



# St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Dear Parents,

Well, we are drawing to the end of the first full term at St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School and I can't believe how this term has flown by. It's been so busy but yet so enjoyable too. I do hope you all, and your children, feel settled in the community and now, like me, can't imagine life without St. Jérôme school.

The Christmas Festive Afternoon was amazing, wasn't it? Well done to the PTFA for putting together such a wonderful event in such a short space of time. Thank you too to all the stall holders and their helpers before, during and after the event. I have thanked Mrs. Henton, Head of School at Holy Trinity, for bringing across her choir and performing for people as they entered the school and singing again, once the Holy Trinity children had spent their money! We believe we have raised over £1300 which is an amazing amount for our first community event.

This week in worship we have continued thinking about advent and we have lit the pink candle for the third Sunday of advent. We have thought about the third Sunday being Gaudete Sunday meaning rejoice. We are over half way through advent now and pink, as a more joyful colour, allows us to rejoice. I saw an excellent mini film, recommended by a friend, on the meaning of advent. If technology works you should be able to access it through the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S02KOlw7dIA>

Don't forget the following key dates for the end of term and the start of the new year:

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00 am	Christmas Service at St. John's Church
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	1:15 pm	Term ends for all pupils
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January		INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	8:40 am	School restarts for all pupils

Don't forget term dates and upcoming events are available, and regularly updated, on the school website.

The children's performances of "A Miracle in Town" were truly wonderful this week. They really warmed to their audiences on Wednesday, so thank you for coming to support your child. They spoke their words loudly and clearly, as well as learning the words and actions for all their songs in both English and French. After barely 13 weeks in school, I am so proud of them and of all the staff, for producing such a magnificent performance.

We hope you have received Mr. Norris' recent email about the Parent Governor election. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused. We look forward to rerunning this election in the new year and receiving your nominations.

Don't forget over the Christmas holiday is an ideal time to watch the existing episodes of St Jérôme TV. Two weeks is a long time for young children so do help them to consolidate their French learning so far.

Over the Christmas holidays please (I'm sorry to nag) could you check **all** your child's uniform to ensure it is legibly named. It really was impossible after the Nativity to return everyone's clothes to their rightful owners when so many items were still not named. I fully appreciate this is a time consuming task, but we don't know where you bought your child's trousers or skirts and they don't either. Here is a reminder of the two companies that I mentioned last week:

<https://www.easy2name.com/no-iron-no-sew/easytags.html>

<https://www.stamptastic.co.uk/>

Please return all reading books and reading record books to school on Monday morning. We will then be keeping their reading folders and checking on them, so that they can be refreshed ready for the children on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

We are not setting any "homework" for the Christmas holidays. I am sure that you will share stories with your child over the holidays and point out letters, words or numbers, that they know, when you are out and about. Miss Bowerman found a lovely list of "homework" the other day and I've selected a few of my favourites, maybe you might like to try a couple with your children over the break?

1. Create a homemade gift and give it to a friend or family member.
2. Can you find out about Christmas in another country? How does it differ to Christmas in yours?
3. Go for a long walk somewhere you've never been before.
4. Can you make a Christmas tree out of something different? Lego, plasticine, the choice is yours.
5. Have a meal with your family and talk about your favourite memories of this year and the best things that happened to you.

I just wanted to highlight the services at St John's Church over the Christmas period, to which everyone is welcome.

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	6-7pm	Carol's by Candlelight
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	4-5pm	Family Carol Service
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	11:30pm-12:30am	Midnight Eucharist
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	10am	Sung Eucharist

We are joining in with the national Save the Children "Christmas Jumper Day" and we are holding our day on Monday 19th December. On that day we invite children (and the staff) to wear a Christmas jumper or clothing that is red / green and to bring a donation which we will then send to Save the Children. Children can also wear their own clothes instead of school trousers or skirts. If you would like to know more about Save the Children please use the following link: <https://christmasjumperday.org/how-you-help/>

As we draw near to the holidays, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. We pray you will all have a happy and peaceful holiday and we look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Do contact me via the school office if you have any questions about life at St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. E. Walton  
Head of School

**It is our part to seek, His to grant what we ask;  
Ours to make a beginning, His to bring it to completion;  
Ours to offer what we can, His to finish what we cannot.  
St. Jérôme (347-420AD)**

