



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

14th July 2017

Stars of the Week

is an opportunity to celebrate our
Learning Stars.

Congratulations to:

Eliana Quainoo
Michael Gee
Maja Haponiuk
Stephen Harris
Owen Steer
Holly Emerson
Oliver Stevens

Michael Hooper
Warren Diamond
Harley Jordan
Ash Class
Kasper Haponiuk
Divine Awerije
John Burke

We love to celebrate our pupils' achievements out of school during Prayer and Praise.

Congratulations to **Carmen Hanson** and **Ruby Slatter** for gaining their **Stage 6**, **Grace Brewer** for gaining her **Stage 3** and **Patrick Halse** for gaining his **Stage 1** swimming award.

Congratulations to **Cormac Malone** for receiving medals for **Rugby**.

Congratulations to **Charlie Bullock** on achieving his **Blue Stripe Belt** and **Owen Steer** on achieving his **Brown Stripe Belt** in martial arts.

Congratulations to **Ava Breslan** for taking part in the **Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge**.

Congratulations to **Jessica Lambert** for achieving an excellent report from **Stage Coach**.

As part of their involvement with Guides, **Holly Emerson**, **Ella Duval** and **Hazel Mann** completed their **Hurdlestone Challenge** which included an over night stay and an eight mile walk. Well done, we are very proud of you.

Dates

18th July	Leavers' Assembly 9.15am
19th July	Sports Day 10am-2.45pm
21st July	Last day for staff and pupils
4th September	Non pupil day
5th September	First day of Term

School Council

I would like to thank the School Council for their hard work and enthusiasm towards improving their school for the benefit of all pupils. Thanks go to:

WILLOW	George Yeadon William Bath
BIRCH	Cormac Malone Jack Mariadas
ASH	Teyla Byrne
ROWAN	Ruby Slatter Sophia Philips
MAPLE	Shayla Nell Lydia Stackhouse
ELM	Oliver Holt John Burke

House Captains

Thank you for the commitment of the House Captains in promoting good citizenship this year.

Ugbrooke:	Oliver Holt Lydia Stackhouse
Forde	Ashleigh Steer Theo Delany
Ingsdon	Declan Breslan Oisin Malone
Bradley	Daisy Smith Mason Honeywill

Live, learn and love in a caring Catholic community.

Mixed Age Classes

Parent comment sheets received this week have asked questions about the organisation of next year's classes. We have included the questions and answers, as they may be of help to others.

Why has there been no consultation or dialogue on the new arrangements earlier in the year/term?

Work on the school's budget happens in the summer term and the final decision about mixed age classes was ratified at a Governors' meeting on Wednesday 5th July. The Governors of the school have done everything possible to avoid having to reduce classes from seven to six. However, schools are funded on an understanding of one teacher to thirty pupils. There are currently 157 pupils in the school, instead of the capacity of 210. It is true that some pupils have benefited from small classes, but this model is not financially sustainable.

It would be very difficult for parents to be objective when considering the organisation of all children in classes across the school. Understandably, they have their own child's interests at heart. Decisions about the strategic direction of the school are made by the Governing Body on which there is parent representation.

Parents' comments about needing more information about the organisation of classes earlier in the term will be taken into account when sharing information in future years.

How will the teaching material to be allocated?

The National Curriculum says that schools are:

'...only required to teach the relevant programme of study by the end of the key stage. Within each key stage, schools therefore have the flexibility to introduce content earlier or later than set out in the programme of study.'

For many subjects, teaching and learning is already structured around a two-year rotation cycle. This will be adapted to ensure that each year group has complete coverage of the National Curriculum by the end of their current key stage. Details of the school curriculum on a year-by-year basis will be available on the school website in September. In mixed age classes, whole class teaching will be kept to a minimum within key subjects such as maths, with teaching targeted at individual ability groups. This is possible through classroom management and is a well-used strategy for ensuring that all needs in a mixed ability class are met.

Staff will look carefully at the previous curriculum covered and design a curriculum that reflects those areas that still need to be taught. This will be taught to match the needs of the pupils in the class.

