

Highgate Hill London N19 5NE

Executive Headteacher Clare McFlynn T: 020 7272 1270 E: office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk W:www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk

Head of School Angela Noronha

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Dear Parent/Carer,

At this time of year, our thoughts are naturally turning to Christmas and, we hope, the opportunity for families to gather together and celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into our world and into our lives.

At St. Joseph's, the school year has started well; and we have the good fortune to have a strong team of staff who work hard and with enthusiasm for the benefit of the children.

Following the disruption caused by COVID, the school fully reopened in September and we are delighted to note the number of opportunities the children were provided with this term from class trips, visiting speakers, workshops, outdoor learning and theatre visits. We have also welcomed back parents on site for classroom celebrations such as Masses, Assemblies and Prayer Services.

As you know, governors deal with the strategic direction of a school, not with operational matters. As part of our ongoing review of strategy, we have visited the school on 5 different occasions this term so that we have first-hand knowledge of how our children are being educated. We visited classrooms and observed the teaching of Science, Phonics, Reading and Writing. It was clear to us that the Senior Leadership Team have been actively supporting the return of all the staff and children, and it was with great pleasure that we saw the professional skills of the teachers and support staff in action, as well as the happy and confident behaviour of the children.

We know Christmas has arrived at St Joseph's with exciting and vibrant displays and wonderful activities and events planned such as the Christmas fair, Class parties and performances. Each child, I am told, is receiving a special gift from Santa who makes the long journey to St Joseph's before the end of term.

I would like to express particular thanks to those Parents/Carers who have made donations to the St. Joseph's Amazon Wish List.

I wish you and your families all the best for a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Yours faithfully,

**KPE Lasok** 

Chair of Governors