

ENRICHING OUR LEARNING

Year 2 enjoyed a super day at Milestones Museum this week, linked to their learning in class. The visit focussed on their World War II topic and what life was like for families during the war years.

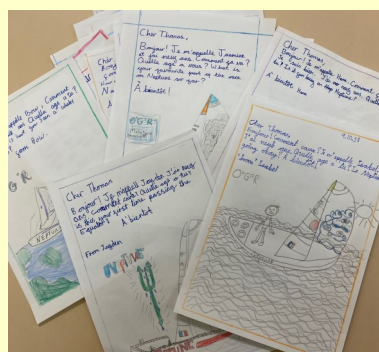
On Tuesday, **Year 3** had a very successful day out at the Natural History Museum. This related to the children's geography topic- volcanoes and earthquakes. The class



had the opportunity to participate in a hands-on session in the live volcano show. After their investigation, they explored the many areas of the museum. They got to feel what it would be like to be in a real live earthquake, to travel into the centre of the earth and to see the 'real' T-Rex. Both trips were very successful and the children behaved beautifully throughout the day receiving compliments from members of the public, the coach drivers and staff at the venues which made Miss Cook and Mrs Deegan very proud. Thank you to the staff and parents who helped bring the children's learning to life.



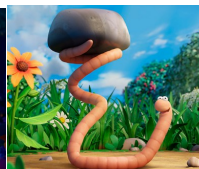
Year 5 have been busy over the last half term following the round the world 'Ocean Globe Race' which set off from Southampton Marina on 10th October. Miss Kenway's French cousin, Thomas, is a crew member on one of the boats. Each day, the children have been checking the progress of Neptune (Thomas' boat) expanding their geographical knowledge and have also written letters to him and the crew which helped them to practise the French phrases that they know. Neptune has now arrived in Cape Town where Thomas was delighted to receive his post. Last week, the class were treated to a video call with Thomas where he answered the children's questions and was able to tell them a little bit about his experience so far. Leg 2 of the race started on Sunday, with the destination this time being Auckland, New Zealand. They are expected to arrive sometime in early January.



INTO FILM FESTIVAL

Years 1-4 enjoyed a visit to Dorking Halls to watch two films, "Superworm" and "The Smeds and the Smoos", showing as part of the Into Film Festival.

Thank you to Miss Devlin for organising the trip and to the parents who helped accompany the children.





ODD SOCK DAY!

Monday 13th November 2023

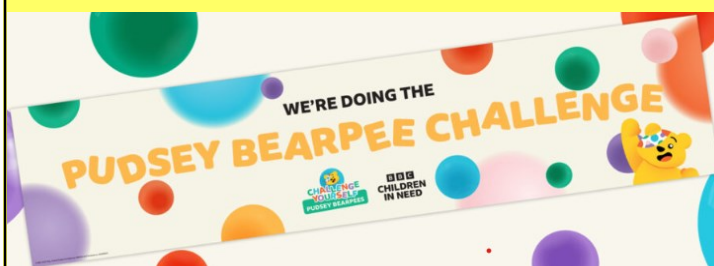
This coming Monday, we are inviting children to wear odd socks to school over their normal uniform or PE kit to mark the start of anti-bullying week. It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate their uniqueness.

We will once again be supporting the annual

BBC Children in Need Appeal

Next week all classes will be taking part in Pudsey's "Bearpee" Challenge. As a school, we are trying to complete **10,000** "bearpees".

On **Friday 17th November**, Children in Need day, we will have a Mufti Day. Children may come to school wearing their own "spotty or stripey or yellow" clothes on this day in return for a donation to Children in Need.



To support our fundraising, you may donate on-line via the school just giving page (<https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-josephs-school-dorking-1699443293347>) or send in a cash donation with your child. We hope everyone will join in to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

November is traditionally a month in the Church Year when we remember especially those who have died. If you have family members who you would like to be commemorated in our school **Book of Remembrance**, please send in or e-mail the office address with their **full name** and **anniversary date** so we can write them in our special book and remember them in our prayers this month. We took time in today's assembly to pause and remember all those who have lost their lives in wars and conflicts and all those who continue to serve. Thank you also for your support of our Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and to the Year 6 children for selling the poppies during break.



