



"We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together"

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5th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break.

Teachers had an early start this morning setting off at 7:30am to be coached to Watford to join other DoWAT schools for a full day of training, while our support staff remained at school to take part in a full day of professional development of their own. All staff are now refreshed, motivated and ready to welcome you all back for the Spring term 2026. We have lots of exciting things organised for the children this term to enrich their experiences and bring their learning to life.

Activities, Clubs and workshops

Thank you to the staff members who have kindly agreed to run after school clubs this term. As always, staff are giving up their own time to ensure our children have access to a wide range of activities. Please be mindful that there are not always enough spaces for everyone but staff are doing their best to make things as equal and as fair as possible. Information will be circulated shortly. There are a number of lovely learning opportunities planned for all the children this term, I will keep you as informed as I can as these develop.

Play Equipment Before and After School

For everyone's safety, we would like to remind you that all loose play equipment and climbing equipment must not be used before or after school. This includes the Early Years Outdoor area which is an outdoor classroom. These should only be used during the school day under the supervision of a member of staff.

Thank you!

Parking at Drop-off and Collection

Everyone's New Years Resolution - I kindly remind everyone that we are a community and should be considerate of one another and our local residents. **Please**, park thoughtfully, follow the Highway Code and avoid parking on the church grass or blocking Father's driveway. He is often called upon at short notice to give last rites and may need to leave quickly. Please pass this information on to anyone who may be collecting your child on your behalf. **Cold Weather**



With the colder weather upon us, please ensure that your child comes to school each day with a warm coat, hat, and gloves. We would be grateful if all items are clearly labelled with your child's name to help us return any lost belongings.

Reception Admissions – September 2026

If you have friends or family who may be interested in joining our Reception cohort in September 2026, please do invite them to come for a look around or collect an admissions pack from the office. All applications must be submitted by **15th January 2026**.

Social Media Update

Following feedback from our recent parent poll, we will be moving our school social media presence to **Facebook and Instagram** and will no longer be using X (formerly Twitter). **Please can you remind parents to access Arbor login and click the consent/decline for social media Dec 25 update.**

Warmest regards



Alexandra Whitty
Headteacher

Today we will hear about some wise men who followed a star and came to visit Jesus. Let's think about how we follow God in our lives.

God of wonder, help us to have as much faith as the wise men who followed your star to find Jesus. Lead us down the right paths and help us to recognise Jesus in the people that we meet as we travel through life.

Amen.



Dates:

January 5 th	Inset Day – staff in, no children
January 6 th	Children back to school
January 7 th	Year 3 Golf sessions – in school time
January 9 th	Year 6 Mass 9:30 St Joseph's
January 16 th	Year 5 Mass 9:30 St Joseph's
January 23 rd	Year 4 Mass 9:30 St Joseph's
January 23 rd	KS1 Commonwealth Games Workshop (tbc)
January 28 th	Recyclers Bag pick up - Friends of SVdP fund raising
January 29 th	Year 6 WW2 Workshops
January 30 th	Y3 Mass St Joseph's
January 30 th	MP, Kevin Bonnavia visiting school
January 30 th	KS1 Commonwealth Games Workshop (tbc)
January 30 th	Year 1 Mrs Cooper Class Assembly
February 2 nd	Year 5 /6 Sports Hall Athletics Team
February 4 th	Year 5 /6 Sports Hall Athletics Team
February 6 th	Year 2 Mass 9:30 St Josephs
February 6 th	Year 1 Mrs Hargrave Class Assembly
February 10 th	Year 4 Saxon Workshop
February 13 th	Year 4 Mr Arnese Assembly
February 13 th	Year 1 Mass St Joseph's
February 16th – 20th	Half Term
February 25 th	Year3 Fit Kidz Session
February 26 th	Year 5 Knex Challenge Workshop
February 26 th	Year 1 STEM Circus Workshop
February 27 th	Open Morning
March 3 rd	Parent Consultations 3.30pm-5.30pm
March 4 th	Parent Consultations 2.00pm-6.00pm
March 4 th	Year 3 Fit Kidz Session
March 5 th	World Book Day
March 6 th	Year 6 Mass 9:30 St Joseph's
March 9 th	Y5 Handball Team - competition
March 13 th	Year 5 Mass St Joseph's
March 20 th	Year 4 Mass St Joseph's
March 24 th	Reception STEM Bubble Workshop
March 27 th	Easter Reflection (Children only)
March 27 th	End of Term - 2pm