



# The FCJ Weekly

*Teach the children with all the kindness and gentleness possible.*

4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians

We are excited to announce the launch of the FCJ Weekly! In addition to our half termly newsletter, we hope that The FCJ Weekly will help keep you regularly up to date with everything going on in the school. It will also serve as an additional platform to showcase the children's accomplishments, as well as provide you with valuable insights into the various educational opportunities and experiences available to them.

The FCJ Weekly will contain brief articles from our teachers and staff, highlights of recent achievements, reminders of upcoming events and dates to remember. It will also include useful resources for both pupils and parents.

As always, we would be delighted to receive any ideas and/or feedback.

We hope you enjoy!

## FCJ Reverse Advent Day

A very sincere thank you for all your donations this week. Next week we will be asking for tinned food (e.g. beans/sausages/pies).



## Diary Dates

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup>

Yr 6 Jersey Rugby - FCJ Field 12:30 pm

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>

Yr 1&2 Christmas Production 2:00 pm

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Pre Sch - Christmas Carols 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>

Reception Christmas Production 2:00 pm

KS2 Christmas Production 6:00 pm

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

School Feast Day - School closes at 11:50 am

## FCJ Christmas Bazaar!





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## Christmas Bazaar

A huge thank you to Mrs Falla and her magical team of Elves, for organising such an outstanding Christmas Bazaar! The children were overjoyed with all the many different stalls on offer. We are so grateful to Mrs Falla, the PSA Committee, and all our wonderful parent helpers! Bazaar photo booklet coming soon!



## Year 6 Victorian Visit & Romans Invade Year 4!

The Year 6 children visited the Jersey Museum to explore the Merchants House to support their learning in history about the Victorians. The children had a very informative and meaningful visit.

The Year 4 Roman Day was a roaring success. The Children (and teachers) just loved dressing up and experiencing Roman life!

On Roman Day, I learnt how the Romans conquered most of Europe. We made Roman bread using traditional ingredients and techniques. It was a really great day!  
(Bertie, 4M)



I really liked the games we played in Jerriais class, which helped us to learn about Jersey traditions and the best part was cheering for my friends.  
(Claribel, 3D)

## Jerriais in Year 3

This week in our Year 3 Jerriais lesson, Charles from the Jerriais society brought in some old-fashioned games for us to play.  
*Fascinating and fun in equal measure!*



## Sporting News



The Year 5 and 6 children went to Le Quennevais to take part in the English school Football tournament cup. The children had a fantastic time and represented the school so well!

A huge thank you to Mr Cardwell for ordering our new basketball hoops, which the children have already started to use in P.E. lessons.

## FCJ Charity Committee

A huge thank you to Mrs Taylor and the Charity Committee for selling candy canes at the school bazaar, which will help us all to celebrate the true meaning of the festive season.



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## Christmas Productions

We hope you enjoyed the truly wonderful Christmas Nativity productions which took place last week. The children were simply superb, and it was such a delight to see how much they enjoyed performing to all their parents. Well done to all the children, we are incredibly proud of you!

## Reminders:

Gently worn, secondhand uniform will again be available in the school entrance foyer from **Wednesday 13 December at 8am until Thursday 14 December at 3:45 pm**. Please do come along and pick up some items!

Shuttle Bus, Wrap Around Club and Extended Day Clubs for spring term (1) will be opening at **7pm this Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.

## FCJ Reverse Advent Calendar

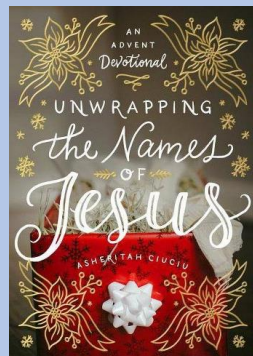
On Wednesday, some of the members of the Charity Committee visited the St Vincent De Paul Food Bank. The children delivered the food from our Reverse Advent Calendar.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



## FCJ The Word

Last week we started our Advent journey in school. Each day we will be unwrapping a name of Jesus to help us learn more about Him.



On Friday we celebrated our Feast Day. We took a moment of silence in class to pray for the families of the two tragedies that took place last December. This day marked the first anniversaries of these tragedies.

## Diary Dates

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

Y5 Soup Kitchen Choir (specific children)

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Rec and KS1 Christmas Party Day

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Y5 Cinema Christmas Party Day

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Y6 Ice Skating Christmas Party Day

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Last day of term – School closes at 11:50 am

**No FCJ Led After School Clubs this week!**





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## Key Stage 2 Nativity-Hosannah Rocks!

With the traditional nativity story embedded within modern and fun songs, this nativity has something for everyone! The music includes rock, blues and a lullaby, and the overall effect is heart-warming, entertaining, and emotional.



