

Jesus: in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, in our learning.



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Thank you for supporting our Christmas Market this year!
Well done to the pupils for their fantastic crafts!

20th December 2024

Message from Mrs Taylor

It's been a wonderful end to our Autumn term! Our Advent Service in church on Sunday was a beautiful reminder of the Christmas story and the birth of Jesus. Thank you to our Years 3 and 4 staff and pupils for preparing and leading our service so beautifully. On Tuesday, we celebrated our 'Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day'. The pupils enjoyed decorating the tables and pulling crackers with each other. Thank you to all our fabulous kitchen staff for preparing the dinner and to all the staff who helped serve the children. Also on Tuesday, members of our school sang at the St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School Advent Service. We were so proud of you! On Wednesday, our Chaplaincy Government Group led a beautiful Christingle service for us. Each child made a Christingle which they will bring home with them. When you light your Christingle at home, remember that Jesus is the light of the world and that he is with us.

We've had so many wonderful experiences this term. Nursery pupils particularly remembered the Christmas Celebration with their parents; Reception pupils, their trip to Pizza Express and Year 1, their trip to Cardiff Castle. Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed preparing their nativity production and Years 3 and 4, their Advent Service. Year 5 remembered their fantastic trip to Rhondda Heritage Museum and Year 6 pupils, to the South Wales Aviation Museum.

We say 'Goodbye' today to Miss Whelan who is due to have her baby in January. We wish her every blessing over the next few weeks and hope to see her very soon. From January, Year 4 pupils will be taught by Mrs O'Donoghue.

As we come to the end of the term, I would like to take a moment to say, 'Thank you'. St Joseph's would not be the school it is without the dedication and motivation of our wonderful staff, Governing Body and Parish Priest Mgr. Boardman and Deacon Elfed; the enthusiasm and commitment of our fantastic Friends and Family Team; the unfailing support of you, our parents and carers; and our incredible pupils who inspire us each day. Thank you all for your effort, compassion, patience and successes this year. Finally, a big 'Thank you' from myself and the staff for all your kind gifts. They are very much appreciated.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. May Christ's peace and hope be with your family now and in the days ahead. May the blessing of knowing Christ warm your hearts and enrich your life in 2025.

I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Take care, God Bless and Happy Christmas!— Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week



Nadolig Llawn! Happy Christmas!

Gweddiwn: *Let us pray*

Diolch am ddod yn faban ym Methlehem...

Thank you for coming as a baby in Bethlehem

iesu rwy'n dy garu... Jesus I love you.

Diolch am olau seren Bethlehem...

Thank you for the light of the star of Bethlehem

iesu rwy'n dy garu... Jesus I love you.

Diolch am gariad Mair ein Mam...

Thank you for the love of Mary our Mother

iesu rwy'n dy garu... Jesus I love you.

Dates for the Diary



January

6th – INSET DAY

7th – First Day Back for Pupils

14th – Rec – Year 3 XL Workshops (Funded by F&F)

21st – Years 4 - 6 XL Workshops (Funded by F&F)

February

5th – Nursery – Year 2 Fluoride Varnish Application

5th – Year 6 PC Alex Cyber Safety

12th – Rec – Year 2 HSBC Financial Education workshops

13th – Y3 – 6 HSBC Financial Education workshops

24th – 28th – Half Term

March

7th – School Eisteddfod

11th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm

12th – Parent Teacher Consultations 4pm – 6pm

Remaining INSET Days

Tuesday 6th May

Monday 21st July

Attendance

This week's attendance figures for each class are:

Class	Attendance
Reception	77.7%
Year 1	82.9%
Year 2	94.2%
Year 3	88.6%
Year 4	93.8%
Year 5	90.3%
Year 6	86.6%



Well done to Year 2 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.



NATIVITY SCENE ADORATION OF THE MAGI Zvonimir Atletic © Alamy

Christmas 2024
St Joseph's and St Mary's Parish
Penarth and Dinas Powys

Tuesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

3pm Crib Service - St Mary's

7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas - St Mary's
(Carols from 6.30pm)

10pm Mass of Midnight - St Joseph's
(Carols from 9.30pm)

Wednesday 25th December (Christmas Day)

9.30am Dawn Mass of Christmas - St Joseph's

11.15am Day Mass of Christmas - St Mary's

Wednesday 1st January 2025 - New Year's Day

11am Mass - St Joseph's

All services from St Joseph's are streamed live.

Visit: stjosephsandstmarys.com

Printed and published by **Thomas Leach Colour**, Abingdon, Oxon. www.tlcolour.co.uk

Advent Service



Last Sunday, Years 3 and 4 led us in our school-parish Advent Service at St Joseph's RC Church. The liturgy was a beautiful reminder of the Christmas story and the birth of Jesus. The pupils helped us to understand the meaning of Advent and led us through the scriptures of Isaiah in the Old Testament, who looked forward joyfully to the coming of the Promised One, to the Annunciation and Visitation, the importance of John the Baptist, who prepared a way for the Lord, and the story of Jesus' birth. Through scripture, drama, song and prayer, the pupils helped us all to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Well done all!

Magic Show, Storytelling and Scavenger Hunt



Our heartfelt thanks to the F&F Committee and all the families who have supported our events throughout the year. Your incredible efforts and generosity have made it possible to fund some truly magical Christmas treats for our pupils this year.

From the enchanting Mr Marvel's Christmas Magic Show to Santa's heartwarming storytelling, the festive scavenger hunt, and the wonderful Christmas gifts, you have brought so much joy and excitement to our children this season. These moments of happiness and wonder are only possible because of your continued dedication and kindness. Thank you for everything you do to make our school community so special.

Christingle Service



On Wednesday, our Chaplaincy Team led us in a beautiful Christingle service. We gathered together in the darkness of winter days, to celebrate the light - the light that always overcomes the darkness.

The orange of the Christingle symbolises the world. The candle is the light of Christ and the red ribbon reminds us that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross and rose again. The sweets and fruit represent all the good things that the world produces for us.

When we lit our Christingles, we remembered that God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son Jesus to show us what God's love is like. We remembered that Jesus is the light of the world and that he is with us.

Autumn Term 2024 Class Superstars!

Nursery	Lily Davey	Year 3	Caleb Cummings
Reception	Erin Spear	Year 4	Alphonsa Manayani
Year 1	Ben Hooper	Year 5	Alys Cirino
Year 2	Molly Dix	Year 6	Bethan Addy



Weekly Good News Awards

Mrs Taylor's Good News Awards are for pupils who have grown in the virtues of 'Intentional and Prophetic'. They deliberately choose to live by the values of Jesus and show this by their words and actions.

Congratulations to this week's winners!

Nursery	Oscar Murphy Newport Rowan Keenan Frankie Leach Irene Nithin	Year 3	Amelia Barber Elisabeth Goma Camps Jaimes Harvey Haincock Lana Stolzenberg
Reception	Peru Edwards Sophia Burnett Roman Daly Jonah Quick	Year 4	Layla James Mirabelle Challis Ayaansh Prasad Marti Goma Camps Jaimes
Year 1	William Hoover Elise Knapper Doris Perkins Isla Mae Hilliard	Year 5	Lexie Morgan Dylan Hooper Reuben Griffiths Leilani Goodall
Year 2	Aleia Goodall Nate Mercer Charlie Moreton Lette Quick	Year 6	Raine Ferrer Brooke Lewis Joseff Vella-Jones Finley Mulchinock