

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely week and I hope that you have too. I can't believe that we have only one week to go until October half term.

Visit to Parliament

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured a day trip to London for all of Year 6 to visit Parliament!

UK Parliament offers a very limited number of schools a unique opportunity to explore the iconic Palace of Westminster, learn about what happens at Parliament and how it affects them.

Year 6's upcoming History topic entitled 'Power, Empire and Democracy' could not be more fitting for this one off experience! The visit will undoubtedly deepen their understanding of democracy, citizenship and the political system.

In further good news, entry to Parliament, including a workshop, is free AND they will fund 50% of our travel costs! The trip date is Wednesday 28th February 2024 and we are currently exploring our best travel options. We will update Year 6 on this in due course.

Mental Wellbeing Week

This week we celebrated world mental health day. During this week, we continued to promote wellbeing across the school by introducing our mental health ambassadors for this year, raising awareness for young carers and a whole school wake and shake. As a result we are holding a Mufti day, see date below, to raise funds for wellbeing resources.

Date for your diaries- drop in tea and chat with Esteem Team

We warmly invite parents to our Tea and Chat with cake in the school hall from 2.30pm on Wednesday 15th November. Esteem Team will be available at this event for parent support. Please save the date!

Congratulations Mrs Monks

We are proud to announce that Mrs Monks has achieved her NA Senco award, which is 60 credits of a MA. We are looking forward to her graduation in the new year. This was a 2 year intense course so we are so amazed at the commitment and determination that shone all through her studies. Well done Mrs Monks!

Year 4 Class Learning assembly

This week was Year 4's turn to share their learning with parents. They shared their learning value of 'pride' and confidently spoke to a wide audience. Thank you all that attended to support our children. Well done Year 4 - you were amazing.

Anglo-Saxon workshop.

Beech class have enjoyed a wonderful Anglo-Saxon workshop. The children were able to explore a range of interesting artefacts such as shields, helmets and armour. Anglo-Saxon stories were performed and the children were particularly fascinated by tales of King Arthur and Beowulf. At the end of the workshop the children worked in groups to construct a freeze frame image to show part of an Anglo Saxon story. Great fun was had by all!

**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 Oaks

Exmouth Food Bank Harvest Festival donations

On Friday 20th, we are celebrating our Harvest Festival in school. We would like you to join us for our Celebration of the Word at 9:10. We would like to ask for donations. Please see the poster attached.

Christmas cards

Please refer to email sent yesterday.

Gospel Value — Peace

This week, we heard how Jesus wasn't always accepted by others. We have been thinking about how we can be accepting of others to live in a world of peace.

Have a peaceful weekend!

Mrs Stephens

Diary dates:

W/b 16th October Parent consultations

31st October Children return to school

10th November Careers afternoon

20th October Mufti Day & Harvest Festival

8th November Year 6 class assembly 3pm

22nd November Year 5 class assembly 3pm

Headteacher Awards: Cherry class – Arthur.

Bronze Awards: Rowan class – Remy, Aaron; Maple class – Poppy; Willow class – Leo, Melissa, Gabe, Layla.

Stars of the week: Oak class- Guy; Rowan class – Yasmin; Sycamore class – Jacob; Cherry class – Carly; Maple class – Olivia; Willows – Brooke; Beech class – Jacob.