

January 12th 2018**Dear all,**

The term is in full swing now and the children have all had a busy week learning. Maple class started their Swimmers Lifesaving Course at the Sports Centre this week. The children really enjoyed their first session and I'm sure you'll agree it's a vital skill to learn living here in Exmouth. Willow and Cherry classes have been busy painting their Roman shields ready for their Roman day on Monday. It sounds like it is going to be a fun packed day for them with a Roman Centurion and lots of Roman activities and artefacts. Parents have received a letter about it and if Year 3/4 children can come in dressed up that would be great. It doesn't have to be anything fancy – a large white t-shirt, with a belt and trousers would be perfect.

Marvellous Mathematicians!

As some of you may remember a team of our Yr 6 children took part in a local maths competition before Christmas which they won and it put them through to the finals. Yesterday, they went to Exmouth Community College for the maths final and I am so pleased and proud to say St Joseph's won! The children beat teams from all the local schools; what superstars! A huge well done to Sheril, Bethany, Connor and Poppy. The questions were exceptionally difficult; Mrs Jukes and Mrs Greenway had to think hard! I thought you might like to see a couple of the questions our children had to answer:

1. *What is the value of: $\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{4}{5} \times 1\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{3} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$?*
2. *The school basketball team have had a good season so far. They have scored 2011 points in total, with the highest score of 110 points in one game and the lowest score being 101 points just once. How many games have the team played so far this season?*
3. *You have 250 1cm² square tiles which are either red or blue. There are enough 1cm² square tiles of each colour to make up a larger square where both diagonals are made up entirely of blue square tiles. If you made up the largest possible square how many blue 1cm² square tiles would you need along the diagonal?*

I'm sure you will agree our children did extremely well to win a competition with questions like that!

Diary dates went home this week and are on our website. Please keep an eye out on each newsletter though as trips are still being organised and dates still being confirmed.

Parents evening appointments went home this week as well. Please let us know as soon as possible if you cannot attend so we can fill any spare slots.

Design an ice-cream

Antonio's in Exmouth have asked the children to take part in a competition designing a new flavour or type of ice-cream. The winning design gets £25 in vouchers and to name the ice-cream. The profits from the sales of the winning ice-cream go to the RNLI. If your child would like to take part, please can they draw and label their ice-cream on A4 paper, put their name, age and school on the back and hand it in to their class teacher or the office.

After School Club

To keep you up to date with events, we are hoping to have our After School Club up and running soon. We are in the process of finalising policies and contracts, etc and we are aiming for after Easter at the moment. I will keep you informed as and when I have more news.

Next week:

Monday 15th January – Willow and Cherry Class Roman day

Friday 19th January – PTA AGM. Everyone welcome. 9.10am in the staffroom.

Friday 19th January – Skateboarding day. All the children will have the opportunity to have a go at skateboarding, with lessons provided by a qualified instructor. All equipment will be provided.

Best wishes & many thanks for your continued support

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Headteacher's Awards: Sycamore - Harry, Annie, Amelia, Ella, Phoebe, Maple - Rafa x 2!, Laura, Charlotte, Oliver, Scarlett

Silver award: Cherry - Nell

Bronze award: Sycamore - Aleksy, Harry, Mason, Cherry - George, Max

Stars of the week: Oak - Mia , Sycamore - Maddison, Rowan - Amber , Cherry - Patrycja, Willow - Edan, Maple - Erin, Beech - Louie

Breakfast Club Superstar: Charlie Hill