



Statement of the Week

I can work, play, rest and pray each day.

This Week's Reading - This week in your child's homework diary the readings remind us about using our talents and how God trusts us to use the gifts he has given us. There is a lovely opportunity to think about the gifts that we have been given and a chance to reflect on these talents.

Attendance - We continue to work hard with our efforts of attendance. Below is a message sent from Andrew Eastwood, the chief officer of Learning Improvement in Leeds.

'Thanks to your efforts in the last few years we have made great improvements in school attendance in Leeds, with more children and young people in school and learning. The latest data, covering the school year up to 10 November, show that primary school attendance is 96.2 per cent. This time last year, primary attendance was 95.9 per cent - thank you for your support in raising attendance across the city.'

Andrew Eastwood - Chief Officer Learning Improvement

St Joseph's School Attendance Last Week

FS2	95.3%
Y1	99.3%
Y2	98.7%
Y3	96.5%
Y4	96.8%
Y5	97.9%
Y6	97.2%
Total	97.4%

Well done to year 1 and 2 for such high attendance last week!

PE Kits

Could I please ask parents to ensure that their children have the correct PE kits in school for all PE sessions. This includes navy blue shorts/jogging bottoms, a school PE t-shirt and a navy-blue hoody/jumper. Your child should have trainers and pumps in school for PE use. Could I also remind parents that hair should also be tied up. Please check the school website and access the class newsletters for information on your child's PE days.

Music Lessons in School

We currently have a number of children accessing music lessons in school with our music teachers. If you are interested in your child taking up these sessions, please contact the school office for a form. Mr Tong, who teaches woodwind, delivered taster sessions for all of KS2 at the beginning of this half term. If any of your children would like to follow this up, please contact the school office.

CAFOD Collections - This week Deacon David and Maggie visited us to deliver a whole school presentation. They shared the stories of those people who have been affected by natural disasters overseas and how the work of CAFOD helps those affected to rebuild their communities. The money that was donated by our families this year during the harvest festival has helped families in the Philippines who have been affected by the typhoon this year. Thank you again for your kind donations.

FOSJ - There will be a FOSJ meeting in the school hall on Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 6:45pm. This is an opportunity for any parents/carers who are interested in the work of the friends, who may be able to share ideas for fundraisings or are interested in being part of the FOSJ to come along, enjoy drinks and nibbles and help continue the journey of fund raising for our school.

Travelling Crib

The travelling crib will be available for our families during advent. If you are interested in taking the travelling crib home during advent, please put your details on the list provided on the board situated outside Nursery and FS2.

Mini Vinnies

We have been approached by Sr Faustina from St Clare's Convent in Leeds to help them provide some food and Christmas gifts for the poor. We would be incredibly grateful if you could help in this appeal either by making a small monetary donation which will then be used to buy some small gifts; or by donating food. The Sisters are looking for non-perishable food items for Christmas meals, particularly: stuffing, gravy granules, Christmas pudding, mince pies, chocolate, non-alcoholic drinks, Christmas crackers.

The Mini Vinnies will have a table outside school before and after school on Wednesday 6th December. As always, we are very grateful for all of your donations and collectively we can make a difference to many families in our community this Christmas.

Important Dates

Friday 24th November – non-uniform day: FOSJ are asking for donations of books and toys

Thursday 30th November – Year 6 SATs information evening 5:30pm

Friday 1st December from 3:15 – Christmas dress day: wear something 'Christmassy' for the Christmas Fair, donations of buns/cakes please.

Wednesday 6th December - Mini Vinnies collecting for the sisters: food/donations

Friday 15th December Mass in School 10:30

Friday 15th December School closes for the Christmas break 1:30pm

2018 Dates:

Tuesday 2nd January 2018 School opens

Monday 29th January 2018 Open classrooms, 3:15-4pm

Tuesday 6th February 5:30pm Assessment information evening for parents/carers

Tuesday 6th February 6:45pm FOSJ meeting in the school hall – all welcome!

FOSJ Upcoming Events

Christmas Fair – Friday 1st December 3:15pm (3:15pm)

Santa's Grotto tickets are now on sale. Please see Mrs Duggan who will be selling the tickets on the playground.

We will be having a non-uniform day **this coming Friday to collect further donations for the school Christmas Fair. This Friday (24th November)** the FOSJ are asking for donations of books or toys for the Christmas Fair stalls. Thank you for your generosity at this busy time of year. All proceeds go to our school, helping to ensure we provide the very best additional resources for our children.

On Friday 1st December, the day of the Christmas Fair, all Children are invited to come into school in 'Christmas Dress' This could include your child wearing a bit of tinsel in their hair, a Christmas hat etc. If you could donate buns, cakes for the Christmas Fair that would be very much appreciated. Thank you to all of the FOSJ members who are working hard to make the St Joseph's Christmas Fair another success!