



## **Christmas Party Day**

This Thursday is the day when the children have their Christmas lunch served to them by the teachers and teaching assistants. Children do not wear school uniform that day but can wear their own clothes. Many children like to dress up in party clothes for the day but please bear in mind that they will still be out in the playground so footwear needs to be suitable for playing outside.

In the afternoon it is the tradition for some year 6 children to organise a talent show where children of all ages are invited to display their talents in front of the rest of the school. Please ask your child to give some thought as to whether they would like to perform during the afternoon as the year 6 children need to organise a running order for the afternoon and organise any props that might be needed. If your child wishes to sing or dance to a particular piece of music please send in a copy of the music with your child.

Unfortunately due to the size of the hall we cannot allow parents in to see the show.

Thank you to all of the parents who came into the International Fair last week. A total of £255.74 was taken in. This money will be used to allow the children to enjoy other 'International' events during the year as we seek to renew our International School Award status. The Key Stage 1 shows raised £207.14

## **Communication**

In the last week there have been three occasions where an adult has come into school at the end of the day saying they have been asked to collect somebody else's child. On each of the occasions it was a genuine request but without direct communication between the parent and the school we cannot be sure that the request is genuine and so we have to then try to contact the parent to be assured that they are happy for us to let their child go with somebody else. If for any reason you want somebody other than the usual people to collect your child please phone the school to let us know.

In some classes valuable time is being lost in the morning because parents want to have a chat with a teacher or teaching assistant when the class go into the building. If you need to pass on a vital piece of information then the morning is an appropriate time to do so, but if you need some kind of response from an adult please try to leave it until the end of the day to have a conversation.

## **Argyle After School Clubs**

We will continue to use funding from the Ministry of Defence to pay for after school clubs run by Plymouth Argyle coaches next term. On Mondays there will be a girls only football club for girls in years 4, 5 & 6. On Fridays we will continue to have a multi sports fitness club for children in years 1 & 2.

Preference for places in these clubs will initially be given to children from military families. For the younger children all children can apply but preference will also be given to children who did not take part in the club this term. Children who are interested will be given application forms this week.

## **Swimming**

Children in year 4 will be going swimming every morning for three weeks at the beginning of next term starting on the first day back ( Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January). These children will get a separate letter explaining what equipment will be needed each day.

## **Parent Governor Vacancies**

Sharon Selley and Nikola Howells are the parent governors on the Board of Governors at present. We expect that both will take on different roles in the new year which will mean that there will be two vacancies for parent governors. Nomination papers will be sent out in the new year but in the meantime please give some thought as to whether you have skills and the commitment to play a part in supporting and challenging the professional leaders of the school to ensure the children at St Joseph's have the best chance of succeeding while at the school. If you would like to know more about the role please speak to Sharon or Nikola or make an appointment to speak with Mr Gill or Mr Dyson.

## **Children in Need**

We raised £130 from biscuit sales for Children in Need. The schools catering company CaterEd provided the ingredients and staff to make the biscuits. Throughout Plymouth CaterEd managed to raise a grand total of £8507.19