



3rd December 2021



Worship and Liturgy -

In the gospel this week we are told that someone very special is coming.

Who do you think that might be?

John the Baptist tries to help people get ready for this special

person. Let's think some more about this today.

How do you think the people felt when they first heard of the coming of Jesus?

Attendance for the Whole school is 89%	Top class for attendance is Class 6 97%
Crew Member of the Week F -Dolly- Captain Cain- tremendous effort in all areas of learning this week. 1. Kashh- Sailor Sam - For persevering with his phonics and making huge improvements. 2. Isaac - Captain Cain for effort with his Samuel Pepys Diary 3 Patrick - Commander Kim - Excellent logical method used in maths. 4 Lena W - Captain Cain - for brilliant effort all week. 4 Quinn - Lieutenant Louise - for superb evaluations in her mathematics lessons. 5 Noah- Lieutenant Louise- for excellent discussion in our debating. 6 Ksawery - Captain Cain for effort and continual desire to make progress	
Witness of the week - Prudence, the ability to forward think and build good habits 	
F- Reggie 1- Ezra 2. Ayla 3 - Oscar 4 - Jayce 5 - Angel 6 - Zuzanna	

Mr Dyson's updates

We have had another busy week where children have demonstrated such excellent behaviours given the further changes to school life. We

welcomed Mr Baxter properly on Monday as he begins life teaching our year 6 children. Thank you to those parents who came to meet us all last Friday. We are now moving into Advent - a time of preparation. As we prepare all of our events, it is important that all of our preparations are well considered. I have sent out a final pantomime letter - please do return the slip as I need to prepare for this before we break up for Christmas.

Christmas Productions!

We have some good news and some bad news regarding our productions. Due to there being a high number of cases in our year 3 class, rehearsals have had to stop and we will not be allowing parents in to watch this show. At best, we hope to be in a position in the final week where children can perform to a small audience and have this recorded so we can share it with you all. I am really sorry - the children and staff have worked really hard but yet again, covid has stopped us doing what we wanted to do and this decision has not been an easy one to make.

Currently though, we are still hoping to hold the Foundation nativity and our KS2 Carol Service though the timings and dates have changed. This is to ensure we have smaller audiences which will help us keep everyone as safe as we can. **Please note - this is subject to change.**

The Foundation nativity will now be held on Tuesday 14th December at 10am and at 14:15. Every child will be issued with one ticket per show. This is a strict one-ticket option only. You will receive the tickets in your child's book bag.

Our KS2 Carol Service will now take place on two separate mornings in order to reduce crowding at this very popular event. Again, Y4,Y5 and Y6 parents will be allocated one ticket to attend on either Wednesday 15th December at 14:00 or Thursday 16th December at 09:15. You will be able to collect tickets from reception as of Monday 13th December.

For all shows, we have been informed by the Local Authority that:

- Masks MUST be worn for the shows otherwise you will be asked to leave



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- All visitors to the school take a COVID-19 test within 24 hours of attending and if anyone tests positive, please do not attend.
- Where there is a positive case (confirmed by PCR) within a household, all household members should not attend.
- People register for the event to provide an awareness of who might need to be followed up if a case has attended during their infectious period.

Cathedral Christmas Carol Service

One of our governors has informed me that there will be a Christmas Carol Service in the Cathedral church on Thursday 9th December at 6pm. Words and song sheets will be handed out - it would be lovely to see some of you there. Mince pies will be on offer afterwards!

And on Sunday 12th, there will be a special service at The Cathedral, inviting children to bring in their own baby Jesus to be blessed during the 10am mass.

International Christmas Market

What a difference a week makes. Only last week we were asking for donations for the International Christmas Market and now we are announcing that we have had to make the difficult decision to postpone it for this year. I am really disappointed but with the new restrictions and concerns around Covid, our market traditionally sees a huge amount of people all moving around a small, enclosed space. If you still want to donate, please do and we will take all donations to the Plymouth Foodbank.

Christmas Cards

Children will be able to send each other Christmas cards this year. There will be a 'Christmas post box' in the hall where children will be able to put their cards in. The deadline for the cards will be Wednesday 15th December. All cards will then be sorted and delivered to children on the final day of term.

Foundation Bedtime Story

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our special storytime this week. We were very excited about coming back to school in our pjs in the dark and I know some children had been counting down

the number of sleeps! We enjoyed some activities based on our story focus and then shared our book, Owl Babies. Sharing stories with our children is valuable in so many ways and I hope all those that could make it enjoyed taking some time out from their busy lives to do this last night.



Sports Star!

Watch out for the Olympics in 2028! Lamara came 1st in all of her three events and is now the official U10 Devon Champion for

-x 1 lap
- Vertical Jump
- Standing Long Jump!
WELL DONE LAMARA



Flu Vaccines

If you want your child to receive a flu vaccine, an email was sent to you earlier this week. You must sign up on the link otherwise they will not be given the vaccine. This deadline can not be extended.

Pokemon Cards

There have been a few children who have misplaced cards as well as 'trading' that hasn't been successful and this has been upsetting for some. We would like the children to continue to enjoy their collections at home rather than in school.



St Joseph's Newsletter - 2021



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Trim Trail

We have reminded children today that the trim trail is out of bounds after school. This is due to insurance and safety. Children may only use the Trim Trail if supervised by a school staff member. Please help us to keep your children safe.

God bless,
Mr M Dyson

Dates for your diaries

9th December - ~~International Christmas Market~~ - POSTPONED

10th December - Christmas Jumper Day

14th December - Foundation Nativity (10am and 14:15) and ~~Year 1,2 & 3 Nativity (evening)~~
performances

15th December - Year 4,5 & 6 Carol Service (14:00)

16th December - Christmas Dinner and Year 4,5 & 6 Carol Service (09:15)

17th December - Last Day Year 4,5 & 6 Carol Service (09:15)

4th and 5th January - School closed - INSET

6th January - PANTO! Late collection.

EMAILS TO PARENTS

We would like to take this opportunity to apologise. We have had some technical difficulties and as a result our class emails, school emails and newsletters have not been received. While we get this back up and running, please make sure to get your class and school information from our website www.st-josephs.plymouth.sch.uk/website