



# St Joseph's Catholic Academy







Friday 13th December 2024

#### Dear Families.

Our Year 1 and 2 children have brought us so much joy this week. Their Nativity performances in school were simply wonderful, bringing a smile to all our faces and filling our hearts with pride. The many compliments made by our audience were testament to the fantastic achievement of the children and indeed the staff – a huge well done to everyone involved!

This Sunday at 3pm, our talented School Choir will be performing at the annual Christmas Carol Concert in our Parish Church — our Lady of Victories. This is a wonderful community event, and all our families and friends are warmly invited. There will be tea, coffee and mince pies in the hall afterwards. We hope to see some of you there.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating the last week of the term when we have lots of exciting events planned for our community to mark this very special time of the year. Some events are celebrations, and others are prayerful reflections — which provide us with an important opportunity to rest and worship at this very busy time of year. Please look at the 'Christmas events' section of this newsletter to find out more. We are also thrilled to welcome Mr Hooley back to school from Monday this week — we have missed him!

# Moments of Pride



We were so grateful to be able to share our Trust travelling crib with every class in school when it came to visit us. It had travelled from English Martyrs in Oakham and then journeyed on to Bishop Ellis in Thurmaston. Such a wonderful way to connect with our family of Catholic schools.

A message from Father Chris...
Christmas Masses as Christmas falls on

Wednesday this year:

Christmas eve: 6.00pm & 10.00pm (Preceded by carols 9.30pm)

Christmas day: 10.00am

St Stephen's day (Boxing Day) 10.00am



**Confessions for Christmas:** We are going to have to have a special service for the Sacrament of reconciliation on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December
7.00pm. There will be visiting priests available

Have a wonderful weekend, God bless, Mrs Dabbs

# **Key dates for your diary:**

Friday 20th December Last day of the term

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January
Christmas Holiday

Monday 6th January 2025 Back to school

## **Christmas events**

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Benediction in Church at 11:30am' (for years 2 to 6 – all familes welcome)

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec - Theatre trip for Foundation & Year 1

**Tues 17**<sup>th</sup> **Dec** - Choir singing in St Mary's Place at 1:30 (please feel free to come and meet us – we'll be opposite the main entrance to the indoor market)

 $\textbf{Weds 18}^{\text{th}} \ \textbf{Dec -} \ \textbf{Choir singing at Rosewood Manor}$ 

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Dinner in school (please wear Christmas accessories,

(please wear Christmas accessories, tinsel, headbands, hats...)

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Dec - Music Concert in the school hall – Musicians from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be performing (musicians' families are welcome to watch the concert and enjoy a mince pie!)

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - PTFA Christmas discos in school – £2 to wear your own clothes to school – Christmas themed! Foundation, Y1 and Y2 at 1pm, Y3 and Y4 at 2pm, Y5 & Y6 at 3pm (parents to collect at 4pm)

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Liturgy in Church at 9:30am (all families and friends welcome to join us, and our Chaplains will be serving refreshments in the Octagonal Hall after Mass)

### PARENT and CARER - Exciting Offer!!

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 to Friday the 31<sup>st of</sup> January 2025 a 20% discount will be available on fee-paying GoLearn courses across the county. The discount aims to encourage adults aged 19+ to take part in lifelong learning, improve employment opportunities, engage with their community, support their wellbeing, and stay active. Since our 2024/25 programme launched on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, over 3,000 adults in Leicestershire have signed-up for community learning courses this academic year, and spaces are still available on over 250 courses starting from January 2025.

Visit <u>www.GoLearnLeicestershire.ac.uk</u> where you can enrol online. If you would like more information on our offer, please feel free to email <u>lals.participationteam@leics.gov.uk</u>, we will be happy to help. We can also provide paper versions.