



St John Vianney Catholic School Newsletter

Edition: 2018-19 / 91 (20th December 2018)

"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Wishing you happy and peaceful Christmas from all at SJV

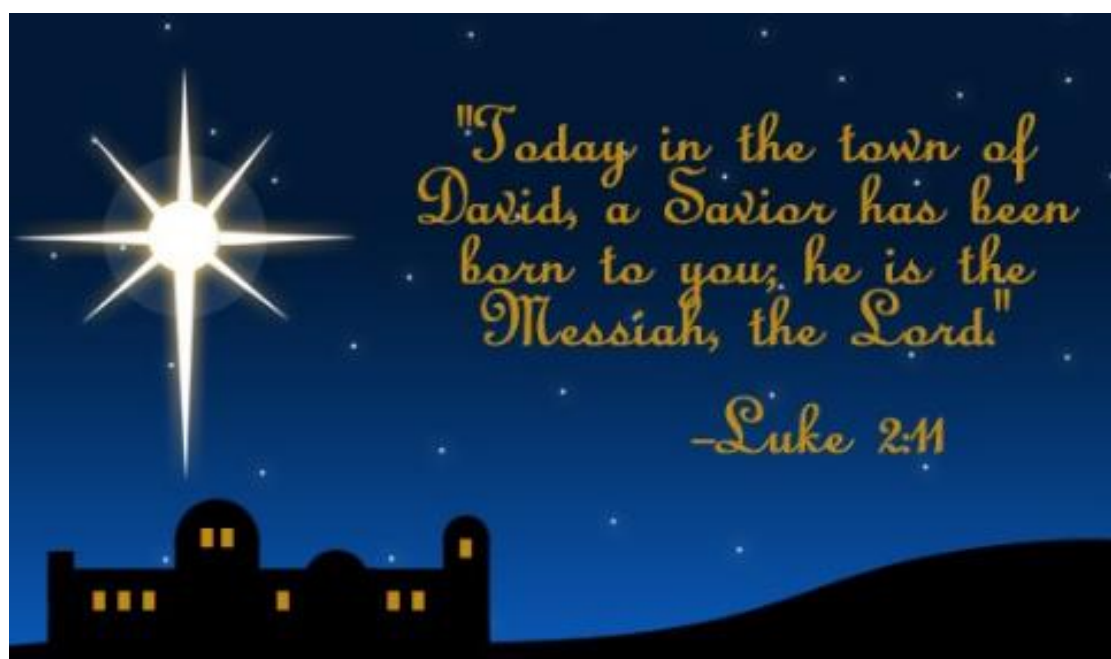
As you can see, we are all very excited to be nearing the end of term, and getting closer to Christmas. Some, clearly, are more excited than others and are struggling to contain themselves. Shame.

Teachers love nothing more than to hear about how the last few weeks are all about 'winding down' in preparation for Christmas, but OUR teachers are bucking the trend and 'winding up', right to the wire! It was a thing of beauty to see them, for the entertainment and delight of our children, prepare for and deliver the very first SJV Staff Christmas Pantomime! That they found the time (and energy!) at this, the busiest time of year to deliver such a wonderful Christmas treat for the children really sums them up. Love our staff; they are like no other and we are lucky to have them.



Thank You!

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to say a heartfelt 'Thank You' for all of the kind wishes, cards, cakes and presents received over the last few weeks. They are all very much appreciated, and all of us at SJV would like to wish you the Merriest of Christmases, and that you have a peaceful and blessed break. God bless.



Admissions for 2019

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, you must apply for a primary school reception year place for September 2019. The deadline for applications is midnight on **Tuesday 15 January 2019.**

If you haven't yet applied, please do so as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. **If you require any assistance, please contact the school office.**

If you know anyone that would like a place in Reception Class 2019, or in Nursery from January, please have them contact the office.

The SJW Daily News

Friday 21st December 2018

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

The Mother of all Gooses!

Staff Panto Unearths a Mine of Talent!



Panto-monium as staff surprise children. In so many, many ways...

You must have heard the expression: 'Is there no end to their talents?'. Well, the end is out of sight with our brilliant group of teacher / actors, as they presented their hotly anticipated version of Mother Goose, to the delight of the unsuspecting children! In full Pantoland regalia, they rattled, punned and sang their way through this great Christmas classic! I was tactically given just two lines, dressed as 'The Greatest Showman' (more Bertie Bassett than Hugh Jackman, you understand – no photos survived) to open proceedings, then wisely stepped aside to allow the professionals get on with it. Under Miss Kavanagh's expert direction, Ms. Burry, Ms Milonas, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Giltinan, Ms. Terzega, Ms. Kavanagh and Mr. Quin (oh dear, Mr. Quin...) excelled themselves. They really did...and the children absolutely loved it – seeing their teachers in a (very) different light is always brilliant fun.

