

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear all,

The children have had a lovely week at school. Lots of the classes have been out enjoying the forest school area and walking round the classes I have seen some lovely Art and DT taking place.

**Parents evening**

Many thanks for everyone who engaged in our online parents' evenings. They worked really well and hopefully you found them informative and useful in the light of not being able to have face to face meetings. If you do have any questions or concerns please remember you can ask for a phone call meeting with the class teacher at any time during the term.

**Poppies for sale**

When we return after half term we will be selling poppies. However, we will only be selling poppies not the wristbands, badges etc. we usually sell to avoid lots of rummaging through boxes! The poppies will be taken round by a single person and handed over to the children individually. If your child wishes to purchase a poppy please send them in with a minimum 50p donation in the first or second week after half term.

**Safety**

Thank you to everyone who has supported our systems for collection and drop offs.

A handful of parents are starting to stand in the one way system (in effect in front of the school gate by the year 5/6 steps) to wait whilst their children are dismissed. The problem is that it becomes increasingly difficult to keep a distance if people are blocking the area. Please make sure you are not blocking any of the exits and entrances and stand on the yellow spots inside the playground.

**Exmouth Forest School - Half Term Day Camp - 26th-29th October**

The Outdoors Group are once again running their Forest School Holiday Camp. Please visit [www.outdoorsgroup.co.uk/halfterm-day-camp/](http://www.outdoorsgroup.co.uk/halfterm-day-camp/) for further information and to book.

**Goodbye**

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, we are sadly having to say good-bye to Mrs White in the school office. Mrs White has been at the school for an amazing 16 years and will be hugely missed by all the staff and pupils. I am sure you join me in thanking her for the fantastic job she has done at St Joseph's and wishing her the very best for the future.

**Inset day**

Please remember the Monday after half term is a staff training day so the children return on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable half term

Best wishes

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

**Diary dates:**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – 3.15/3.30pm, Children finish for half-term

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – Non-Pupil day

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Children return to school after half term

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – Poppies on sale in school

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 3/4 workshop in school, tree planting. Children to wear clothes they don't mind getting dirty and they must have a waterproof coat

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – Father Philip visiting year 6

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 1 and Year 3/4 Recycling workshops

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 3/4 tree planting in Phear Park. As above children to wear clothes they don't mind getting dirty and they must have a waterproof coat

**Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> November** – Anti-bullying week

**Headteacher's Award:** Sycamore – Quinn, Ethan, Cedar – Adam, Owen, Zach

**Bronze Awards:** Rowan – Rory, Isla, Poppy J, Cedar – Alfie, Adam

**Stars of the Week:** Oak – Kenny, Rowan – Thea, Sycamore – Barney, Cedar – Zach, Maple - Brooke, Beech – Archie