

# Newsletter: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy week we have had! We had a special Remembrance Service led by our children on Monday, where we contemplated how thankful we are for peace and how we can apply the value of peace in our lives. Animals2U came in to see our year 1 and 2 children. The week has culminated with Children in Need today, where we have been able to live out Catholic Social Teaching on the preferential treatment for those in need as we raised money for this great cause.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Mr Willcox

## Maple Class

On Tuesday, Maple Class took part in a workshop to find out more about our history topic: the Maya Civilisation. We listened to myths, looked at artefacts from life in Ancient Maya and joined in with some time-travelling activities! It was a great start to our learning.



## Reverse Calendar and Christmas Giving

We would like to invite you to consider using a reverse advent calendar this Advent, where we donate items to foodbanks in the run up to Christmas. The idea is to donate an item specified on the calendar each day. This is such a great way to continue teaching our children about social responsibility and getting them to think about others, with the festive season being a time of giving, not just receiving. The Advent Giving Calendar can be found attached to this newsletter and our local foodbank is Exmouth Open Door.

Also Caritas Diocese of Plymouth has crisis grants for families in urgent need so please do get in touch to see if they can help you with a small grant [caritas@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk).

## Cutlery – Donations needed

If you have any spare 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.

## Football Fixture

On Tuesday, our year 5/6 football team visited the Beacon Primary school for a match. Our team, Shiloh, Bea, Quinlan, Kelly, Sukie, Freddie, Thea, Evan, Poppy and Gene all gave 100 percent. They constantly attacked the Beacon's defence and kept the goalie under pressure! Sadly this time we were unable to win, losing 8 – 3. To conclude, I think all the parents, grandparents, Mr Troman and Mrs Gates would agree that our team demonstrated courage, resilience and kindness throughout the game making us very proud of them all. Well done team for displaying outstanding sportsmanship.

## Gates to the playground in the morning

Children should be here by 8:50am and registration takes place in class at 8:55am. We lock the gate to the playground at 9am. If you arrive after 9am, please take your child through the office. After school, the gates are locked around 3.45pm to enable after school club to use the outdoor space safely.

## PTA Christmas Fair - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

We're excited to host a Christmas fair on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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!*

20<sup>th</sup> November – yr6 Author visit ECC – details to follow

28<sup>th</sup> November – yr6 Cinema trip – this is a little surprise for them

4<sup>th</sup> December – yr4 Class Assembly – details to follow

6<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair

6<sup>th</sup> December - Vision Screening Oak Class – information sent 16.10.24

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity at the Holy Ghost Church – details to follow

21<sup>st</sup> December - 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 Christmas break

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Children return to school

**Stars of the week:** Oak – Kasper & Freddie, Rowan – Edie, Sycamore – Aredhel, Cherry – Finley, Maple – Caitlin, Willow – Evie K, Beech – Gabe.

**Gospel Values:** Bronze Award – Arthur, Archie P, Remy, Samuel, Aaron.

**Head teachers Award:** Finley H, Aiden, Joseph D, Emily, Jaime.

# Reverse Advent Calendar

The Reverse Advent Calendar is a way to collect food and special items for families living in poverty around the Diocese to give them a treat at Christmas time. Please start from the first or second week in November so that what you collect can be with the Foodbank your parish gives your donation to before 19th December.

If you are not able to contribute to a food bank, please join us in prayer throughout Advent <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Advent-prayers>

<b>1</b> Cereal	<b>2</b> Tea or Coffee	<b>3</b> UHT Milk	<b>4</b> Shower Gel	<b>5</b> Tinned Vegetables	<b>6</b> Rice
<b>7</b> Tinned Fish	<b>8</b> Toothpaste	<b>9</b> Pasta Sauce	<b>10</b> Tinned Soup	<b>11</b> Christmas Pudding	<b>12</b> Custard
<b>13</b> Children's Treats	<b>14</b> Shampoo	<b>15</b> Fruit Squash	<b>16</b> Biscuits	<b>17</b> Toothbrushes	<b>18</b> Pet food
<b>19</b> Pasta	<b>20</b> Deodorant	<b>21</b> Hot Chocolate	<b>22</b> Toilet Roll	<b>23</b> Cooking Oil	<b>24</b> Hand soap