



FCJ Primary School

Autumn 2024

Gentleness



Gentleness is the fruit of quiet self-possession that has been gained through daily growth in self-understanding through the light of grace (Adrian Van Kaam). It is a quality which helps us to keep a calm spirit, a peaceful heart, and control in our words and gestures; even when the circumstances seem to call forth, or at least justify, an explosion of displeasure or anger. Gentleness results in right relationships with God, self and others. Gentleness keeps our hearts always within the boundaries of justice, reason and love.

Chaplaincy Team



The FCJ Pupil Chaplaincy Team were commissioned by Father Ambrose during the first Mass of the school year. These children made a special commitment serve God and live out the Gospel Values.

The children were presented with a special FCJ pin badge and a beautiful bookmark.

Great Fun in Pre-school!



All of the Pre-School children have settled in remarkably well and we are very proud of each and every one of them. They have had great fun getting to know each other and learning all about being part of our FCJ school family. We have been outside enjoying our wonderful outside area playing on the bikes and making dens! Pre-School have been learning all about Autumn and mini beasts! We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Feast of Harvest

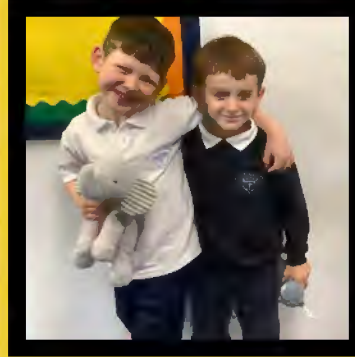


Reception have been learning about the festival of Harvest. They have learnt which machines harvest which crops and which foods are harvested by hand. They then looked more closely at tea leaves and touched them. The last part was the tasting of Peppermint tea and English Breakfast tea. It was a close call but Peppermint was the favourite in Reception!



BRING YOUR TOY TO SCHOOL DAY!

Year One



In Year 1 we have been reading and sharing stories with familiar settings. As part of this unit of work we read the story 'Knuffle Bunny' by Mo Willems. The children all brought their favourite toy to school for a day to spend time with us learning in the classroom. Year 1 are now writing and illustrating their own story books called 'The Lost toy' where their special friends go on their own adventure! The children have learnt all about the three main part of a story – beginning, problem and ending. We are looking forward to reading our stories when they are all finished! Year 1 are fast becoming budding authors!

Castles, Knights and Dragons



Back at school, we used this trip as inspiration to draw and label our own castles. This term, we have also been learning about the role of a knight and the symbols on shields. We are already looking forward to our prince and princesses celebration day next term.

In History, Year Two have been learning about 'Castles, Knights and dragons.' We really enjoyed our trip to Gorey Castle to launch this topic. We got to explore what the key features of a castle are and how it was used to protect our island. We got a tour from Jersey Heritage who taught us how the soldiers kept their enemy away. Our favourite part was trying on their armour, chain mail and helmets. Their swords and shields were very heavy!

La Hougue Bie

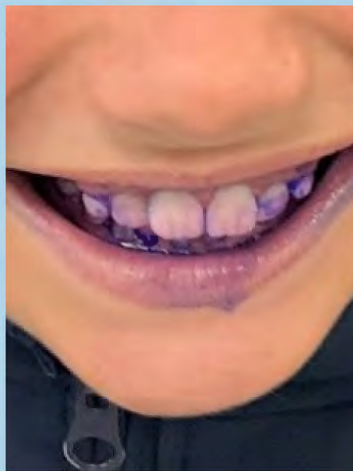


The children have been excited to be learning about The Stone Age in our Humanities lessons. We have been enjoying comparing the similarities and differences between what life was like and is now. On Wednesday 16th October, the children were lucky enough to visit La Hougue Bie. We had a tour of the site and took part in some lessons to learn more about the links between this place and The Stone Age.

SMILE :)

In Science this half term we have been learning about 'Animals including Humans'. We have been studying the digestive system and the functions of different teeth. On Tuesday 15th October we were delighted to welcome Bernadette from Super Smiles to teach us about the importance of healthy eating and oral hygiene.

We also learnt which liquids cause the most tooth decay and linked this to an experiment we were undertaking in class. We had the opportunity to use disclosure tablets, and we also looked at some teeth models. Bernadette also showed us healthy options for our lunchboxes. We were shown how to correctly brush our teeth and we were surprised to learn that chocolate milk and flavoured water contains more than our daily sugar allowance.