Mixed Age classes are relatively common in Devon and there is a great deal of support and resources that the school can draw on to ensure effective teaching and learning for all.

Will the younger year group in a class learn the same as the older children in a class?

Sometimes. The school has always taught children in mixed ability groups. In all of our current classes, there is a wide range of ability, maturity and experience. In our present single age classes, work set is differentiated to meet the needs of the pupils regardless of their age group, this will continue to be the case in a mixed age class. All work is differentiated according to each child's ability. The staff are committed to enabling each child to reach their individual potential and enjoy being an active learner.



Friends of St. Joseph's Facebook

The school community of St Joseph's is enriched by the overwhelming support of its parents. The school understands that parents have their child's best interests at heart and no offence has been taken by recent posts on the 'Friends of St Joseph's' Facebook page.

Improving communication has been a priority this year and it will continue to be so. We hope to be able to post school updates on the Facebook page so that it reinforces the messages that are already included on the school website and newsletter.

School leaders are committed to working in partnership with parents to secure the academic success and well-being of all our pupils. We are happy to meet with any parents to discuss any concerns around their child's schooling. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Farewell and Thank you.
We say goodbye to:

**Miss Burnell
Miss Sealy
Mr Houldsworth
Miss Gammage
Mrs Kerry
Kate Hocking**

They have served our school faithfully and we thank them for their hard work and dedication towards the pupils of St Joseph's. They take our love and best wishes with them.

Other Staff changes:
Mrs Wilson's role of SENDCo/ Assistant Head reduces to three days a week.
Miss James' teaching assistant hours will reduce slightly in September, so that she can pursue her studies in Early Years.

Thank you to Sam Smith, who is stepping down as a 'Friend of St Joseph's'. We appreciate the time and effort that has been put in during your time as a Friend.

Welcome to Lucy Dinata
Mrs Dinata will be joining us to teach Ash Class in September. She is moving down to Devon from London and has been teaching since 2009. She is a Mum of two children and enjoys swimming and yoga.



She loves many things about being a teacher but she particularly enjoys storytelling and writing. She enjoys print making in her spare time and looks forward to teaching this to the class.

We look forward to welcoming Lucy to St Joseph's.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
As we approach a new school year, many parents will already be purchasing items of school uniform. At St Joseph's, part of our identity is our school uniform, and we pride ourselves in this. Therefore, I urge parents to ensure that children are sent to school wearing the correct uniform in September. The required school uniform, including the correct PE kit is:

GIRLS
Navy blue or grey knee length skirt
Navy blue or grey trousers
Sky blue blouse or polo shirt
Navy blue embroidered sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
Blue & white dress in the summer
Black school shoes

BOYS
Grey trousers
Sky blue shirt or polo shirt
Navy blue embroidered sweatshirt or jumper
Grey shorts in the summer
Black school shoes

PE Kit for Girls and Boys
Navy blue shorts
White t-shirt or polo shirt
Suitable trainers
Tracksuits or suitable sports clothing may be worn in the winter
*PE kits should be available in school every day & clearly marked with the child's name.

Jewellery, with the exception of watches and small stud earrings, is not allowed. Make-up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Children's Books 2016/17
The school has been advised to keep a number of children's books from each class until the Autumn half term. These books would be used as evidence of teaching and learning if we were to have an inspection early in the school year. Your child's class teacher will advise you if your child's books have been selected. All books will be returned immediately after the Autumn half term.

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?



The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays. The challenge is an excellent way to prevent a 'summer reading dip' and develop a lifelong love of reading for all the family.

How the Challenge works?

- Children read six library books of their choice collecting stickers and incentives along the way
- Library staff are on hand to advise and run fun family activities.
- Children who complete the challenge are presented with a certificate at a special ceremony in their local library or their school at the beginning of the new term.

What next:

- Visit your local library
- Visit www.summertimechallenge.org.uk
- Visit Devon libraries pages at www.devon.gov.uk/thezone

CALM and CREATE family workshops

Creative activities
Calm tips for kids
Farm walk

West Town Farm, Ide EX2 9TG

Aug 2nd, 3rd, 10th, 11th, 19th, 20th

10am – 3pm

5 – 11 yrs.

