



'Together we will do our best for Jesus'



Friday Update

16th December 2016

Pleas for help:

- Could one of your New Year's resolution please be time keeping. It is slipping! Please can you make every effort to have children in school for the start of the day by 8.50 and collect them at the end of the day at 3.10 for Reception, Years 1 and 2 and 3.15 for Years 3 – 6 (Unless they are attending Breakfast club, Late Owls or one of the sports and music clubs.)
- We have had a few cases of the little hair visitors reported throughout the school. Please be vigilant, check your children's hair regular and treat any family members who may be affected. Thank you

School Panto – Peter Pan

The children really enjoyed the Panto Peter Pan yesterday. The Treehouse Theatre Company who produced the panto, were amazing, there was a lot of interaction with the children and quite a few of them were able to be 'extras' in the show. The panto was in the school hall which meant all the children had an excellent view. I think this will become an annual event in school.

Hedgehogs 'A Miracle in Town'

As you can imagine getting our youngest children to learn their songs, lines and actions is quite an achievement when they have only been with us since September. With guidance from the Hedgehog team and musical accompaniment from Mr. Lewry, they were wonderful. The costumes were amazing. It is a joy to see them on stage as they portray the true meaning of Christmas and we hope you all enjoyed it.

Years 1 and 2 'Lights, Camel Action

What a wonderful nativity. The children were amazing and gave us an hour out of our busy lives to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. They have been practicing under the guidance of Mrs. Cook and our Year 1 and 2 staff who have worked so hard with them, but I think you will all agree it was worth the effort. It certainly was a Nativity with a difference.

Year 3 – Carols around the Christmas Tree

We were entertained by Year 3 yesterday as they sang Carols around the Christmas Tree all wearing their Christmas jumpers and singing with their lovely voices. They really helped us all to get into the Christmas Spirit. Thank you once again to the PTFA for providing the refreshments.

School Choir at the Lighthouse

On Thursday 1st December our choir took part in the Poole Schools Carol Concert at the Lighthouse. Mrs. Cook has worked hard with other music co-ordinators in our local schools and the concert was amazing. Those present were given a real treat to see so many children singing so beautifully on stage.

Our School choir have also been involved in carol singing at Poole Hospital and Waitrose supermarket bringing a little Christmas cheer to patients in the hospital and weary shoppers at Waitrose. Both really enjoyed listening to the children sing.

Senior Citizens and Friends Party

Last Friday afternoon we entertained some of our senior citizens and friends in the school hall. It is an event that is enjoyed by one and all. They had a wonderful afternoon of entertainment from the choir, Year 5/6 vocal group, Year 2, Mary and Joseph from Year 1, Year 3 and our violin group followed by mince-pies, biscuits tea and coffee etc. Thank you to the PTFA who helped to serve and provide the refreshments.

'Plymouth CAST Review. A review of Plymouth CAST was recently undertaken. Bishop Mark has written to all schools about the review. His letter is available on the school website on our 'Other Letters' page. If you would like a hard copy of the letter please contact the school office.

Whole School Mass

The whole school went to St. Joseph's Church to celebrate a Christmas Mass with parents, parishioners and friends at 9.30 a.m. last Wednesday. This is an annual event that brings us all together to celebrate the Mass in God's house which was very uplifting and spiritual.

What Talent!

We all know that at St. Joseph's we are so blessed with our staff. All the staff who work in Hedgehogs, Years 1, 2 and 3 have given so much of their time to the performances and we are so lucky with Mr. Lewry, our Site Manager extraordinaire who copes with making props, putting up scenery, setting up the hall and playing the piano for Hedgehogs and Senior Citizens concert. A big thank you also to Mrs. Cook our music teacher who has worked hard with the children in Year 1, 2 and 3 and the school choir. This is Mrs. Cook's first term with us and it certainly was a baptism by fire but Mrs. Cook has risen to the challenge continuing to give our children the opportunity to enjoy the gift of music to such a high standard and to give our parents and the local community such wonderful opportunities to hear them perform. Thank you all so much

Governor News

One of our Parent Governors' 4-year term of office is about to expire. Mrs Valinski has already advised me that she would like and is willing to serve a second term but this is an opportunity for any other parent who wishes to become more involved with the life of the school to put themselves forward as a possible candidate. The Governors are responsible to the Trustees of Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust for;

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school;
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In the event of more than one candidate putting themselves forward there is a process which results in a ballot in which all parents have the opportunity to vote and the democratic winner becomes the new Parent Governor. Further information can be obtained from the school office or Chair of Governors, Hugh Fogarty. Nominations must be received by 3.00 pm on Wednesday 11th January 2017.

Mrs. Perring

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to say a fond farewell to Mrs. Perring as she is leaving us to start the next chapter in her life after devoting most of her career to teaching in the Catholic schools in Poole. Mrs. Perring has taught at St. Edward's, St. Mary's and here at St. Joseph's (for the last 10 years). I know that you would all wish her well and offer a great vote of thanks for everything she has done for the children and families in our school past and present. Mrs. Perring has always encouraged everyone within our community 'to do their best for Jesus' and she herself has always led us by her example of always keeping Jesus at the centre of her life. Good luck Mrs. Perring, we will really miss you.

January 2017

- Tuesday 3rd January – School opens at 8.50 a.m. for Spring Term
- Wednesday 4th January Upper School Mass celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany at 9.15 in the hall (Years 4 – 6)
- Wednesday 18th January – School Liturgy lead by Year 1
- Monday 23rd January – Staff Training Day – School Closed
- Wednesday 8th February – Year 4 Mass lead by Miss Chitticks' class
- Monday 13th – Friday 17th February – School Closed all week for half term

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas with your families and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year on 3rd January 2017.

Christmas Blessing

May the joy of the angels, the humility of the shepherds, the faith of the wise men and the Peace that Jesus brings, fill you hearts and your homes this Christmas and forever more.

Safeguarding is a priority at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

If you have any concerns please contact our designated Safeguarding officers, Mrs. O'Donoghue/ Mr. McDermott/Mr Gardner/Mrs. Thomas