

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you have all had a lovely week and have kept nice and warm. The temperature this week has really dropped to below zero with this morning (at school) showing -5 degrees. The sea glimpses from St Joseph's, the picturesque scenes as well as the stunning sunsets and sunrises makes the cold more bearable.

Taiko Drumming

The children in Key Stage 2 were treated to a very special visit from Taiko South West this week. They learned about the attitude and technique required for this Japanese art form. Each class learned a different rhythm and vocal pattern which they recited to the whole school in a cumulative performance at the end of the day. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all and we were all 'otsukaresama deshita' (honourably tired) by the end of the day!



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 **Beech**

Cherry Class

Year 3 will begin their exploration of Egypt today with local artist Nic George. Nic will be using art to make Egyptian Mummies and coffins with the children using various art materials.

Oak and Rowan Class

Foundation and Year 1 had a visit from author Zac Powell this week. He came in and read his stories to the children, including 'Luna and the Moon' and they enjoyed playing spot the difference! The children asked some great questions, such as 'How long does it take to write a book?' His first book took him 10 years!



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https://www.stjosephsprimaryschool.com/web/policies_and_equal_opportunities/277355

Beech Class

Year 6 have been developing settings for our legend this week and have produced some amazing writing. They also had a brilliant time playing the Taiko drums – they worked hard on their timing and performance skills and enjoyed it very much!

Dyslexia Devon Specialist

We would like to inform parents that we are working closely with Deborah Lynch – Devon Dyslexia lead – who is helping us to screen all children in this area and run staff CPD sessions on how to support children with their learning. We look forward to sharing the outcomes with you at the end of the Spring term.

Gospel Value: Courage

In this week's Gospel reading, Peter asks Jesus how many times we should forgive someone who sins against us. Jesus says not seven times but seventy-seven times - in other words, no matter how many times somebody hurts us, we need to forgive them! Peter's question helps us to understand that daily choices to forgive others are needed. We have been thinking about how we sometimes need to be brave to forgive and to give second chances.

I wish you all a restful and peaceful weekend!
Mrs Stephens

Diary dates:
2nd February – NSPCC Number Day, details to follow.
W/B 5th February – Parent Consultations, details to follow.
28th February to 1st March – Year 6 Residential.

Headteacher Awards: Rowan Class – Halle, Sycamore Class – Archie, Beech Class - Elliot
Gospel Value Awards: To be announced next week
Stars of the week: Oak Class- Michael; Rowan Class – Darcey; Sycamore Class – Archie
Cherry Class – Isabelle; Maple Class – Harry; Willow Class – Lusi; Beech Class – Harry.
Reading record – 100 nights: Oak Class – Evie, Willow; Beech Class – Finlay, Amelie, Archie
125 nights: Oak Class – Michael, Cosette, Edie; Beech Class – Gemma, Fraser, Elliott, Lydia