£30 (for one grown up and up to two children)

£100 for four days! Plus booking fee

Limited places so book now at

www.positive-world.co.uk

Newton Abbot Library - Summer Events

Friday 28th July, 2-3.30pm

Olli Tooley, Author Talk.

Ideal for ages 6-10, tickets £1 per child

Monday 14th August, 2-3pm

Animal Agents with Exmoor Zoo.

Exmoor Zoo discount vouchers available on the day. £3 per child, under 3 & adults free.

Friday 1st September, 10.30am

Ugly Duckling Shadow Puppetry Workshop.

Create your own shadow puppet.

Tickets are FREE!

Saturday 9th September

Summer Reading Challenge Finisher's Party!

Celebrate your success and be in with the chance to win a family admission ticket to Exmoor Zoo! Lots of fun and games.

For more information on any of the events, please contact Newton Abbot Library on 01392 384012.

Torbay Children's Week 15th—19th August

The event is free of charge to attend and has a varied programme each and every day, with the finale day on Saturday 19th being Sci-Fi Movie day where they have cars and characters from the movies.

For more details see: www.childrensweek.co.uk

Reminder to Parents

Could everyone please make sure that their Breakfast/After School Club invoices and school meals are paid up to date before the end of term. If you are unsure on how much is outstanding, please ask at the office. Thank you

Free School Meals

You can now apply for free school meals online and receive an instant decision.

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

More information is available on our website.

Torbay and Devon Civic Award at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

On Wednesday 5th July, pupils from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Newton Abbot, were presented with the Torbay and Devon Civic Award at a ceremony at Torquay Boys' Grammar School. The certificates were awarded to successful pupils by the Chair of both Torbay and Devon County Council.

The Torbay and Devon Civic Award does a great deal to develop children's character. It encourages them to be compassionate and to take responsibility for positive change. It supports them in leading purposeful and full lives and is great preparation for both secondary school and the workplace. This is the first year the Year 6 children of St Joseph's have taken part, and they report that working towards the award has supported them to work collaboratively and independently, supported the development of managing and organising events and that it makes them feel 'grown up'.

To achieve the award, which is based on the Duke Of Edinburgh Award scheme, pupils had to produce evidence to meet a number of challenges. The five main areas were:

Active Citizenship in their school community

Active Citizenship in their home communities

An active hobby

A non-active hobby

A Residential experience and adventure training

St Joseph's children also adopted a cause or charity which they felt strongly about. They researched it and found ways of supporting it such as: count the sweets in a jar, buy a brick, raffles and bake sales. They kept evidence for this in a portfolio which included photographs, certificates and diary entries of which all the children were very proud of. Finally, the children had to pass a rigorous assessment and present all their evidence to an external assessor.

We are very proud of our Year 6 children's achievements on their path to becoming Good Citizens.

Please note: Prayer and Praise

There is no whole school Act of Worship on Friday 21st July.

Clubs

Tuesday

Multi Skills Y1,2

Lost Property

The lost property, outside Birch classroom, will be recycled at the end of the school year. If your child has items of uniform missing, please check in school before the end of term. (Named items will be returned to their owner).

Mass at St Joseph's Parish Church

Message from Peter Farrell

Many thanks to the staff and children who made it such a moving occasion. The clear voices, the accompanying hand gestures to the communion hymn, the final hymn and the attentive behaviour of the children all contributed greatly to the celebration. Thank you.

All newsletters are available to view on the school website.

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* Good bye and good luck to all the *
* pupils, parents and staff who are *
* leaving us at the end of term. May *
* you be blessed with much joy and *
* happiness in the years ahead. *
*
* I wish you all a safe and happy *
* summer holiday. *
*
* Kelly Dunne *
*

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Tel: 01626 352559 Email: admin@sjna.uk

Kelly Dunne: Headteacher

St. Joseph's School is committed to safeguarding children.

Designated Child Protection Officer: Kelly Dunne Deputy Child Protection Officer: Claire Hawkings

Named Governor for Child Protection: Tim Van Kroonenburg