



# NEWSLETTER



20/5/19

## Friends of St Joseph's Disco

Thank you to the staff and helpers from the Friends of St Joseph's for their help in allowing the school discos to be enjoyed by so many children recently. The event raised £300. The next Friends event is the biggest one of the year, the Summer Fair. Please put the date of Friday 28th June in your diaries.

## Deputy Headteacher

On Friday 17th May we interviewed for our new Deputy Headteacher and are very pleased to announce that Mrs Penman will join us in that role in September. All of the children who met Mrs Penman during the interview process were very impressed by her and we are sure she will be a fantastic addition to the St Joseph's team.

## Attendance

Attendance is still creeping up towards our 96% target, it now stands at 95.46%. 42 children have been in school for at least 99% of the time so far this year. Unfortunately 22 children have missed over 10% of their school time in that period. If that pattern continued over their time in St Joseph's it would be equivalent to missing two whole terms of schooling. This inevitably has a very detrimental impact on each child's learning and it is time that can never be caught up. Please ensure your child is in school every day that they can be.

	Foundation	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
Attendance	95.5%	93.7%	95%	96.7%	95.9%	96%	95.4%

## Shoes

Since the announcement that trainers that are **all black** can be worn a number of children have been coming to school with trainers on that have white or other colours as part of the design. Some have even worn trainers that have no black at all. Standards of uniform have always been high at St Joseph's however it seems that the decision to help parents find good value alternatives while keeping up standards is resulting in a drop in those standards. Please ensure that the footwear that you send your child into school in maintains the high standards that the school has always been known for.

## Sports Day

It is only three school weeks now until Sports Day which is on Friday 14th June starting at 1.00pm. Our Sports Day is made up of all children competing for their house.

St Bernadette's	St Peter's	St Teresa's	St Paul's
Yellow	Blue	Green	Red

The children come into school on the day wearing (if possible) a t-shirt in the colour of their house. They will all compete in individual and team races. In many of the events it is team work rather than speed which is the key to success. Parents and families are invited to watch but, for safeguarding reasons, are asked to keep to the school side of the field while the children stay on the trim trail side of the track.

## Deacon James

We have been very lucky this year to have had Deacon James acting as our chaplain. He has supported teachers and children with the RE curriculum, helped develop liturgies and has also provided pastoral support when needed. Deacon James will be ordained into the priesthood at Plymouth Cathedral on Saturday 22nd June. This is a very special occasion. I have only witnessed one ordination in my many years. Some of our children will be lucky enough to attend the ordination next month. A special section of the Cathedral has been reserved for St Joseph's children however there will be limited space available. We will soon send out a letter inviting you to apply for the opportunity for your child to witness an increasingly rare Sacrament. It is traditional that communities donate towards a gift for a priest's ordination. If you would like to donate please do so through the office.