



Statement of the week

"I think before I make choices that affect my health."

There will be no golden book assembly on Friday 4th December.

St Joseph's School Top 500

I received a letter this week congratulating our school for being in the Times top 500 schools. I enclose a copy of the letter but we have been in the top 500 schools for a number of years now and are very proud of that achievement.

Please accept my congratulations on being identified within the Times top 500 schools in the country. It is an astonishing achievement to be included in such a list and it is something that we are all proud of.

Thank you for all the hard work that has brought about this remarkable achievement.

I know that it will have been a truly team effort so, please pass on my congratulations and thanks to the whole school team.

Yours sincerely

Paul Brennan

Deputy Director

Children's Services (Learning)

Phonics

We also received a letter from Nick Gibb MP (Minister of State for School Reform)

I am writing to convey my warmest congratulations to you, your staff and your pupils for the very high standard of achievement in the 2015 phonics screening check.

We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics which is why I was so delighted to see your results. With at least 95% of pupils at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wetherby reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is

in the top 5% of all primary schools in the country.

Holy Year of Mercy

The Holy Year of Mercy starts on December 8th 2015 and ends on November 20th 2016.

A jubilee year is a special year called by the church to receive blessing and pardon from God for remission of sins. The children will be preparing and presenting assemblies on the theme of mercy throughout this special year.



Christmas activities

Nativity Performance- FS2 & KS1
Wednesday 9th December. There will be a 2 p.m. performance and a 6 p.m. performance. Both performances will be in school and obviously space is limited. The Key Stage 2 children will be having a Carol Concert at St Joseph's Church on Monday 14th December at 6.15 p.m.

There will be a celebration of mass on Friday 18th December at 10.30. I have also arranged for the children to take part in Christmas workshops in school. On 15th December the FS2 and KS1 children will be taking part in a bauble making workshop and each child will bring home a special decorated bauble for your tree. Key Stage 2 on the 16th December will have Christmas Dance workshops with a performance for parents at the end of the day. Christmas dinner this year will be on Friday 11th If your child usually brings a packed lunch and you would like them to have a Christmas dinner please send £2.25 in a sealed

envelope with your child's name and marked 'Christmas Dinner' **by 9.30am Thursday 3rd December at the latest.**

School Photograph Orders

Please return your orders by **Wednesday 25th November** as Braiswick's will be collecting them on this day to ensure delivery of your orders before the Christmas holidays.

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair this year will be straight after school on Friday 4th December 3.15-5.30. The Fair was very successful last year and we hope to repeat the success this year with your support. To ensure the success of the event and to raise the funds that will benefit all our children we are asking for your help in a number of ways.

- Bring a bottle for the bottle stall on Friday 27th November. Members of the FOSJ will have a table on the path into school for you to drop off your bottles.
- Unwanted goods, ornaments, perfumes etc. for a fancy goods tombola stall.

Crib Service

Foundation Stage 1 and 2 will be holding a crib service at St Joseph's Church at 4 p.m. on Friday 27th November.



Advent starts this Sunday 29th November.