



Newsletter



2/11/16

OFSTED

We are still awaiting the report from Ofsted. Our inspection was part of a wider inspection into our Multi Academy Trust (CAST) with nine other schools inspected at the same time so we think there may be a delay until all of the reports are collated and released together.

Day Off

Along with all of the other CAST primary schools in Plymouth and Cornwall we will not be open to children this Friday (4th November). All of the teaching staff are attending maths training. Breakfast Club will not operate on that day.

Staff Changes

Mrs Bartram has left St Joseph's to take up a full-time SENDCO (Special Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator) position at another school. Unfortunately she was unwell during her last few weeks with us and so did not get a chance to say goodbye to the families she has worked closely with over the years. We would like to thank her for all of her hard work for St Joseph's and wish her all the best in her new position. The governors were very pleased to appoint a new SENDCO, Mrs Burke, who will begin to take over the SENDCO responsibilities this term.

The more astute among you may have noticed that Mrs Yuill is expecting her first child. We are very pleased for her and her husband. It will, of course, mean that she will be taking maternity leave soon into the new year. We will be advertising for a replacement teacher in the very near future.

We are very pleased to have secured more funding to allow us to employ Miss Lucas on a full time rather than a part-time basis from January onwards. This means that she will be able to teach Class 4 all five days of the week allowing Mrs Norton to support other children throughout the school.

Cross Country

Twenty Four children took part in the Plymouth Cross Country Championships on the last day of the last half term. Each of them ran against about 100 other children and most of our children came in the top fifty in their race. Lennon from Class 4 did exceptionally well and was in the top ten in his race. Next week twelve children from the top age groups will be competing in an indoor athletics competition at Notre Dame School.

School Dinners Menu

On the back of this newsletter you will find the menu for school lunches. Around this time of year, as the temperature drops, parents often choose to begin ordering hot school lunches for their children. All children in the Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school lunches but a number of parents have not taken up that option. Please take a look at the menu and see which days there is a menu choice that your child would enjoy so that they can at least try the great food that Mr Storey prepares each day.

Bedtime Storytime

This event was a great success last year and so we are offering the same experience for families this year. On Friday 11th November school will reopen from 5.30-6.30 for families to return to enjoy book sharing and other book related activities. Last year nearly all of the children came in their pyjamas, some with a cuddly toy and a book to share together. Some of the greatest photos we had of the event last year were of family groups oblivious to all the goings on around them as they were lost in the sharing of a book.

Football Cards / Stickers

Whenever popular fads appear, such as loom bands a couple of years ago, we allow them to be brought into school until a problem begins to develop with them. We have now reached the point where football cards / stickers are causing some upset for children either in school or at home. Unfortunately from now on the children will be told that they are not to bring football cards in to school.