

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

I can't believe how fast this half term is flying by. We have had a few trips and visitors to the school this week which the children have absolutely enjoyed.

**Tiverton Museum**

This week Year 1 welcomed staff from Tiverton Museum who ran a series of workshops to enrich their History learning.

The children were amazed at how different some toys from the past were, as they sorted them chronologically and by material. They enjoyed making peg dolls and a super puppet show.

**This Year's academic Attendance**

Our aspiration 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!

This week - the class with the highest attendance is Willow 98.8%

**EYFS learning**

Our Foundation children always love storytime where the adults read to the children. But this week the Oak class have had their first group reading practice sessions where the children have been reading and blending words themselves! The Oak class children will be allocated their first ebook today. All of the login details will be in their yellow reading diaries. Please let us know if you have any problems logging in - Happy reading!

**Black History Month**

October is Black History Month. In our Family Group worships, we will be exploring the lives of six extraordinary people and their contribution to British History. This week we learnt about the life of Olaudah Equiano an anti-slave campaigner.

**Learning behaviours**

For the past three weeks, we have been focusing on the learning behaviour of pride. We are really noticing that the children are taking more pride in the presentation of their work and are able to talk about what taking pride in our learning looks like.

Until half-term, we are now focusing on resilience.

**Forest School**

Year 5/6 went to forest school this week and made fossils! They have been learning about how fossils are formed in science and so they decided to try and make their own with layers of clay and plaster of paris.

**Gospel Value — Kindness**

We have thought about how important kindness is and the power that it can have. Can you think of an act of kindness that you have carried out this week?

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Stephens

**Diary dates:**

11<sup>th</sup> October Year 4 class assembly 3pm

W/b 16<sup>th</sup> October Parent consultations

18<sup>th</sup> October Whole school trip to Paignton Zoo

8<sup>th</sup> November Year 6 class assembly 3pm

10<sup>th</sup> November Careers afternoon

17<sup>th</sup> November Year 4&5 Drama Workshop

22<sup>nd</sup> November Year 5 class assembly 3pm

**Headteacher Awards:**

**Bronze Award:** Maple class - Kelly

**Stars of the week:** Oak class - Aila; Rowan class - Iza; Sycamore class - Imogen; Cherry class - Adam; Maple class - Poppy; Willow class - Barney  
Beech class - Lydia.