## FS & KS1 Nativities

Reception Nativity – Hey Ewe! Of all the sheep in the flock, the smallest, youngest ewe is the most inquisitive. She is always busy getting under the shepherds' feet, asking questions and, to the irritation of the rest of the flock, demanding to know exactly what is going on. One night, however, while all the other sheep are trying to sleep, some extraordinary events unfold that excite her curiosity more than ever before!

In Pre-School, we had a festive afternoon where our families came to listen to us sing and get into the festive spirit! We made and decorated ginger-bread biscuits, designed our own Christmas baubles and made paperchains for our Christmas party. We are all very excited for Christmas and cannot wait to celebrate with our families!

I was Mary in the Key Stage 1 Nativity. Mary is important because she was the mother of baby Jesus. My favourite part was the acting. Millie 2W



## Castle Day Year 2



Year 2 have enjoyed dressing up for Castles Day. Our day was spent making shields and crowns to complete our outfits. We learnt about important traditions and how castles have changed over time.

During Castle Day, we decorated shields with our own coat of arms. We also made crowns to transform into Kings and Queens.  
Florence & Isaac 2G

## Sporting News

On Saturday FCJ A and B teams played VCP on a rain soaked soggy pitch at Heathfield. Although we did not win, there was great team spirit, with Frederico and Jacques being named as 'Man of the Match' for their respective teams.

We have been delighted to welcome coaches from Jersey Rugby Club, this term, as part of our PE Curriculum for year 6. The children have loved developing their skills in this fantastic sport!

## FCJ Safety Squad

Safety Squad help make sure our school is a safe place for all the other children to enjoy. They will be meeting with Mr Wheatley to undertake Safety Squad training and learn more about how to keep themselves and others safe both in and out of school.

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## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all the children who have received attendance awards for this term. We had almost eighty children who received Gold awards for 100% attendance and many other children who received a certificate for excellent attendance, which was 98% and above.

Certificates were also given to specific classes with excellent attendance. The overall winner was Class 4M, whose attendance was over 98%.

Congratulations to all!

The winners of the Jolly Jars Competition are Class 4M with 49 Jars! Congratulations!

Due to 4M's achievements in attendance and the jolly jars, each child will receive a special treat of a roller coaster experience using the VR headsets!

Thank you so much for attending our Christmas Our Retiring Collections from our productions last week. raised the following amounts: Reception- £89.13, KS1 - £119.40, KS2- £336.35. This means we are sending a total of £544.88 to CAFOD. Thank you so much for your generosity!

The PSA kindly donated the following vouchers to the school as prizes : Active Swim passes and a Merton Family Pass. The lucky winners were Luke and Lily!



We were delighted to send a small choir of Year 5 pupils to support the Shelter Trust's annual soup kitchen. by the Shelter Trust. The children sang beautifully and shared the Christmas message with joyful voices.



## FCJ The Word

A huge thank you to Mrs Taylor our R.E. subject lead. She has transformed our FCJ chapel this Advent into a beautiful space where the children and adults can celebrate the Word by Unwrapping the Name of Jesus.



## Diary Dates for the upcoming Spring Term

School reopening  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Please check our website for 2024/2025 term dates.



*Merry Christmas!*



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## Year 6 On Ice!

Year 6 had a wonderful time ice-skating for their Christmas party! We were so impressed with the companionship and support shown to each other on the ice. Mrs Bisson gave an amazing display of ice-dancing and taught the children some important skills on the ice. Everyone had built up a huge appetite for a delicious lunch at Bella Italia. Thank you to the PSA for kindly supporting our party.



## Christmas Parties

**Year 5** – Year 5 had a great party day on Thursday! We had a superb time going to the cinema to watch 'Super Mario Bros' and even had some lovely, sweet treats. In the afternoon, we played a Christmas quiz as well as turning our classrooms into a Christmas disco! The teachers joined in and showed us some moves! Lots of prizes were won and special memories made.

**Lower Key Stage 2** – The Year 3 and 4 children had a wonderful Party Day! Their highlights included: Christmas arts and crafts, Christmas interactive games and a disco with party games and prizes.

**KS1** had a disco, craft activities, stories and the highlight of the day was a Q&A session with Father Christmas, where we learned he had so many elves, but he did not know all of their names and that his reindeer needed an afternoon snack every day at half past two. Santa treated the children to his favourite poem, 'The Night Before Christmas' before giving each of them a gift from his sack.

**Reception** had a great time at their Christmas party. They danced, played games and ate lots of party food. Reception also had a special visitor!

**Pre-School Christmas Party!** Christmas in Pre-School was celebrated with a party full of fun! The day was made even more special with a special visitor! We played pass the parcel, had a Christmas lunch, made candy cane decorations, party hats and had a disco. It was so much fun!



