



Weekly Parent Update - Autumn Week 14

Dear Parents,



In Celebration of the Word this week, we prepared for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when we rejoice at the growing anticipation of our Saviour's arrival. We hear in the Gospel this weekend Jesus reassuring his followers that John the Baptist (now imprisoned by King Herod) was indeed a great prophet - the one who was sent to, "Prepare the way."

The children have been reflecting on their preparations for Christmas this week and seeking to mirror the same faithfulness as John in their work to have hearts, minds and souls ready to greet Christ this Christmas. We have explored special traditions, like the advent wreath, the Jesse tree and the nativity plays which all help us to prepare faithfully for Christ's arrival. The children have really impressed us with their understanding that these special, spiritual preparations are valuable and meaningful, alongside writing our Christmas lists!

Wishing you a blessed weekend -
Mr Collins

House Points



Another close run half term with every House achieving in excess of 2,000 House Points - WOW! Special congratulations to Canterbury House who will receive their reward of extra playtime on **Wednesday 17th Dec**. Children in Canterbury are invited to wear their official House T-Shirts as part of this celebration, alongside their normal uniform.

Canterbury - 2335

Iona - 2212

Lindisfarne - 2088

Walsingham - 2163

Christmas Holiday Camp



At St Joseph's we are offering you a couple of extra days to shop, prepare, relax or work either side of the Christmas celebrations, knowing that your children are having fun and are being cared for by our dedicated staff.

We are opening our holiday camp for the 22nd /23rd and the 29th /30th of December. Places will be strictly limited to 45 and are sure to fill up quickly. The children will be able to participate in the ever popular games, crafts, and sports that are always available. The crafts will have a Christmas theme and I'm sure there will be abundant amounts of glue and glitter.

Whatever the weather we will get them outside to make use of the school's astro, trim trail and other outside spaces.

Let them burn off their energy and explore their creative side with us this Christmas season. Children up to the age of 11 are welcome including siblings and friends at other schools.

To book please see the sessions via your Parentmail app and if you would like to sign up for the first time please complete the attached form for each child wishing to attend and email it back to jgalvin@stjosephsguildford.com or sdamariopeel@stjosephsguildford.com.

Admissions Policy 2027-28 PUBLIC CONSULTATION



St Joseph's DRAFT Admissions Policy for 2027-28 is now [available online](#) and is open to public consultation because of a number of changes to the document include: making criteria clearer and reducing unnecessary criteria, ensuring notes are more succinct, adding children of staff, removing reference to parishes and removing the need for the SIF to be countersigned.

Catholic Parish of Guildford: 10% Christmas Charity Appeal



This Christmas all are invited to consider donating up to 10% of our Christmas spending via this Appeal to three charities: a local, national and international charity, each meeting the needs of the 'Poorest of the Poor' or other 'extremely deserving cause'. The Charities represented in this years appeal include:

LOCAL: MATRIX TRUST Supporting mental health needs of young, vulnerable people across Guildford

NATIONAL: HOUSING JUSTICE Helps people out of homelessness and creates justice in the housing system

INTERNATIONAL: MARY'S MEALS Provides life-changing school meals to children in the world's poorest communities.

For more details and how to donate please visit [CPG 10% Christmas Charity Appeal](#)

School Admissions



**Primary school
admissions are open
Apply by 15 January**

The window for Primary School admission applications for September 2026 is now open. Please find all the information you need on the [Surrey School Admissions website](#).

Upcoming Diary Dates

Monday 15th December

School Choir to RSCH

Thursday 18th December

Junior Christmas Production - 9:15am

Year 3 Carol Performance - 2:15pm

Friday 19th December

Junior Christmas Production - 9:15am

School Finishes at 1:30pm