We try to ensure that children all have healthy, fruit-based snacks during school hours.

Snacks at clubs: children are bringing unhealthy snacks to clubs after school and this has increased in the last few weeks, with some children bringing in snacks that take a long time to eat and distract from the club itself. As these clubs only run until 4pm, we ask that you send them with fruit, please.

Thank you for your support.

LUNCH PAYMENTS ON ARBOR

Apologies to add this to a newsletter, but please can all parents and carers keep up with payments for lunches on Arbor. As a school we aren't supposed to allow arrears to build up; payments should be in advance of a balance approaching 0 so that there aren't arrears. Please let us know if you need any help with using Arbor.



LILY SQUAD IN ACTION!

The Lily Squad have settled into their role as our school ambassadors.

They have helped with our recent Rosary Club and bead sale, discussed ideas for Advent and put up Sofia the Sloth signs, reminding us all to keep our doors closed and the cold air out.

We are really proud of how hard they work to help our school and how they seek out, and represent views of our student population.



A MESSAGE FROM Y-KIDS

At Y-Kids, we offer a safe, welcoming space where children can enjoy healthy breakfast and snacks as well as exciting activities and plenty of time to play! We operate out of the school hall and have access to the outside spaces.

- Breakfast Club: £6.25 a session
- Afterschool Club: £13.75 a session
- All-day booking: Breakfast & Afterschool club on the same day with a week's notice: £19
- Flexible bookings available!

Email us at Children@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk or go to our website



ACADEMISATION UPDATE

Thank you to the parents who came to the Academisation meeting on Wednesday evening.

If you weren't able to make it, the presentation will be added to the school website. Please submit any questions or comments to consultation@stjosephs-dorking.surrey.sch.uk by Friday 5th December.



Y5&6 TRIP - KENSUKE'S KINGDOM

Last week, we were able to take Year 5 and Year 6 to see Kensuke's Kingdom at Dorking Halls. Both year groups have read this wonderful novel by Michael Morpurgo, and the film adaptation proved popular. As ever, they were very well behaved - thank you to staff who lead this trip.

