

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of this extraordinary year and term, I would like to share a few words of thanks with you all.

I would like to start with our children – the resilience, behaviour and hard work of all our pupils this term has been impeccable and I would like to thank them for how quickly and maturely they have settled back into new school routines with a smile on their faces. Thank you and well done, children!

I would also like to thank all of the hardworking staff at SJF, including our office staff, breakfast and after school club staff, our midday supervisors, our cleaners, our premises officers, our teachers, our teaching assistants and our school governors. I have been very humbled and thankful for the dedication and care of the SJF team towards each other, our school families and the wider community during the coronavirus outbreak. Their continued hard work to provide the very best education, despite the many challenges, has made me feel very proud to be a part of such a fantastic team.

I would like to thank all of our wonderful parents for their patience, understanding and support since January. We will continue to work together as a school community, show each other love and kindness and pray for each other throughout these ongoing difficult times so that we can provide the very best education for your children.

Finally, I would like to wish all our families a very happy and blessed Christmas. See you all on January 5th.

Catholic Life **Carol service**

We had a lovely service of carols and readings this morning. Well done to our chaplaincy team and Key Stage 2 readers. It has helped us prepare for the coming of Jesus. The service was recorded and links will be sent to teachers to put on class dojo.

Wednesday word

The 'Wednesday Word' is a very helpful resource to support the Catholic Life of our schools. We have sent out a special festive edition to all our parents alongside this newsletter.

Epiphany

We return to school on Wednesday 5th and the day after is of course is Epiphany, the 6th of January. God willing, we will have Mass for the children at 9.30 a.m. celebrated by Fr John.

Nativities – the shows

Our youngest children got their chance to do their nativities this year, with the Reception performing 'A bundle of joy', Year 1 'Hey Ewe' and Year 2 'A midwife crisis'. They were terrific! It was lovely to have audiences in the hall to watch the performances in a safe and controlled way. Firstly, there were the dress rehearsals and then



parents, carers and grandparents for an afternoon performance. All dress rehearsals were recorded and will be on your child's class dojo page on or before the 21st December.

Santa at SJF

Santa made a surprise visit to our school on Wednesday afternoon. He was warmly welcomed by all the children. Santa gave each and every child a wrapped and named present.

Thank you, Santa! You're the best!

OFSTED

The inspector who visited last month has wrote a report about SJF. This is what she said...

'Saint John Fisher is a warm and welcoming school. Pupils behave well. They are keen to learn.

Pupils feel safe in school. Pupils know that if they have a problem, the adults in school will help them to sort it out.

Pupils engage well in their learning and listen intently to their teachers. They are articulate and keen to give their ideas and opinions. They learn about the diverse world we live in, how to care for the environment and how to form positive relationships.'

We are very pleased with our report and will continue to progress and move forward to ensure your child receives the best education. Thank you for your support and especially if you contributed to the Parentview survey. Read the full report [here](#).

PTFA

The PTFA are pulling out all the stops to ensure all our children have a memorable Christmas. Thank you to them and everyone behind the scenes for their hard work and ingenuity. We are blessed to have such a wonderful association.

Message from the PTFA

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the PTFA Christmas activities this term. Your generosity has been amazing and we hope you've enjoyed all the things we have done. We may not have been able to get together but the money you have raised has helped us to provide those extra things to make this Christmas a special one for our children at St John Fisher.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year!

Back to school

All children are back to school as normal at the arrival and departure times as before on **Wednesday January 5th**.



Pantomime



The children had a marvelous time on Thursday morning watching 'Beauty and the Beast' in the school hall. EYFS and KS1 watched the show together and then there was a separate viewing for KS2.

The children enjoyed the production – for some, it was their first ever pantomime – and have been inspired to write reviews, re-tells and re-imaginings after.

Many thanks to M&M productions and our PTFA who funded the pantomime and the treats the children enjoyed.

Reading Books

A request for all families to have a look at home for any SJF reading books and return these to school. Thank you to those families that have returned outstanding books.

Thank you to some of our parents who donated new or near books to our school library and classrooms. They have been very well received.

Homework

We would like your child to continue reading and keep their reading records up to date over the holidays and if they wish to log on to our subscription websites that is entirely their choice and is absolutely fine. Your child's teacher will be setting consolidation and preview work to be done over the holidays.

Admissions applications for Autumn Term 2022

Children are admitted to the school in September of the year in which they have their fifth birthday. If there is anyone who wishes to apply for a place for September 2022 (d.o.b. 01.09.2017 – 31.08.2018) You must complete a supplementary form which can be found on the school website: <https://www.stjohnfisher-wigston.leics.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

There is also a requirement to fill in an LA form before January 15th 2021. For county residents, this form can be found at <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/popular-now/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

For city residents, This form can be found at <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-and-colleges/school-admissions/starting-school/>

Please share this information with any new prospective parents who have children to start school 2022-2023.

Click [here](#) to find out more about new entrants to SJF.

Breakfast Club

There is a Breakfast Club which starts at 7.45am.

Afterschool Club

Similarly for afterschool club. There is a booking form that can be found on the school website and will be sent out next week.



Covid - 19

Continue to be vigilant and diligent in following all the Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines especially now in the lead up to Christmas. As many have said Covid doesn't know it's Christmas, but we do and it's vital that we continue with the basics: hand hygiene, face coverings, and social distancing.

I wish you a happy, holy and peaceful Christmas with your families.

God bless,

Mr Gallagher

DATES FOR THE DIARY – all dependent on the situation at the time

Dec 20 th	Art Day
Dec 21 st	End of term – 2/2.05 p.m. - School closes for Christmas
Jan 5 th	All children back to school Breakfast and Afterschool club as normal
Jan 6 th	Feast of the Epiphany
Jan 7 th	Curriculum and RE leaflets published online and sent home
Jan 14 th	Year 5 & 6 resume swimming