The Friends of St Joseph's (FOSJ)

At their recent AGM the following parents were elected to the Committee:

Lydia Halliwell & Victoria Norton [Co-Chairs]

Hannah Evans [Vice Chair & Co-Secretary]

Steph Tilley [Co-Secretary]

Victoria Moreau [Treasurer]

Amy Bush; Ashlea Connors; Tamara Schimbrand; Amina Maruziva; Rhonda Doran; Georgina Jenkins, Kathia Thornton & Sylvia Kuti.

The Committee are always grateful for help from all parents at the school for their events. If you would like to volunteer at any point, please let us know.

FOSJ QUIZ NIGHT

Thank you to all parents, staff, families and friends who came along to the very enjoyable quiz night this week. Congratulations to this year's winning team, "Bunch of Fives", who just edged out the Year 2 team in a close finish! Many thanks to: FOSJ for organising the event, especially Hannah Evans and Victoria Norton; to Meadowbank stadium for hosting us; and to the local companies who provided raffle prizes including Seymours, Silent Pool, Waterstones, Dorking Brewery, Mullins, Grape Variety, Bocketts Farm, Dorking Wanderers and Coughlan's Bakery.



BAGS2SCHOOL

We will be having a BAGS2SCHOOL collection on

Wednesday 22nd November.

The following items are suitable for our collection: unwanted clothes, paired shoes, handbags, belts, hats and soft toys.

No bedding, curtains, towels or bric-a-brac please. Please bag your items and drop off from **21.11.23**.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

A reminder that parents' evenings take place next week. If you would like to make an appointment for either an in person or video call appointment with your child(ren)'s class teacher(s) you can do so by visiting <https://stjosephsrh4.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. Further details and instructions for how to book were sent out last week.

A VERY DORKENSIAN CHRISTMAS

Alongside the newsletter this week you will find a flyer for the Dorkensian Christmas event which is taking place in Dorking on Sunday 3rd December from 12 noon - 6pm.

Further information about the event can also be found via the following link.

<https://dorkingtowndpartnership.co.uk/christmas-festival-2023/>



ADMISSIONS TO RECEPTION CLASS ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/25

A reminder to parents of children born between 01.09.19 and 31.08.20 that applications for admission to our Reception Class for September 2024 open on 1st November 2023.

Both the County Council form (usually completed on line at surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) **and the school application form** should be completed and returned by the deadline of **January 15th 2024**.

If you need further information or copies of the school application form, please contact Mrs Cook. We will be holding small, pre-booked tours of the school throughout November for prospective parents. Please do pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in joining our school.

REMINDER

Friday 24th November,
is an In-Service Training (INSET) Day.
Children do NOT attend school on this day.

With all best wishes for the weekend ahead. Look after one another and be kind!
Carolyn Scrutton [Headteacher]

***** DATES FOR YOUR DIARY *****

Monday 13th November	Odd Socks Day
Friday 17th November	Children in Need Mufti Day
Tuesday 21st November	Meeting for Yr 5 Parents (Residential School Journey)
Wednesday 22nd November	Bags2School Collection, 9.00am
Friday 24th November	INSET DAY – Children do not attend
Friday 1st December	FOSJ Children's Socials, 3.15 - 5.15pm
Saturday 9th December	School Choir singing at Dorking Choral Society Concert
Tuesday 12th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play, 9.30am in School Hall
Tuesday 12th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play, 2.30pm in School Hall
Wednesday 13th December	Year R Nativity Play, 9.30am in the School Hall
Wednesday 13th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play for Grandparents, 2.30pm in School Hall
Thursday 14th December	KS2 Advent Service, 4.00pm at St. Joseph's Church
Friday 15th December	Children's Christmas Shopping Morning
Monday 18th December	School Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 19th December	Autumn Term Ends, 1.15pm

Our Parish Church: St Joseph's Catholic Church 2 Falkland Grove, Dorking RH4 3DL 01306 882433
Website: www.sjcc.org.uk Parish Office dorking@abdiocese.org.uk Parish Priest: Fr Ian Vane