



Welcome Back Letter 04.01.23

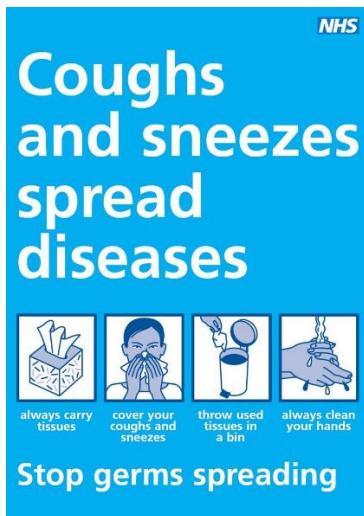


Dear all,

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to everyone. I hope that you have all had a lovely peaceful Christmas break and are now fully rested and ready for the new term.

I know that many of you will have experienced illness over the Christmas break and as Flu and Covid cases are circulating at high levels and there continues to be reports of high numbers of scarlet fever, I am sharing the current advice:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay at home until they feel well and the fever has gone.
- We will continue to maintain good hand hygiene and continue to teach them to 'Catch it, Bin it, kill it'



CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



[Flu vaccinations](#) are still available for eligible groups and adults are being advised that if they are unwell, they should also stay at home and if they need to go out to wear a face covering.

[Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

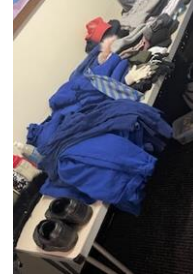
[Children told to stay home from school if sick amid flu, Covid and scarlet fever - BBC News](#)



[Factsheet - What is Group A Strep.docx.pdf \(hscni.net\)](#)

Lost Property

At the end of the Advent term, we had a lot of lost property without names. Please could I ask that all clothes are labelled. This does not need to be a special sticker – a biro/ sharpie will do. This will help to get clothing back to the owner.



Thank You

Thank you for the cards and gifts sent to us; we really enjoy the excitement and anticipation of Christmas and sharing this with the children.

Thank you also to everyone who participated in the Saint Thomas Aquinas Multi Academy Trust Parent Survey. Unfortunately, only 4% of our children's parents responded to this. However, overall, the responses were very positive with a few things to action to make life at St Joseph's even better.

Two thousand years ago, a visit to a Greek town by government representatives was known as an "epiphany". It is a Greek word that describes an appearance, manifestation, or revelation of someone important arriving amongst the people.



The word "Epiphany" has been used for the last two thousand years to describe God coming closer to the people, revealing himself in his Son, Jesus. The Feast of the Epiphany (on the 6th January) celebrates the Wise Men from the East recognising Jesus for who he is, and giving him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In the final verse of the hymn, "In the bleak mid-winter", we hear the words: "What can I give him, poor as I am?"

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give him - give my heart."

We can focus today on the gift of GOLD, knowing that it represents what is special I can think of special people and things in my life that are GOLD for me. I can stand with the wise men and offer what I think is "gold" in my life:- my talents;- happy memories;- times when everything has gone well;- what I enjoy; - my friends;- times when someone has encouraged me; - what I look forward to.

Lord, I give thanks for the "gold" in my life: for the people who are precious to me, for the happy memories I treasure, and for all that has been good over the years. May all that has been "gold" for me, remind me always to appreciate all who are part of my life. Inspire me, Lord, to live in such a way that I help to bring out the best in others.

Amen.



St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy



As always if you have any concerns or ideas that you would like to share with the school, please do contact me cdedman@st-josephs.leicester.sch.uk or 0116 2416197 as I am continually seeking for ways to improve the learning experience for the children at St Josephs.

Happy New Year

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clair Dedman'.

Clair Dedman

Dates for the Diary

Monday 9th January 2023 - Epiphany Mass 2pm - All welcome

Wednesday 11th January - Mrs Darby's Class Assembly at 9am

Friday 13th January 2023 - M and M [Productions](#) Pantomime in school 'Snow White' £1 Contribution Via Parent Pay

Thursday 26th January 2023 - FS2 and Year 6 Height and Weight