

Friday 7th December

Dear all,

Christmas is in the air at St Joseph's! The children have had a lovely week putting up decorations and delivering cards to one another. It has been great to hear the children talking about how they are taking part in the St Joseph's Spread the Happiness Advent calendar.

FSU went to Pennywell Farm to take part in their Christmas Nativity. The children had a wonderful time dressing up and acting out the story with the Pennywell animals. They also met Father Christmas which they said was 'amazing, brilliant and really fun!' Many thanks to everyone who organised and helped on the trip.

All the school had a Beach Safety assembly run by Beach Schools South West. Whilst it may seem an odd time of year for a beach safety assembly it reminded the children about being careful of the tides and large waves as well as talking about pollution and recycling.

This afternoon OTA water, South West Water, The Journal and the BBC are coming in to find out about our Rainwater harvesting and take photos/film. The school council will be talking to them so thank you to those who returned the consent forms. It is lovely to be able to show the school off and be recognised for being a school helping the community and leading the way in water sustainability.

Lantern Parade

Cherry and Willow class have made their lanterns ready for tomorrow. The town council have collected the lanterns and they can be collected from the Town Hall carpark between 3.30-4.45pm. We are then all meeting at Gunfield Gardens at 5.15pm ready for the lantern-lit parade to The Strand. In the Strand there is then the Christmas Tree lights switch on at 6.20pm. All children need to be supervised by their parent/adult at all times during the parade.

We will also have a St Joseph's Christmas Tree in The Strand tomorrow. The children from Maple and Beech class have been making the decorations in Forest School and myself and the School Council will be decorating the tree in The Strand in the morning. It should hopefully be a lovely, fun day tomorrow and it would be lovely to see as many people there as possible.

Christmas Charity

Next week sees the start of our Christmas performances. We are not selling tickets to any of the events, instead we will have a collection bucket for donations. We are joining with our Holy Ghost Church Advent appeal. We are raising money for 'Balloons'. Balloons is a charity that provides support for children, young people and their families before an expected death, or following the death, of someone significant in their lives. Any donations will be very gratefully received.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday 11th December – Rowan and Sycamore nativity performance 2pm and 6pm

Wednesday 12th December – School Christmas lunch

Thursday 13th December – Willow and Cherry class Advent Service 6pm in school

Friday 14th December – Christmas jumper day

Friday 14th December - Rowan and Sycamore nativity performance in Church 10am

Tuesday 18th December – Maple and Beech Advent Service in the Church 6.30pm

Wednesday 19th December – 2.30 pm Carols around the Christmas Tree followed by refreshments in the hall.

Thursday 20th December – Last day of school before Christmas holiday.

Best wishes & many thanks for your continued support

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Headteacher's awards: Oak – Hollie, Rowan – Finlay, Daisy, James, Emma, Maria, Cherry - Theo

Gospel Value Bronze Awards: Rowan – Gemma, Harry, Emily, Archie, Sycamore – Amelia.

Cherry – Charlie Ha, Willow – Vince, Liam

Star of the week Awards: Oak - Lusi, Rowan – Emma, Sycamore – Owen, Cherry – Niamh,

Willow – Jasmine, Maple – Charlie S, Beech – Louis.

Breakfast club Award: FSU - Hollie