

Newsletter: Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well it is the end of another week, and we are almost entering Advent. Advent is a time of hope where we consider the prospect of a brighter future. In a sometimes daunting world, I am heartened by the fact that we get to our 'future hopes' one step at a time. And sometimes one of those steps is being able to forgive. This week in school our children have been considering the gospel value of forgiveness, and of course it is the forgiveness that comes through Jesus that embodies the hope that Christians draw comfort from at this time, as they make preparations for celebrating this festive season. As a school we have had a little bit of a bumpy road in our preparations, with external factors also adding to the mix, but let us not forget – we are here to be a community of hope in this time.

Jon Willcox
Headteacher

Year 1 & 2

This week we welcomed Finley and Willow's pet corn snake Zig Zag into Rowan class. After learning about reptiles in Science it was brilliant to meet, interact and learn even more about this one. The class were surprised to hear that Zig Zag only eats once a week, but it is a whole mouse! Thank you to Willow's mum for bringing Zig Zag and his hot water bottle to school!



Advent and Nativity Service – Wednesday 11th December @ 5pm

We previously mentioned that we will allow children to be collected at 3pm on Wednesday 11th December. This will allow you a bit more time to eat and relax before bringing the children to church for the 5pm performance. If you would like to take up this offer of an early finish, please can you let reception know. If we do not have your consent then your child will have to remain at school until 3.30pm.

FSU & KS1 – Advent and Nativity Service

Some people have aired their concerns about the children from FSU and KS1 sitting around while KS2 open the service. Please do not worry, as they will be entertained in the church hall, playing and having fun. When it is their time to shine, they will join us all in the church.

Cutlery – Donations needed urgently!

If you have any cutlery, that you no longer want, please can you donate them to us. We need knives and forks! Bring all donations to reception. Many thanks.

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>

PTA Christmas Fair - Friday 6th December

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who bought in a donation today, we were completely overwhelmed by your generosity.

The Christmas fair is next Friday 6th December, 4.30pm until 7pm. We're planning festive games, craft workshop, food, entertainment and stalls. We need you to make the event happen, so please let us know if you can help set up, run a stall, or pack away by emailing pta@stjo.uk or find us in the playground. Friends and family welcome to come too - save the date in your diaries and we look forward to seeing you there!

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 **Beech Class**.

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

4th December – yr4 Class Assembly – details to follow

6th December – Christmas Fair

6th December - Vision Screening Oak Class – information sent 16.10.24

10th & 11th December – Nativity at the Holy Ghost Church

11th December – Christmas lunch

12th December – Christmas Jumper Day

21st December - 3rd January 2025 Christmas break

6th January 2025 – Children return to school

Stars of the week: Oak – Dotty, Rowan – Isaac, Sycamore – Siya, Cherry – Anastasiia, Maple – Jude, Willow – Evelyn, Beech – Hollie.

Bronze Award: Everlyn, Archie, Felix, Rudy, Aidan, Imogen, Jacob, Dominic, Leo.

Silver Award: Kenny, Aaron, Arnie, Felicia.

Reading Awards: Oaks - 5 ebooks- Elodie, Florey, Obi, Freya, Frankie, Dotty, Arlo RK, Emma, and Issy.