



27/5/16

Cricket

Nine children represented the school in the Plymouth Cricket Competition on Tuesday. Many of the opposition turned up in the cricket whites they wear for their local clubs whereas none of our children play cricket outside of school. We rose to the challenge winning two and losing two of our games with the last game a real nail-biter with everything resting on Joe Spry surviving the last five balls without conceding his wicket. Against very accurate bowling he defended every ball ensuring victory for the team.

Rugby

The following day twelve children spent all day at Plymouth Albion in one of the largest tag rugby competitions in the country. 48 teams took part, divided into leagues of six. We finished top of our league winning every game. That meant we qualified for the elite cup competition with the top 16 teams in the city. We played Goosewell in the first knockout round. Considering that they have more children in years 5&6 to choose from than we have in the whole school the odds were against us but in a very tight game we managed to win by one try to get into the quarter-finals. That is where our journey ended as we lost to the eventual finalist, Elburton, who were a very strong team. For one of the smallest schools in the city to be in the top eight teams in the city is a real achievement and I was very proud of all of the children.

Sports Day

Our Sports Day is on the first Friday after half term (10th June). There is a competitive element to our Sports Day with the children all competing for points for their house. There are individual sprint races, novelty races and team events. Parents and toddlers also get their chance to shine on the track. Children come into school in sports kit on the day. If they have one they wear a t-shirt in the colour of their house ie St Peter's blue, St Teresa's green, St Bernadette's yellow and St Paul's red. If you do not have the right colour t-shirt you could possibly borrow from somebody or just wear the white PE shirt and we can provide bibs to help identify which team children are running for. It is usually the best attended event of the year. We only just managed to squeeze everything in by 3.30 last year so this year we will aim to start at the earlier time of 1.00. In honour of Her Majesty's 90th birthday there will be a royal theme to the events that day.

Queen's Birthday

To further mark the Queen's birthday we will have a special celebration on the following Friday (17th) on this day the children can come in wearing red, white and blue. We will have a celebratory lunch followed by traditional British games in the afternoon.

Summer Fair

The following Friday will be the day of the Friends of St Joseph's Summer Fair. There will be a meeting to arrange the event on Wednesday 8th June at 3.30. It would be great if as many volunteers or ideas people could attend as the load of organising the Friends' events this year has fallen on very few shoulders.

British Values

On Monday of this week we had a day where we concentrated on the British Values of Law, Respect, Democracy and Individual Liberty. One particular highlight of the day was a judge coming in to work with Classes 4 & 5 to re-enact a case with children taking on roles of lawyers and jurors. We will be holding a mock Euro Referendum on the big day of June 23rd.

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Yesterday was another special day. We had the third of our 'promotion of reading' events this year. The sun shone for our teddies and the picnic at the end of the day was lovely. What was great about earlier in the day was how the older children put so much enthusiasm into spreading the joy of books to the younger children.

Special Needs

This week we were visited by two officers from the local authority's special needs support team who carried out an audit of our provision. They were very complimentary about the school and particularly Mrs Bartram's impact since taking over the role of Special Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator.