



St Joseph's Catholic Academy

Believe, Achieve, Succeed



Friday 16th December 2022

*"This was the true light -
the light that comes into the world
and shines on all people." John 1:9*

Dear Families,

I can't believe that we are at the end of our Advent Term and what a busy term it has been. Well done to all of our fantastic children – they have worked so hard this term, they have produced some wonderful work, learnt lots of new knowledge and participated enthusiastically in all of their lessons.

Our lunchtimes have been filled with lots of fun and games and children playing so well together. It has been a pleasure to watch our older children lead and coach our younger children in their roles as Wellbeing Ambassadors and Sports Ambassadors.

The children have been so adaptable this last week, as they have got used to new lunchtime routines and our Year 2 and Foundation class being taught in different places, as a result of the heating not working effectively in the Key Stage 1 part of the building. We have engineers scheduled to come out next week to find a solution to the problem and we will of course keep you updated.

To all parents and families, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to you all for your continued support in so many aspects of our school life... the excellent homework projects that your children completed, in addition to supporting your children with their homework every week... joining us for our Nativity plays... celebrating masses and liturgies with us... your generous donations for harvest and the Christmas Bazaar... and so many more. Thank you for your being such a loving and caring community.

Wishing you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

**God bless,
Mrs Dabbs**

Christmas Masses at Our Lady of Victories

Christmas Eve: 6pm & 10pm
(Preceded by Carols at 9:30pm)

Christmas Day: 9am & 11am

All welcome

St Stephen's Day
(Boxing Day) 11am



Dates for the Diary

Friday 16th December – LAST DAY OF TERM

Tuesday 3rd January – Staff INSET Day
(School Closed for Children)

Wednesday 4th January – Children return to school

Epiphany Mass

On Friday 6th January
at 10 am



Our first whole school mass of the new term will take place at Our Lady of Victories on Friday 6th January 2023, celebrating the feast of the Epiphany. We hope to see lots of our parents and families joining us at 10am.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER CHRIS...

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS: We are going to have to have a special service for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday 19 December at 7.00pm. **There will be visiting priests available: Fr Peter Wade, Fr John Joe Maloney and Fr Jim Cahill.** I know it's been difficult with COVID for many to go to confession over these last two or so years. We can make this a great opportunity to prepare for Christmas in a special way this year with Our Lord's pardon & peace. There will be a little introduction, a couple of prayers and examination of conscience. The blessed sacrament will be exposed while confessions are heard. See parish newsletter for further times. **Come along and meet the merciful Lord.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION . We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2023. Applications forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by 8 January 2023. It is for children in year 3 and above, the first meeting for parents will take place on **Thursday 19th January 2023 at 7.00pm in the Octagonal Hall** when we will introduce the course and give out the plan. The first session for children will take place on Sunday 22 January 2023 from 10.20am- 11.20am and each session will take place in between the Masses with the children joining their parents and the congregation after the Liturgy of the Word.