

Dear parents and carers,

This newsletter is very much not a space to bemoan various world events or political issues going on around the globe, and yet I can't help reflect this week that we are bombarded by negative news.

Luckily, our children are full of hope and positivity, and seeing some of their work in their RE lessons this week has made me feel similarly hopeful.

We learn a lot about Catholic Social Teaching at St Joseph's, which Cafod describes as 'our moral compass, guiding us on how to live out our faith in the world.' Whether you are Catholic or not, a different faith, or no faith at all, the principles of CST are universal, exploring how we make a difference in our local and global society. My hope is that the children here will take the way they behave and treat others in school, and go out into the world to make a difference to those around them.

If you want to connect with the work of the school more, or just escape the negativity of the news and see the wonder of children working together in community, please come and have a look around the school with me - it always does the trick, I promise! I'll be happy to show you around any time.

God bless

Sam Crome



## IMPORTANT DATES AND KEY INFO

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January  
Y1 Pirate Day

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 9am  
Y1 Parents Phonics Meeting

Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 6pm  
Online Safety Talk

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb  
FOSJ Junior Social

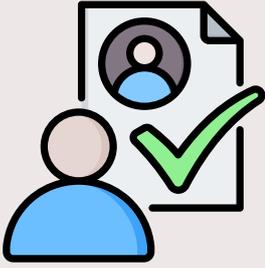
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb  
INSET Day - no school  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> is the last day  
of half term

[St Joseph's Instagram](#)

[Full School Calendar](#)

[Book a school tour:](#)  
[01306 883934](tel:01306883934)

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Since last week, our attendance has risen to 96% for the week and 95.5% for the year overall. This is great and I hope we can keep building from there.

I sent a letter this week about lateness to school - thank you for your support in ensuring that children are here on time every day.

## ONLINE SAFETY EVENT - BOOK YOUR PLACE!

A reminder that we are hosting a very important event for **all parents on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm.**

We have had a good amount of sign ups so far, but we urge you to try to make the event if your child has a phone, or you're thinking about when you might get them one in the future, or if your child has access to the internet / social media.

We want the evening to provide lots of information, evidence, strategies, and a chance to discuss and ask questions.

Please do come along. **Register here.**

**Online Safety**  
WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
6pm in the school hall

Confused about what to do for the best when it comes to social media, smart phones, and keeping our children safe online?

Topics that will be covered:

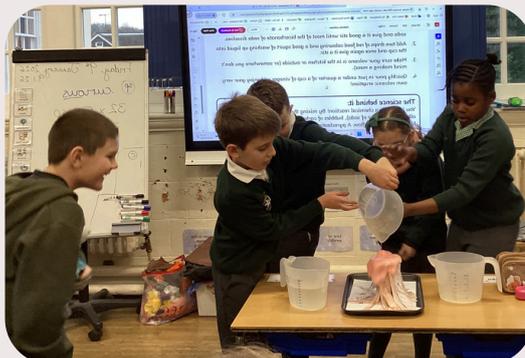
- When or why should I get my child a phone?
- I've bought my child a phone - how do I keep them safe?
- How do I navigate choices about social media and age recommendations?

Join us for an interactive evening with refreshments and GUEST SPEAKER, Joe Hordley (Assistant Head @ St Andrew's).

**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE HERE**

## YEAR 3 VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS!

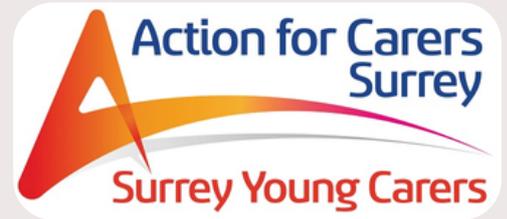
Year 3 had a brilliant time learning about volcanoes last week, with an amazing practical activity where they created and erupted their own volcanoes. A big thank you to Mrs Bradfield.



## IS YOUR CHILD A YOUNG CARER?

If a child takes on responsibilities at home, such as helping a family member with illness, disability, or other challenges, they are likely eligible to be a 'young carer'.

Action for Carers offers lots of support, but estimates that 800,000 children who are eligible to be young carers nationally are not receiving support or aware that they are young carers. [Please check out their website, here.](#)



**Please fill in this form to provide us more information about how your child could be a young carer**

## SCIENCE SPACE DOME FUN FOR Y2&5



Year 2 and Year 5 pupils enjoyed an exciting visit from the Science Space Dome, which transformed the hall into an immersive planetarium experience.

Children were taken on a fascinating journey through space, learning about planets, stars and the solar system in a fun and engaging way.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

This year, Ash Wednesday (the start of lent) falls on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, during our half term break! We will be writing more about lent over the next few weeks, but wanted to draw your attention to this now so that you can begin thinking about your family's Lenten preparations and intentions.

