



Dear All,

Well Christmas is nearly here and as you can imagine the children are very excited for the holidays and all the season brings! We have had a busy couple of weeks which have included:

- Our Christmas Concert
- Our trip to Santa's Toy Mine
- Family Mass with Archbishop Mark
- A visit from Santa with Christmas buffet and party.
- Our Nursery concert
- Christmas jumper day and Lunch
- Christmas Raffle

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone who works so hard to make our school such a special place.

From all the staff, we hope you have a restful, peaceful and fun-filled family Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in 2026!

What's been happening in our classes - **Beth sy'n digwydd yn ein dosbarthiadau**

Nursery



In the Nursery we have been preparing for the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ through a variety of different mediums including crafts and expressive arts. Our crafty efforts include Nativity Christmas cards, salt dough angels, pinecone Christmas trees and Christmas stockings. We re-enacted the narrative when the angel brought the news of great joy to the shepherds. The highlight was naturally the Christmas concert. The children were wonderful!

Reception/Year 1



Lots of exciting learning has been happening in Reception/Year 1 class this month! To begin, we wrote individual Advent Promises and discussed how we could become closer to Jesus. We have also been busy writing Christmas lists and letters to Father Christmas. The Christmas Provision has been a big hit and we have had lots of 'elves' wrapping, and 'Santa's' preparing toys! We have been using watercolours to paint the town of Bethlehem and have produced some beautiful pieces of artwork. A highlight of the month was our trip to Santa's Toy Mine! Children loved the Christmas lights, the 'snow party' and of course, meeting Father Christmas.

Year 1/Year 2



We have enjoyed being creative and crafting during December. We have painted Angels, made Advent wreaths and Snowmen (Year 2). We have enjoyed learning about the Very First Christmas, learning through song in preparation for our Christmas concert, sequencing the Nativity story and so much more.

Preparing for Christmas and learning about ADVENT. Father Krzysztof visited for a special assembly and told us all about St. Nicholas. Thank you, Father, for sharing your love with us all.

Although the weather was wet and wild our school trip was fantastic - we loved going down Santa's toy mine, we even had a special present at the end too!

In written work we have created list for Santa and more recently had a go at writing a letter to him too! In our POD area, we have enjoyed role-playing Santa's helpers, wrapping up gifts and writing cards to send at our post office.

On behalf of all the pupils and staff in Year 1/ 2 we wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Year 2



Our Christmas preparations are in full swing! This half term, we have been writing our Advent promises and looking at Advent traditions around the world, including Las Posadas. We had a wonderful (albeit soggy) trip to Santa's toy mine. The children are all on the good list!

We have written our own letters to Santa and in our provision areas we have been using 3D shapes to make Christmas trees, baubles and crackers. We've had a lovely Christmas dinner and Santa even managed to find time in his busy schedule to come and visit us. Year 2 wishes all our family and friends a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

Attendance - Presenoldeb

Weekly attendance is shared with the children every week as well as on our Instagram account. The class with the highest attendance receives an award chosen by the children. This could be Golden Time on the yard, bikes or doing a particular colouring activity.

Attendance for the month of December:

Nursery	84.72%
Reception/Year 1	83.04%
Year 1/ Year 2	89.97%
Year 2	87.07%
Whole School attendance to date	92.3%

Health and Safety - **Iechyd a Diogelwch**

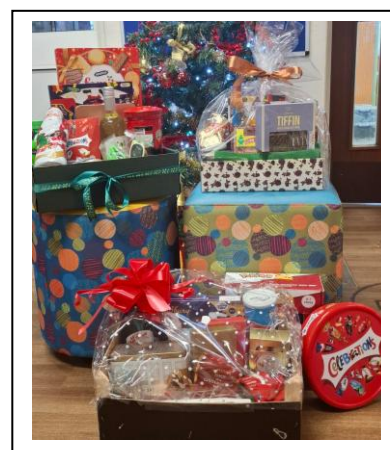
Please note that the front gate will be locked between 11.45am and 12.45pm every day. This is to ensure the safety of our children during lunchtime. If you need to collect your children during this time, please phone the office by 11.30am to inform us.

