

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have been considering the Gospel Value of justice and we have also had a visit from Cafod to explain more to us about the World Gifts we are raising money for through our Nativity this year. We still have some tickets available for the Nativity, so please do get your tickets via ParentPay if you haven't already. It has been lovely to see the children excitedly preparing for next week's performances too and our nursery and reception children are showing early signs of being very talented singers indeed!

Tonight we have the school Christmas Fayre, and we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Mr Willcox

#### Advent and Nativity Services

Just to let you know, we will be sending a separate information letter on Monday to clarify drop off times, collection times and the interaction between the services and after school clubs. As it says above, we still have a few tickets left for each performance which are available on Parent Pay.

#### After School Club

Earlier this term our After School Club provider decided they were not able to continue and since then we have utilised a wonderful team of people from the school staff to keep it running smoothly. During this time we have been looking at how we can improve After School club further as well as finding ways that we can increase the opportunities for sports and other clubs for our children at St Joseph's. Primary Sports (who help us with PE in the school already) are interested in taking this provision on for us, and so in the new year we will be having a consultation with parents for what this could look like. We will send out more information on this soon.

#### Christmas Encounters

Christmas Encounters will take place in the Marquee in the Strand on Monday 23rd December. The Churches in Exmouth have come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please see the attached post for further information about the day and a timetable of scheduled events.

#### SENDCo

The first port of call if you have concerns about your child is always to speak to the class teacher. However, there are occasions when other professionals may advise you to speak to the SENDCo.

If you have concerns about your child's development and would like to book a meeting with Miss English, our SENDCo, she is now offering SEND appointments every Wednesday afternoon. Please follow the link to book an appointment.

<https://appt.link/meet-with-hattie-english-PMPQf4m7/send-co-general-appointment>

#### Attendance

As we have let you know before, it is important that children come to school as much as possible and so this is just a friendly reminder that we can not authorise holidays that take place during term-time. Please also book medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. If you are struggling getting your children in, please do let us know and we will try to support you too.

#### Parking

Thank you to those of you who are parking considerately and for those managing to walk in each day. For those who drive, can we politely remind you that it is important not to park on the footpath or blocking people's driveways.

#### This Year's academic Attendance

Our aspirational target is **97%**.

At St Joseph's, we think attendance is extremely important! Attending school helps children to prepare themselves for the rest of their lives.

The higher the attendance, the more opportunity for success! The class with the highest attendance this week is **Sycamore Class**.

#### Diary dates: *These, and future events, can be found on the website and downloaded to your Google calendar!*

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity at the Holy Ghost Church

11<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas lunch

12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day

21<sup>st</sup> December - 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 Christmas break

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Children return to school

**Stars of the week:** Oak – Saffron, Rowan – Cosette, Sycamore – Erin, Cherry – Samuel, Maple – Liam, Willow – Jensen, Beech – Louie.

**Bronze Award:** Sienna M, Aila, Bella K, Willow, Siya, Isabelle P, Lily, Bea H-D, Barney, Chloe M, Amelia, Melissa, Demi.

# Christmas Encounters



The Churches in Exmouth are coming together to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Encounters will take place in the Marquee in the Strand on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

## Plan for the day:

- 10am - Nativity Parade from Magnolia Centre to Marquee
- 10.45 - Celebrating Christmas, the most wonderful time of the year
- 11.30 - Flash Mob Nativity
- 12.30 - Salvation Army Band
- 1.30 - A different kind of Nativity
- 2.30 - Christingle Bingle
- 3.15 - Exmouth's biggest Christingle celebration
- 4.30 - Children's Christmas Party in seasonal fancy dress
- 6pm - Community Carols (and mince pies we hope)
- 8pm - Exmouth Town Band

It all starts in the Magnolia Centre where we will follow a donkey that will lead us to the Marquee. Children especially are encouraged to dust down their Nativity costumes and dress for the part.

We hope to see you there!