

Dear parents and carers,

On Sunday, we begin the season of Advent. By all means, buy your children advent calendars! It is a season of preparation and arrival, and the simple joy that children take from a chocolate hidden behind a small door is, in a way, symbolic of the joy we can find in the true meaning of advent.

Every day of advent is a chance to both prepare for Jesus' arrival in our world and our lives, and to celebrate it with joy and hope. As you have breakfast together, or when you open an advent calendar door, or get ready for bed, take a moment to pray for the wonder of Jesus' birth and what it brings to us all.

For children, there are many resources available, from daily prayers or devotionals from the Cafod website, to a huge range of books to help understand, and get excited by, Christmas!



Wishing you and your family a blessed start to Advent.

God bless

Sam Crome



## IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

### Advent Dates

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> December, AM  
Yr R Nativity to Parents

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec PM  
Y1&2 Nativity 1

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec AM  
Y1&2 Nativity 2

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Christmas Lunch

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
KS2 Advent Service 2PM

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

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

## CHRISTMAS WREATHS!



A huge well done to each class for their creative and festive wreath making over the last few weeks. It is wonderful to see so many different designs. The wreaths will be on display this weekend at the Dorking Christmas Festival and are all entered into the wreath competition.

Please feel free to vote of one of the St Joseph's wreaths at the URC Church on the 30th. It would be great to have a winner from our school. Every vote counts!

## FILM NIGHT SUCCESS!

A huge thank you to the Friends of St Joseph's for putting on two brilliant film nights this month, raising over £500 for the school! The Friends have recently paid to upgrade our speaker system in the hall, meaning that future events will be bigger and better than ever! Thank you to all who came, volunteered, and organised. We are lucky to have you all!



## Y5 BOYS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

A very big well done to the boys who represented St Joseph's at the Year 5 tournament this week. It was a great afternoon where the team showed resilience and great team work. A particular mention to Orlando who scored a goal against the winning team, playing 2 years above his age group.

Thank you to the coaches from Dorking who help prepare the team for this event.

Great work everyone!



## SMALL ACTS OF CHRISTMAS KINDNESS!

We were asked to make some Christmas cards for members of our Dorking community who would benefit with us showing that we care. In total, children managed to make 64 cards with a handwritten message inside.

There were many children of different ages involved in this project who often worked during their lunchtime. We know how important it is to reach out, particularly at Christmas, and spread a little Christmas kindness.



## ACADEMISATION UPDATE



The recent presentation on Academisation has been added to the school website, with the consultation period ending on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Please submit any questions or comments to [consultation@stjosephs-dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:consultation@stjosephs-dorking.surrey.sch.uk) before then.

## YEAR 5 VIKING DAY!

Year 5 enjoyed a day of Viking themed activities to deepen our understanding of the Viking era. Each pupil was given a Viking name and they were invited to come into school dressed as a Viking. Pupils learnt about the societal structures of Viking life. They learnt about and made their own Viking shields. We listened to Viking sagas and ate Soda bread made from a recipe similar to one used during the Viking era. Pupils learnt about the features of Viking longboats and the Norse language and ancient runes.