Diary Dates - **Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur**

Monday 5th January	Spring Term begins - back to school for all
Sunday 11th January	Family Mass at St Joseph's Church at 10am
Week beginning 20th January	Parents evening week - details to follow.
Friday 30th January	Great Athletes - Sponsor Event to raise money for PE equipment in the school. Details to follow.
Monday 16th February to Friday 21st February	February Half Term
Monday 23rd February	INSET Day - school closed to pupils.
Friday 27th February	Wear Red for Velindre - The children are invited to wear red to school to support this worthwhile cause. Donations to be made via Parent Pay.
Monday 2nd March	St David's Day Celebrations - Children are invited to wear their Welsh costumes. We will attend Mass and have our whole school Eisteddfod
Thursday March 19th	Feast of St Joseph. The children can wear red on this day. We will be attending Mass and having a small party to celebrate our feast day.
Friday 27th March	End of Spring Term

Christmas Raffle

A big thank you to all who donated prizes, sold or bought tickets for our raffle. We raised £147.50 for the school. Congratulations to our three winners who each won a festive hamper!



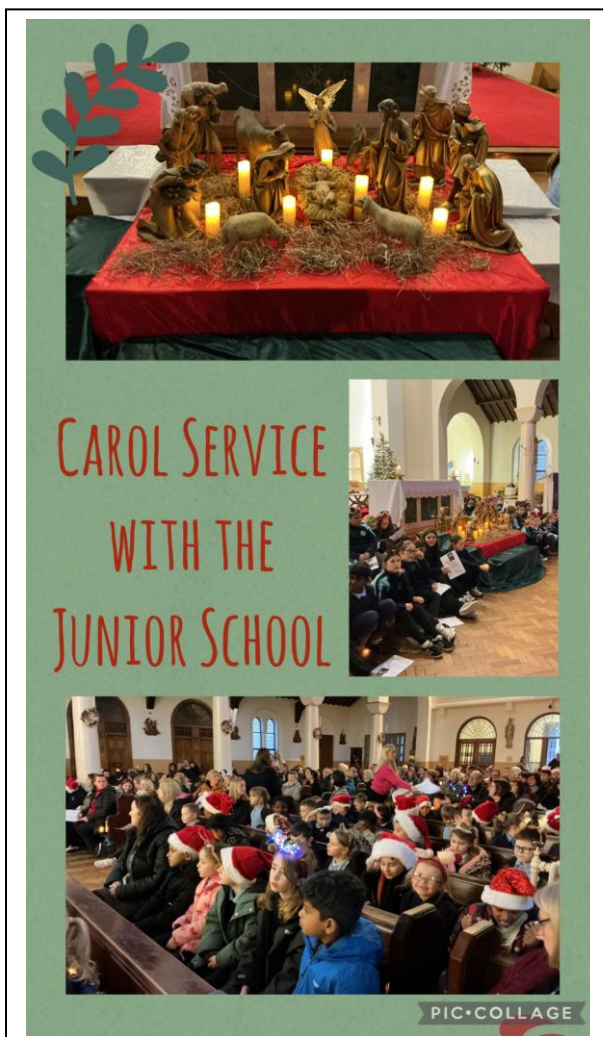
Family Mass - December

Thank you to all who were able to attend our December Family Mass on Sunday 7th December. The Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Mark O'Toole and children from the Infants, Juniors and the Comprehensive led the Mass where we reflected on what we were hopeful for during Advent.



Carol Service

We joined with St Joseph's Juniors on Wednesday 17th December for our annual Carol Service. This service led us through the nativity story, allowing all to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus Christ. As always, the children were wonderfully behaved in the Church and sang our carols beautifully. Thank you to all who attended!



Christmas Time Masses

It would be lovely for the children, that as part of their Christmas celebrations, they joined their families in attending one of these special Masses over the Christmas period.

St Joseph's, Port Talbot	Christmas Eve 5.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas 12.00am Mass during the Night Christmas Day 10.00am Mass of Christmas Day
St Philip Evans, Cwmavon	Christmas Day 9.00am Mass of the Shepherds
Our Lady of the Assumption, Briton Ferry	Christmas Eve 5.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas 11.00pm Midnight Mass in Polish
Our Lady of Margam	Christmas Eve 4.00pm Holy Mass for children & their families; children are welcome to wear Christmas costumes 9.00pm Midnight Mass Christmas Day Holy Mass at 10am



E-safety Zone December 2025



Website of the Month - NSPCC - Make sure you are SHARE AWARE

Help your child stay safe on social networks, apps and games. We tell our children to share but online it's different. In fact, sometimes sharing online can be dangerous.