## Oracy



A huge thank you to Mrs Marques, our English Subject lead. This week she has organised conversation activities to support the children's oracy development. Oracy is the ability to express oneself fluently and grammatically.

The benefits of oracy skills go far beyond academic achievement and employability however, they boost a whole range of social, emotional and interpersonal skills, including self-confidence, self-awareness, resilience and empathy.  
Mrs Marques – English Lead

## Sports News

Last weekend, FCJ A and B teams played VCP in two fantastic games. Although we didn't win, we showed fantastic attitude and determination to keep playing, scoring some brilliant team goals. Thank you to all players and parents who came and supported.

This week we are excited to welcome back a coach from the Jersey Rugby Club to help us improve our tag rugby skills.

## Christmas E-Safety

Christmas is such a wonderful time of year! Excitable children and time to relax with family and friends. Of course, there are new toys to play with, especially as there is a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13 million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) It is so important to ensure that you and your children are safe when using new IT. Refer to <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/top-tips-for-staying-safe-online-at-christmas> for helpful tips and advice.

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## Celebrating The Epiphany

The children learnt that on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January is when we celebrate the Epiphany. This is the day when the three kings arrived to visit the Baby Jesus in Bethlehem, some three years after their journey commenced.

**20 + M + C + B + 24**

Ask your child if they remember what the letters and symbols above stand for in relation to their learning about the Epiphany.

## The Story of Helen Keller

In assembly, Ms Lenzi taught the children about the truly inspirational life story of Helen Keller. At just nineteen months old, Helen became extremely ill, and lost her sight, hearing and speech. Despite these devastating setbacks, Helen was amazingly resilient, and with the steadfast support of teacher, and lifelong companion Anne Sullivan, learnt to spell and communicate her very first word 'doll' using finger spelling. Helen proved to be an outstanding student and quickly progressed to learning braille. She achieved great accolades throughout her life, but her greatest regret, was that she never learnt to speak more coherently; she always felt she could have 'done more good' if she had. Ask your child what they remember from the story of Helen Keller. The photos show Helen as a young girl, with Anne Sullivan, holding her favourite doll, and in later life.



**Dignity** is treasured in the school community, nurtured in the individual and enhances the life of the school. Everyone is genuinely listened to and what they say is heard. This sense of dignity and respect provides opportunities for each person to recognise and celebrate their own self-worth. It demands, when challenging circumstances arise, that we seek dignified solutions for all concerned.



## FCJ Values

This half term, we have launched our Core Value of **Dignity**

*Human dignity is the same for all human beings: when I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own.*

Pope Francis

## Diary Dates



**15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> January** - Reception Eye Screening

**Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January**, FCJ's Jersey School Review.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan** JSRF Parent Survey closes

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** – Multiplication and Division Parent Workshop 2-3.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** FCJ Open Day



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## The Baptism of Jesus

Year 5 were delighted to welcome Father Edward into class this week. The children enjoyed learning about John the Baptist and his role in Jesus's Baptism. Father Edward spoke to the children about how important John the Baptist was in revealing the identity of Jesus. We also learnt that the Trinity was first revealed to the world at Jesus' Baptism. The children had many interesting questions to ask. Thank you Father Edward for taking the time to teach us so well!



## Geography Super-Learning Day

A huge thank you to Miss Gillham, our Geography co-ordinator for organising a wonderful super-learning day. The children loved the day and found it very informative and exciting. Geography is a vital subject that teaches children about the world around them. It helps children understand the environment, natural resources, and how human activities impact the planet. Through studying maps, graphs, and data, students learn how to analyze information, interpret data, and draw conclusions.

I loved our Geography Super Learning Day. I enjoyed learning about volcanoes. We used crackers, shaving foam and red paint to model how the tectonic plates move.  
Laura 6R



I enjoyed learning about the UK and Great Britain. I used to think that they were the same – now I am more informed.  
Oscar 3D



## FCJ Debates

After our very successful oracy conversation session, Mrs Marques organised a debating day, where all children from pre-school to Year 6 had the opportunity to debate a topic and develop the required skills. Debating is a fun, educational way of encouraging students to really engage with topics. Learning to debate, teaches students how to apply critical analysis and how to prepare an argument using facts and sound research. It also teaches students valuable communication skills such as how to deliver a speech and how to effectively defend the points they make. Well done to all our amateur debaters!

## Sports News



This half term, years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be learning the skills involved in hockey during their P.E. sessions.

For health and safety reasons, it is paramount that all children have a gum shield to wear when playing and shin pads are optional to provide further protection. We are grateful to parents for your support with this.



## FCJ Safety Squad On Snow Patrol!

The Safety Squad have been busy learning about keeping safe onsite, when there are snowy and icy conditions. Mr Wheatley undertook a site walk with the safety squad, and they learned about gritting and salting our safe pathways. Great work keeping our school community safe!



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