As I said at the end, I can't 'unsee' what I saw this morning, nor would I want to – I have a newfound admiration for the lot of them! Apparently, it's KS1's turn next year.

OH YES IT IS!





Mother
Goose



SJV Family Win Prestigious Award

Ms. Nicholls, mother of Riley-Ann, recently collected the Arts and Media Leader of the Year award at the Black British Business Awards in a ceremony in central London. Ms. Nicholls recently came to the school during Aspirations Day to share the story of her casting agency, promoting black and minority ethnic children, and supporting positive identity in the media. Congratulations Ms. Nicholls on your award! Here's how Tottenham News reported the story.

Tottenhamnews

Looks Like Selma Is Leading The Way



A Tottenham woman has won a prestigious award for the work she has done raising the profile of under-represented groups through her talent and casting agency.

Selma Nicholls is the founder of Looks Like Me and in October she won the Black British Business Award for Arts and Media Leader of the Year at a glitzy event in central London.

"They allowed my daughter to come to the awards and we sat at a table together and the moment my name was read out she looked at me with the biggest smile," she said. "It felt like I had won the lottery and getting this award was recognition and validation that what I'm doing is needed. I believe I am making a difference to people's lives and I guess I'm an example that anything is possible."

The fact her daughter, Riley-Ann, was there was important for Selma because the seven-year-old inspired Selma to start her agency in the first place.

"In the summer of 2015 my daughter started questioning her identity and talked about her hair, wanting it to be straight rather than curly," she explained. "Then a month later she said, 'I don't want to be brown anymore!' I just didn't understand where this was coming from."

Selma showed Riley-Ann a DVD of a recent film version of Annie, starring a black actress in the title role, and her response was, "Oh, mummy. She is so beautiful. And she looks like me!"

"And that was the moment I thought, 'Looks like Me!'" said Selma. "So the actress resonated with my little girl because she was on the big screen but that had actually been the first time there's been a film like this with a little girl like her. And then I started to look at visual imagery around me – on the train, billboards and coffee shops and I realised that the little black girl was invisible. So I wanted to create something that does look like her."

Three years of intensive work followed as Selma gave up her job, took out a loan, and committed herself to starting her Tottenham agency featuring a diverse range of black and minority ethnic children.

Her young talent has gone onto front adverts and campaigns by such high street brands as Tesco, Next and Sainsbury's but her most satisfying creative moment has to be the stunning images she arranged for the British Film Institute's (BFI) preview of the smash hit superhero film, Black Panther.

"I had six children come in for the shoot on a Friday afternoon and I used a completely black team of photographer, stylists, everything! We dressed the children to match characters and I called the shoot Hero in Us All as I tried to pull out the superhero in every one of them and they did grow ten feet tall. And everyone was posing with the banners we made for the event at the BFI and our images went viral with actors and rappers tweeting them! I even got to meet the Black Panther director, Ry Coogler, who personally thanked me and said, 'What you have done is amazing!'"

Selma's next goal is to celebrate people with visible and invisible disabilities because, in her words, "All stories should be told."

To find out more visit:
www.lookslikeme.co.uk

Our Boys on Spurs Foundation Website



[Click here to see the film](#)

[Click here to see the story on the THFC Website](#)

Autumn Guitar Concert

On Tuesday, our budding guitarists entertained us with a selection of pieces that they have been learning this term. As always, having an audience brought out the best in them, and they gave a fine performance, finished off with a festive 'Jingle Bells'!



Christmas Lunch!

The annual SJV Christmas lunch went off with a bang this week! Crackers at the ready, we cranked up Christmas FM and enjoyed a lovely lunch in the company of our friends and colleagues – a lovely occasion, also used to thank the many support staff that look after us all year round!

[Click here for
montage!](#)







[Click here to enjoy 'Jingle Bells' with our children!](#)

Merry
Christmas

Reminders and Notices

Mass to end the Term

- Tomorrow, Friday at 10am in the school hall.
- Please come along and help us celebrate another brilliant term.

End of Term

- School finishes at 1.15pm on Friday. Please ensure that you remember this earlier pick up time.



Cashless Payments

- The school will be fully cashless after the break, so please ensure that you are able to access and make payments via this service.

Children return to school on Monday January 7th