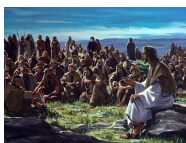




11th June 2021

Worship and Liturgy -

This Sunday speaks to the crowds about the Kingdom of God. It is one of the early accounts of Jesus preaching to large numbers of people. St Mark explains to us, in the Gospel, how Jesus always used parables to get his message across. The stories Jesus told are still known, and used, 2,000 years later which means he was a pretty good teacher and preacher!



First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all our **First Holy Communicants** on receiving the Blessed Sacrament for the first time. They read beautifully and showed maturity beyond their years. What a pleasure it was for us to help them on their journey.



House Points

This week we have appointed four new house captains who will help to lead and manage our weekly house point celebrations.

St Paul's	St Bernadette's
St Teresa's	St Peter's

Our children have
be awarded house



the opportunity to
points which will

be monitored by their Class Dojo Monster. This could be for anything from attitude towards learning, Gospel value witness or Gold standard achievements! Look out for the house totals in our next newsletter...

Celebrations this week

Whole School Attendance 96%	Top Class Attendance Foundation Class 99%
Crew Member of the Week F Tommy- Captain Cain- excellent effort with handwriting this week. 1 Miracle- Captain Cane- super effort in his maths work. 2 Conner - Sailor Sam for perseverance with reading 3 Zofia - Admiral Anne for excellent creative poetry learning and engagement. 4 Cruz - Captain Cain - excellent progress in reading. 5 Ksawery - Commander Kim - Super problem solving in maths this week. 6 Emily-Mai - Commander Kim - impressive arithmetic accuracy	
Witness of the Week - Justice F- Amelia 1- Alivia 2 - Skye 3- Stas 4 - Maja 5 - Gracie 6 - Freddy	

CAFOD Eyes of the World Campaign

Over 100 pairs of beautifully illustrated eyes were sent to the CAFOD office this week. They are being used as part of a huge display to attract the attention of the world leaders at the G7 summit in Cornwall this weekend.





11th June 2021

Secondary schools

Secondary Schools are beginning to arrange open evenings aimed at year 5, and sometimes year 4, children. We received two requests to publicise open days this week. They can be accessed through the links below.

[Coombe Dean](#)

[Devonport High School for Girls](#)

St Boniface's College have produced a promotional video. [SBC Video](#)

Notre Dame's prospectus can be found here. [Notre Dame](#)

Near Miss on Chapel St

We had reports of a near miss involving a car reversing back onto Chapel St shortly after school one day this week. The car narrowly missed a child in a buggy. Please be extra careful when driving at the beginning and end of the school day.



Covid Update - It's Not Over Yet

We are eagerly awaiting the announcement about whether the road map of covid release will be complete on June 21st or if we will face continued restrictions. The number of people needing tests seems to have increased this week and some families have found it harder to get immediate access at a testing centre so the need to be vigilant is still there. It would be great to relieve ourselves of face masks and allow the children to not be restricted to only playing with children from their own class. Selfishly I would like to see the hall full of children singing their hearts out once again before I leave. Also, personally, I am hoping that the Prime Minister will announce the return of headteachers being able to quality control the standard of food provided to the children by sampling chips when they are served. The children seem to think that has happened in the past for some other motive but of course it is the duty of a headteacher to ensure children get chips that are worthy of them.

Sports Day

The format of any type of sports day will depend very much upon what restrictions are in place



later in the term. We very much hope to be able to have a sports day of some description but I feel it is unlikely that we will be able to have all classes intermingling and competing for their houses. Unfortunately inviting all parents / grandparents etc onto the site together at the same time is also looking unlikely.

It will be a shame if we cannot have a whole school sports day as it personifies how we want children of all ages to work together to make the most of their talents. If it turns out that 2019 was the last full sports day of my career, those of you who were there may remember that it did not finish well for me. I was running the final leg of the staff v children relay race and in my efforts to catch a particularly quick year 1 girl I pulled my hamstring and hobbled in in last place. Maybe I shouldn't run this year whatever happens.

PGL

I had an unexpected phone call from PGL this week saying that they are having to postpone or cancel some booked visits as they expect the Covid restrictions to last beyond June 21st. Fortunately they asked other schools who were due to be at Beam House to change their arrangements which means that St Joseph's will be the only school at the centre throughout the week beginning July 12th. I am hoping that this will mean that we will have our own choice of activities. It will also mean that we will not be restricted by having to avoid other 'bubbles' on site which may have limited what the children can do in their free time.



On our PGL risk assessment we have to ensure that there are arrangements in place for a child to be taken home for testing if they develop Covid symptoms while away. Can all year 6 parents please begin to think how they will be able to arrange collection of their child if this is the case. Nearer to the date of departure we will be asking parents to inform us of what arrangements they have made. Beam House is near Torrington in North Devon. According to satnav it is a 1hr 35 minute journey from St Joseph's. We hope that nobody needs to make that trip but we have to have the arrangements in place just in case.