

Dear Parents and Carers,

Only two weeks left until the end of this term and we are still busy fitting in our learning as well as enjoying many of the festivities leading up to Christmas.



EYFS Nativity

The children were absolutely amazing! They were confident and sang beautifully. I was blown away with the amount of songs that they had learnt. I would like to give a huge thank you to the FSU team for putting together this superb Nativity for us all to share as well as supplying the Nativity costumes – well done FSU team!

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 **Rowan Class**

Deaf Academy Students from the Deaf Academy have been working with our children to teach them how sign using BSL.



Plymouth CAST Behaviour Policy and Relationships Policy

As you may already be aware, as a school we are working towards becoming a Trauma Informed School (TIS). I am currently in the process of attending the 11 days training to achieve the diploma with TISUK which will be achieved by May 2024. We have updated our Behaviour policy to be in line with TIS and Plymouth CAST Policy alongside a relationships policy. Which you will now find on our school website.

Safeguarding Updates:

The Department for Education (DfE) has published an updated version of the statutory safeguarding and child protection guidance for schools in England, Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE). This guidance replaced KCSIE 2022 when it came into force on 1 September 2023. The guidance sets out what schools and colleges in England must do to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18. Updates made in 2023 include:

- clarification around the roles and responsibilities of education staff in relation to filtering and monitoring
- clarification that being absent, as well as missing, from education can be warning sign of a range of safeguarding concerns, including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation
- additional information on online pre-recruitment checks for shortlisted candidates
- information on responding to allegations related to organisations or individuals using school premises.

Gospel Value - Humility

This week's Gospel reminds us that Jesus is the great King of the universe. We reflect on how through His Kingship, He unifies nations, heals His people, defeats the enemy and leads His people to join Him in glory.

Advent

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent and there will be a Children's Liturgy as part of the 10am Mass in Holy Ghost Catholic Church. This will be a wonderful way for children to begin their Advent journey and they will be given a very warm welcome.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Stephens

Diary dates:

5th December @ 2pm & 6th December @10am KS1 Nativity

13th December Christmas lunch

13th December KS2 Advent Service 6pm at Holy Ghost Church

15th December Finish for Christmas Break

3rd January Children return to school

Headteacher Awards: Oaks Class - Bella

Bronze Awards: Oaks Class – Archie, Cosette, Rupert, Kaiden-Rhys, Dexter, Bella, Sophia, Finlay; Sycamore Class – Arnie, Art, Zara, Felicia, Jacob; Cherry Class – Arlo, William; Beech Class – Teddy, Ellis.

Silver Awards: Sycamore Class – Samuel, Rudy, Aaron.

Stars of the week: Oak Class- Alyssia; Rowan Class – Aredhel; Sycamore Class – Rudy;

Cherry Class – Gabrielle; Maple Class – Freddie; Willow Class – Shiloh; Beech Class – Archie