



23rd April 2021

Worship and Liturgy -

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus talks about himself as 'The Good Shepherd' who goes the extra mile to care for others. The children were asked today to reflect on what caring jobs there are today and how they can show they care for other people, animals and the world.



First Holy Communion - Please hold in your prayers the children from year 3 and 4 who are preparing to make their first Reconciliation and Communion this year.

St George's Day



It was great to see all of the red and white being worn by the children today. My family is just one of millions of immigrant families who chose England to be their new home country. The patron saints of many countries are celebrated as a source of national pride. St George's Day does not seem to attract the same level of attention but I feel we have done our little bit today to redress that balance.



Sun Protection



Hot weather is predicted for this weekend. When that has happened in early summer before we have very often seen children with really sore sunburn coming into school on a Monday morning. Please make sure your children are 'sunsafe' this weekend. When the weather is hot we encourage children to be 'creamed up' before they come to school and to bring with them a form of sun protection (with their name on) that they can apply themselves during the day. Hats should be brought to wear while outside. The fountains are still out of use, so named, refillable water bottles will be needed too.

Covid Update

It is good news that restrictions are gradually being eased nationally. We will maintain our covid safe practices in the forthcoming weeks. This week we have had to ask



parents to quarantine and get a test because their child had Covid symptoms. A home testing Lateral Flow Test is not sufficient to prove you are 'Covid Free' if symptoms are present. We would need to have results from an official PCR test to be sure that a staff member or child is safe to return to school if they have had any Covid symptoms.

Celebrations this week

Whole School Attendance 95.25%	Top Class Attendance Foundation Class -97.6%
Crew Member of the Week F Ezra- Commander Kim- great problem solving in the outside area 1 Layton - Commander Kim - Challenging himself in maths problem solving 2 Scarlett - Commander Kim - great independent problem solving 3. Alicia- Admiral Anne- for creative kennings. 4 Janet - Admiral Anne - for a terrific tongue twister 5 Ksawery - Admiral Anne - brilliant rhyming poetry and confident reading aloud! 6 Harry - Lieutenant Louise for reflection	
Witness of Integrity F Aiva 1 Oscar 2 Frankie 3. David 4 Faith and Lacey R 5 Inayah - great integrity to her faith 6 Beau	

PGL

We are increasingly optimistic that the year 6 children will be able to enjoy their week away at the Beam House PGL Centre in the week beginning 14th



June. National restrictions on school residential visits should have been lifted by then. We are waiting to get confirmation that the Covid procedures put in place locally by PGL will be sufficient to allow us to safely take the children and staff to enjoy their week.



23rd April 2021

Events

We are still unsure about whether we will be able to attend, or host, many of the events that traditionally take place in the Summer Term. Sports Day is the one event that attracts the biggest crowds and involves children of all ages working together as a team. Unfortunately both of those scenarios are red flags as far as Covid safety is concerned. We will be making a number of different plans to hopefully enable the children, staff and parents to enjoy a sports day in some form according to the restrictions still in place in June or July. We have not heard about other major city-wide sporting events where we have enjoyed great success in the past such as tag rugby and of course Brickfields Athletics. The Brickfields Boys' Field Events trophy currently has St Joseph's as winners every year since 2012 and Covid robbed us of the chance to make it 9 in a row last year. I hope we get the chance to complete the set this year.



Plymouth Dads Project

We heard about this project and thought it is worth sharing with any males caring for children.



'Calling all dads and male carers (step dads, uncles, grandads...) come meet other dads, make new friends, enjoy fun FREE activities with your children on Saturdays and discuss the challenges and successes of being a dad at our Tuesday Conversation Cafes- a safe space to talk all things dad & eat pizza...' Use the link for more information.

[Plymouth Dads Project](#)

Where's me Jumper ?



We are approaching the annual season of school jumpers going missing. Scientists have noticed that at this time of year children in schools across the country leave their classroom at playtime with a jumper on, and return at the end of play without one on. This mass escape of jumpers is a mystery that has baffled teachers and parents for years. There appears to be no vaccine on the horizon to prevent this phenomenon. The only recommended courses of action to prevent such loss are :

- 1, Train your child to remember where they were when they became unattached from their jumper and return to pick it up before they return to the classroom. (Despite years of training some children never master this skill)
- 2, Write your child's name clearly on the jumper on any labels where their name will fit. (If we catch any escaped jumpers that cannot be identified by name it becomes very difficult to return them to their own habitat. Sadly these jumpers tend to live out their lives in the Lost Property Home for Missing Jumpers)
3. After each wash of a jumper check that the name is still where you wrote it .

**** Be aware , some particularly sneaky jumpers make their way to a home of a different child. All parents checking labels of jumpers in their home is the most successful method of catching this type of escapee and returning it to its rightful owners****

STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE JUMPERS, SAVE ANXIETY (& £s)