



# St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

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Thursday, 29th November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Join the journey... Saint Jérôme Advent opportunities and information

The season of Advent is almost upon us and at Saint Jérôme School we have several opportunities we would like to make you aware of.

### Reverse Advent Calendar

As we did last year, we would like to help the children to be mindful of those in need around us and support the children to be generous in sharing what they have with others. We have decided once again to run a school reverse advent calendar. The purpose of a reverse advent calendar is to encourage everyone to think about how much we have and to support us in giving something away each day.

Items for our reverse advent calendar can be brought to school from Monday 3rd December until Friday 14th December. Each day the children can bring in one item from the list and place it in the reverse advent calendar box which will be on the playground. The list is not exhaustive, however, these are the items that Harrow Foodbank has requested. There are no rules to how much you can bring. Some families may wish to take up the challenge of bringing a small item each day or one item during the advent calendar period. Any item can be brought in on any day and all items will be given to Harrow Foodbank, who help those in need in our area.

### Foodbank List

Tinned Carrots	Tinned Spaghetti	Small Jars Coffee
Tinned Irish Stew	Tinned Hot Dogs	Small Packets Dried Potato
Shampoo	Toothpaste	Small Laundry Powder/Liquid
Children's Toothbrushes		

### Posada – is there room in your home? Can you offer hospitality?

During this Advent season we would like to invite families to experience 'Posada' – an Advent tradition from South America. 'Posada' is the Spanish word for 'Inn' or 'Hostel' and this tradition helps us to reflect on the journey that Mary and Joseph made and the hospitality that they found in Bethlehem. Posada is a great way to talk to children about the importance of hospitality and to give thanks to God for our homes and think about those who are homeless. We invite families to host our wooden Posada Nativity sets, known to the children as the 'Holy Family' for a night or weekend in their home and take a photograph to send to the school (please use the [office@stjeromebilingual.org](mailto:office@stjeromebilingual.org)) which we will then share with all the children via our website and social media. Families may want to have a meal together and share the story of the Nativity. There are some ideas in the pack. It is absolutely voluntary and it will be fun to see the journey of Mary and Joseph as they visit the homes of the families of St Jérôme

School. You can sign up for a slot on our website by visiting [www.stjeromebilingual.org/advent](http://www.stjeromebilingual.org/advent). Families should collect and return the Posada Packs from the school office. The Holy Families are hand carved in Bethlehem from Olive Wood. Please do be careful when handling the pieces and please take care to return all of the pieces for the next family.

We have produced an information leaflet for parents on the season of Advent which is attached and also available to download on our website.

We wish you a blessed Advent and good preparations for Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

*E.J. Walton*

Mrs E. Walton

*“For it is in giving that we receive”*  
*Francis of Assisi*