

Newsletter: Friday 24th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been exciting to see our children enjoying playing Top Trumps, Elastics and Cats cradle this week, and as we have learned about the gospel value of kindness, seeing children share and take turns together at these new games has been lovely. Next week we are launching our new lunchtime play ground zones... There will be a space for skipping & elastics, a colouring and crafts area and a patio in which we hope to create a cosy space to sit and play Top Trumps, read children's educational magazines and create lego masterpieces. In order for this to happen we are looking for some donations of things you may have: We need some **outdoor bean bags**, a box of lego which can be closed and sealed from the weather, some National Geographic Kids magazines (or similar) and spare colouring books and washable felt tip pens that you may no longer need. We also would like **two or three plastic outdoor tables**. If you can help please do let us know!

Mr Willcox

Year 6 Bikeability

A group of children from our Year 6 class have successfully completed their Bikeability awards this week. They practised skills on the playground on Monday and then ventured out into the local area Tuesday to Thursday. We are so proud of their exceptional behaviour and safety when cycling around Exmouth. They have really enjoyed these sessions and we look forward to hearing about their biking adventures in the future!

Big bird watch year 3

On Thursday this week year 3 were the first class to take part in the RSPB 'Big Schools' Bird Watch, 2025.' We were delighted to find a wide variety of birds using the school site. We used bird hides that we had constructed ourselves to view the birds more easily; the birds were tempted in with bird feeders made in our Forest School session. The school is working to make our environment as wildlife friendly as possible.



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>

Attendance

As good attendance is linked to improved outcomes and opportunities for our children, if you are struggling with getting your children in to school for any reason, Mr Willcox would be happy to meet and see if there are ways we can support you further. If you would like this, please email admin@stjo.uk and we will find a time we can have a supportive meeting, where we will find out more about the challenges and see if there are ways we can make things easier.

This Year's academic Attendance

So far this year our attendance is **95.2%** and 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 **Rowan Class**.

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

4th February – Pilgrims of Hope with Fr. Philip 2pm – School only

7th February – Yr3 assembly @ 9.10am

7th February – Number day details to follow

10th-14th February – Parents Evening Week – details to follow

2025-2026 Term Dates are now available on the website https://www.stjosephsprimaryschool.com/web/term_dates__school_day/279773

Stars of the week: Oak – Summayah, Rowan – Dexter, Sycamore – Iza, Cherry – Art, Maple – Poppy, Willow – Evelyn, Beech – Layla.

Reading Awards: 5 - Spencer, Nico. 10 - Freya, Saffron, Dotty.

Bronze Awards: Darcey L, Halle, Laicee-May, Emily, Daisy H.

Silver Award: Douglas.