SCHOOL TRIP

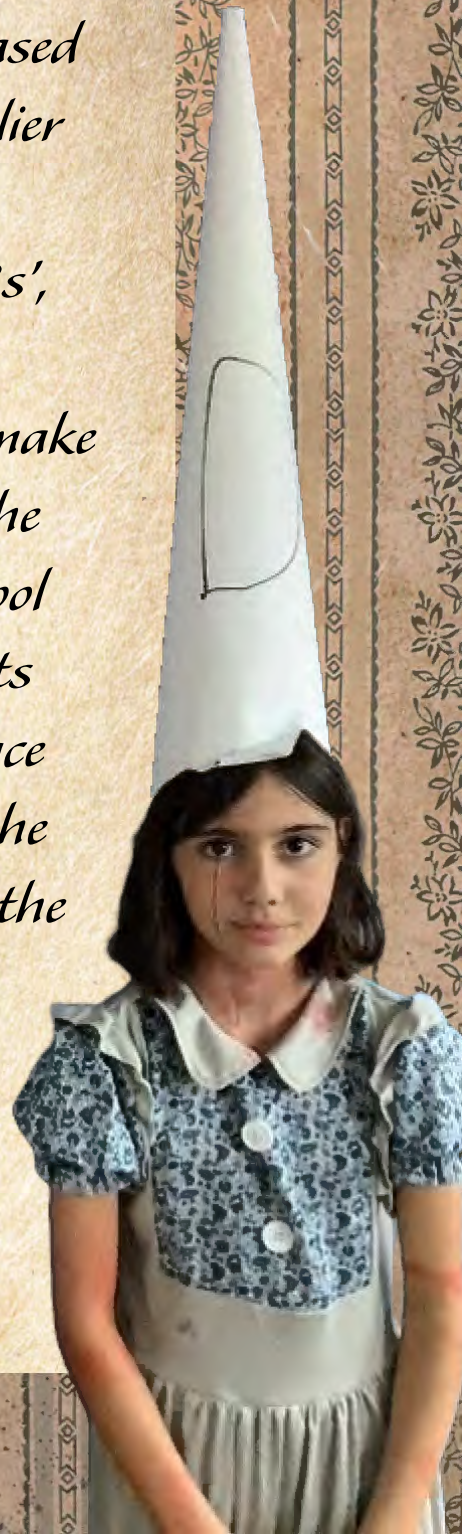
Year 5 had a wonderful time at Crabbe in September. The children made special memories that will last a lifetime. The staff were so impressed with the courage, teamwork and perseverance the children exhibited throughout the activities. 5P's highlights from the trip were their adventure to Greve De Lecq beach, roasting marshmallows around the campfire and showing lots of courage and perseverance when having a go on the 'Leap of Faith!' 5T's favourite memories were Archery Tag and 'The Crate Stack'. A big thank you to the staff who accompanied the children on this trip.



Victorian Day



As part of their history and English studies about the Victorians, year 6 held an immersive 'super learning day' based around life in a Victorian school earlier this term. The day consisted of traditional lessons such as the '3 Rs', drill, learning by rote and some observational drawing in science. To make the day as authentic as possible, the children were asked to come to school dressed as Victorians. Punishments (thankfully only pretend!) took place throughout the day and included the dunce cap, punishment basket and the dreaded cane. It was a rather gruelling day, and the children soon realised that in Victorian times, 'School was not a place for merriment!'



FCJ Science Week

by Mrs Solaine Douse, Science Lead Teacher

Have you ever pondered the best biscuit type for dunking in your favourite drink? That is exactly the question the pupils at FCJ Primary School investigated as part of their whole-school science week in March.

Staff and pupils from Pre-school to Year 6 conducted biscuit-dunking experiments, using a range of different biscuits, to determine which biscuit would reign supreme and last the longest when submerged in a beaker of water at room temperature. The pupils were fully invested in finding the answer to this important

question and they had lots of fun whilst predicting outcomes, making observations, measuring, inferring and communicating their results. Once results were collated across the school, it was clear that biscuits coated with a layer of chocolate were the best for dunking. In some cases, the chocolate biscuits survived over fifty dunks in water compared to other biscuits that were out of the running after a mere three dunks. Although somewhat messy, the pupils determined that the chocolate

acts like a barrier that prevents the rapid breakdown of ingredients. A perfect reason (if you needed one!) to tuck into your favourite chocolate biscuit whilst enjoying a brew.

In addition to this fantastic whole-school investigation, the pupils participated in extra science lessons during the week and all classes were visited by a local scientist. Scientists representing the National Trust for Jersey, the Super Smiles dental health team and the Blue Marine Foundation were impressed by the questions they were posed and the children's participation in the practical tasks which were completed. The children also learnt a great deal about other scientific professions including nursing, engineering, biosecurity and environmental education through very informative talks hosted by our expert visitors.

The FCJ pupils thoroughly enjoyed every moment of scientific exploration and discovery during the week. Such success would not have been possible without the time invested by the fantastic volunteers from the field of science, the expert teaching team at FCJ and the enthusiasm of such dedicated students.



Waterwheel making with National Trust for Jersey



Bernadette from Super Smiles Team



Kathryn Smith from the Blue Marine Foundation



Pupil
of the
Month

SEPTEMBER



**Congratulations to all the pupils who have
received this award.**

We are very proud of you all!

ParentMail

Please ensure that you have set up your ParentMail account.

Bookings for the wrap around service will shortly be available.