Talking to your child is the best way to help keep them safe. But with things changing all the time, it can be hard to keep up to date. You can always call our online safety helpline on [0808 8005002](tel:08088005002) to get advice on anything from the latest social networks to parental controls.

Or find out what other parents think about the [most popular social apps and games](#), what's the right age and details on privacy and safety settings with our [Net Aware](#) tool.

Being Share Aware makes it safer

Please find more information at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

Say it in Cymraeg this Christmas....



Merry Christmas	Nadolig Llawen	Na-doh-lig Ila-when
Happy New Year	Blwyddyn Newydd Dda	Bl-oi-ddin New-ydd Dd-ah
Present	Anrheg	Ann-rhh-eg
Star	Seren	Se-ren
Christmas Tree	Coeden Nadolig	Coy-den Na-doh-lig
Father Christmas	Siôn Corn	Shaun Corr-n
Snow Man	Dyn Eira	Dean Eye-rah
Reindeer	Carw	Ca-roo
Snow	Eira	Eye-rah
Christmas Dinner	Cino Nadolig	Kin-oh Na-doh-lig
Christmas Pudding	Pwddin Nadolig	Pww-din Na-doh-lig
Christmas Carols	Carolau Nadolig	Car-ol-ai Na-doh-lig
Stocking	Hosan	Hos-ann
Mince Pie	Mins Pei	Mince Pay
Decorations	Addurniadau	Add-irn-iad-ai
Angel	Angel	Ann-ghel
Holly	Celyn	Ceh-lynn
Lights	Goleuadau	Go-ley-add-ai



Rhif Cwmni: 06693822

Siarad Cymraeg

Here are some great phrases you can use to practise Welsh at home and with the family this festive season! **Nadolig Llawen Pawb!**

Parent Survey





Many thanks to those parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent parental survey. We were delighted with the very high number of positive responses and the lovely comments made about the school. Some of the highlights of this survey included:

- 90% strongly agreed that their child liked the school.
- 85% strongly agreed that the school reflected the ethos and practices of a Catholic School.
- 86% strongly agreed that they would recommend this school to another parent/carer.

Overall, there were a lower number of agree or strongly agree responses to those statements linked to parental communication. As a school, we will continue to review how we communicate with parents and carers to ensure information is shared in a timely manner.

If you would like to speak to a class teacher at any point, please contact the school to make an appointment.

Remember that SeeSaw is a great way to be kept informed about your child and to see what they are learning. The school website also has lots of information on it including key documents and dates. Please see links to our social media below.

	School Website		
Please contact your child's class teacher for details of how to join.	St. Joseph's Catholic Infant School	St Joseph's Infants (@stjosephsinfants) • Instagram photos and videos	St. Joseph's Infant School Port Talbot Port Talbot Facebook
 Teachers2Parents	Please ensure we have your most up to date number so we can message you via this service.		

Headteacher Awards - Gwobr y Pennaeth

Throughout the month we have had a number of children receive our Headteacher Award for great learning and fantastic behaviour. **Llongyfarchiadau** to each of you!



Nursery	Isaac, Thea, Sophia, Roma, Valentina and Keashiya
Reception/Year 1	Allison, Tomas, Mason and Anaizha
Year 1/ Year 2	Thanviya and Santiago, Alvin and Ellis F.
Year 2	Success, Bettie, Charlotte, Kelsey, Marcus, Amber.

Advent - Adfent

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle on an Advent wreath, usually purple, is often called the candle of love. Christmas happened because of God's great love for all people.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" Luke Ch1 v41



At Christmas, God gave us the best gift ever. He sent his Son, Jesus, to live, die, and rise again so we could live with him forever in heaven. Although this gift required great sacrifice, God knew we needed Jesus.

Response: As your family gets ready to open Christmas gifts, talk about why we give nice things to people we love. Ask: What are some of the most memorable gifts you have received? How can you tell when much love and thought go into a gift?

Let us pray:

Dear God,

We pray that our faith may be renewed once again, and may we relive the wonder of your love in our lives.

In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we pray.

Amen.

Diolch am dy gefnogaeth

Mrs Murphy