

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another fun week here at St Joseph's, and we have been inspired by our Gospel reading from Mark 9, as we have thought about the Gospel value of kindness. As a community we have reflected on how following Jesus' example means being kind, generous, friendly and helpful. It can also mean making sure everyone has enough food to eat, and clean water to drink.

As I write, the generosity of our community is evident in a wonderful array of food that has been donated for today's special Harvest Mass, which Fr Philip has invited us to at The Holy Ghost Church. It is a time for us to be thankful for what we have been given, and a chance for us to show kindness to others.

Kindness Week 7th to 11th October

What better way to follow a week of reflecting on how we can be kind, than to have our very own "Kindness Week" next week. Each class will have a different theme of kindness including kindness to ourselves and kindness to others and as a school we will be carrying out acts of kindness in the community as well as raising funds through a Cake Sale next Thursday for the NSPCC.

All donations for the cake sale gratefully received!

Year 6 – Escot

Last Friday, Year 6 enjoyed a visit to Escot to enhance their learning about the Anglo-Saxons. We spent the morning in the Saxon Village where we explored three stations; The Forge, The Kitchen and The Woodwork Shed. The children had the opportunity to carve runes into wood, ground flour and bake bread as well as forge a bronze brooch. We also visited the animals and foraged for edible plants.



Year 2 – Kents Cavern

Last Friday, Cherry Class went to Kent's Cavern because we have been learning about the Stone Age. We had a wonderful day and the children represented the school beautifully. Firstly, we went on a woodland walk, where we had to find the answers to some clues. Then we handled some artefacts and we learnt about the difference between real artefacts and replicas. Finally, we went in the caves. The children's faces as we entered the caves were wonderful! They showed real awe and wonder and enjoyed exploring them, even when it did get a bit dark! A big thank you to all of our adult helpers.

PTA

Thank you to everyone who joined in with our *play date in the playground*. We raised an amazing £130! Thank you all so much. We really appreciate your support and help.

Neon Disco, Friday 18 October 5-6pm FSU and KS1, 6.15-7.15pm KS2. This is now live on ParentPay, and an information email has been sent out.

Can you help with set up, tuck shop, or tidy up? Please get in touch - pta@stjo.uk

Christmas merchandise Children have been making amazing Christmas pictures to be made into cards, cups, stickers and more. Next week, the artwork and order forms will be sent home. Please fill in the form and pay on the Cauliflower Cards website by 17 October - <https://www.cauliflowercards.co.uk/> Last year we raised £178 for school resources.

25th October – PTA AGM All welcome. Have your say, share ideas, get involved with the PTA and find out what's planned!

Nut Free School

Just a friendly reminder we are a nut free school. Could we please ask that you check the ingredients of packed lunch products, such as chocolate spread, breakfast/snack bars and pesto, to ensure these are nut free. Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you a peaceful and restful weekend and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday.

Jon Willcox
Head Teacher

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! The class with the highest attendance this week is **Beech Class**.

Diary dates: *These, and future events, can also be found on the website*

1st October – Black History Month begins

7th October Dogs Trust coming to school

18th October – Disco – details sent out, live on PP

23rd October – Yr 6 Assembly – details to follow

26th October – 4th November Half-term

7th October NSPCC Kindness Week begins

10th October – Cake Sale for Kindness Week (after school)

21st October - Parents Evening Week, details sent out

25th October – PTA AGM

6th November – Photos – Individual and Family

Stars of the week: Oak – Obery, Rowan – Bella, Sycamore – Sullivan, Cherry – Aidan, Maple – Theo, Willow – Rory, Beech – Kelly.