

Friday 10th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The year is flying by. I can't believe we are already in the last half term of the academic year! The children have had a lovely first week back getting straight into their learning and enjoying time out in the subshine. I have been working with a lot of the younger children this week and have been impressed by the progress they have made in the last half term. It is also great to see the Year 6s in their colourful hoodies. Next Tuesday it is school photos so Year 6 will need their hoodies and their school jumpers that day.

Welcome

This week we welcome back Miss White from her maternity leave. It is lovely to have her back! We also welcome Mrs Gates. Mrs Gates has been working at another local school for many years and we are really pleased that she has now joined us. Mrs Gates will be teaching across year groups covering PPA.

Summer Fair

We are really pleased to say that after a two year break the PTA are able to run a summer fair again this year. It will be on Friday 1st July 3.45 – 7pm. If you are able to be involved helping in any way please see Hannah in the playground or contact her at pta@stjo.uk

Support for parents

We know it's hard to understand children's behaviour and find the best ways to support them as they grow up. If you need support, are looking for advice, or have a parenting question, you'll find lots of information at MyFamilyCoach.com. My Family Coach is a free website produced by experts in child behaviour, parenting, and education. The website is full of resources on popular parenting topics, such as screen time, bullying, and mental wellbeing. They have a wide range of blog posts, podcast episodes, and videos available, along with bookable 1:1 coaching, courses, and classes. It's simple to sign up and completely free to register.

Online safety – Metaverse

There is a lot of talk about the MetaVerse at the moment as there is a lot of development and marketing going on, principally by Facebook (Meta) who are touting it as the next big thing. Sadly, much of the information is negative, it is clear that companies are giving little regard to user safety. It is important that parents are aware of the MetaVerse as many children are going to start talking about it. The NSPCC have put a useful guide together which you can view the guide - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/what-is-the-metaverse>

Message from Shelterbox after our fundraising

We sent the money raised and some photos to Shelterbox. They have replied: *'These are brilliant!*

Thank you so much for passing on these wonderful images and I love how the children adapted to the weight of the coins by making a sturdier shelter. Congratulations on the wonderful amount you have raised- £122.56 is amazing! I am so moved by the children bringing in their pocket money to help others. I hope everyone involved and the children are incredibly proud of themselves, as they should be. From all of us at ShelterBox but, most importantly, the people who will receive vital aid and shelter items due to your incredible work, thank you!'

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Diary dates:

Monday 13th June – Rowan Class Exe estuary visit

Tuesday 14th June – Class photos

Monday 20th June – Yr 2 – 6, Author visit

Tuesday 21st June – Yr 6 performance by Wander Theatre Company

Wednesday 22nd June – FSU police visit

Tuesday 28th June – Sycamore Class Exe estuary visit

Wednesday 29th June – Beech Class Music day Buckfast

Thursday 30th June – Sports day. Times TBC

Friday 1st July – PTA Summer Fair 3.45pm

Headteacher's Award: Oak Class - Tallulah

Diamond Awards: Sycamore Class - Douglas

Gold Awards: Rowan Class – Sam, Cherry Class – Leo, Melissa

Silver Awards: Sycamore Class – Jack, Cherry Class – Quinn, Oliver, Ethan

Stars of the Week: Oak Class – Arnie, Rowan Class – Poppy, Sycamore Class – Douglas, Cherry Class – Isla, Maple Class – Teddy, Beech Class - Ellis