More information will be sent via a ParentMail



ParentMail

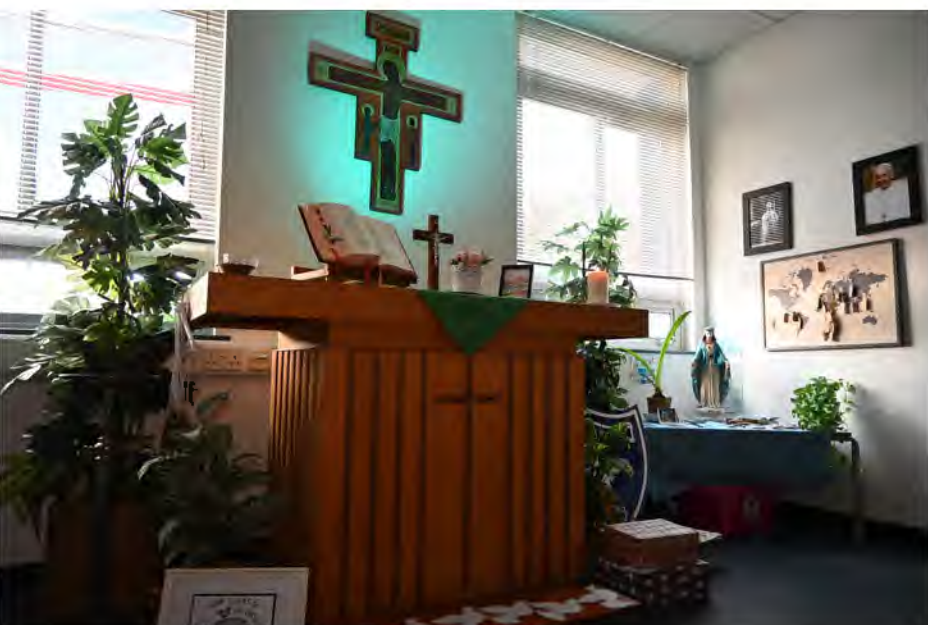
Mustard Seed

The Charity Committee have been busy sorting the shoeboxes, ready for collection. A sincere thank you for your kind donations to this wonderful charity.



Month of Remembrance

There will be a book of remembrance in the chapel for pupils to record the name of those who have died.



FCJ NEWS

Nut Allergies

Please remember that we are a nut free school. We have several children with extremely severe and even potentially life threatening allergies. Thank you for your support in keeping all our children safe.

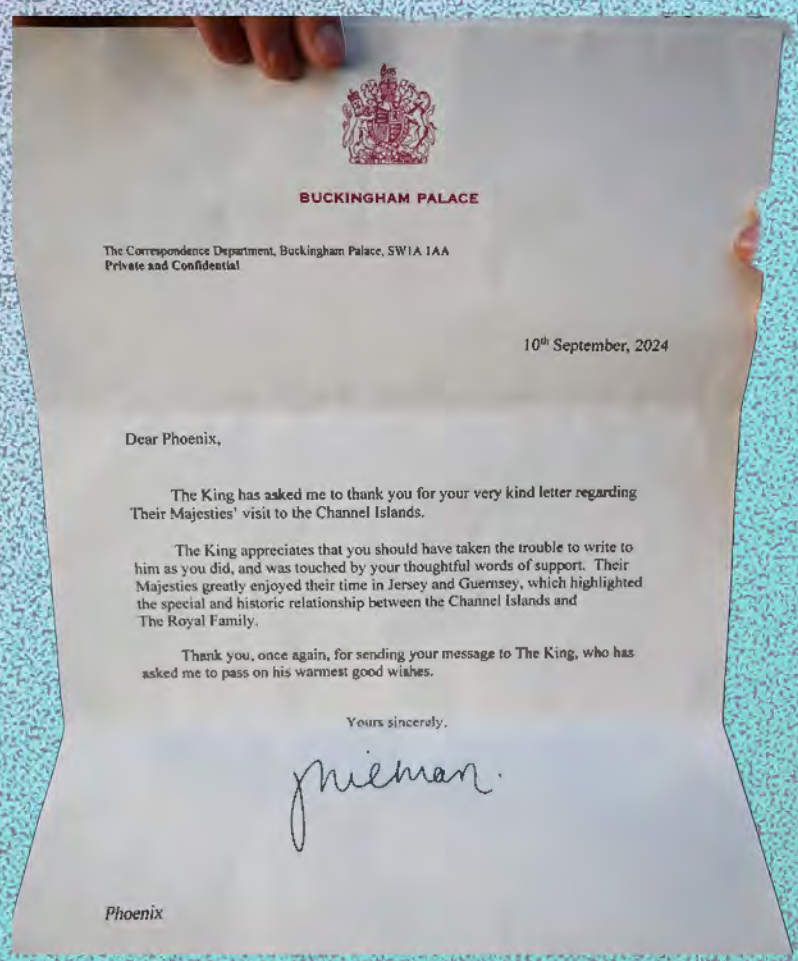
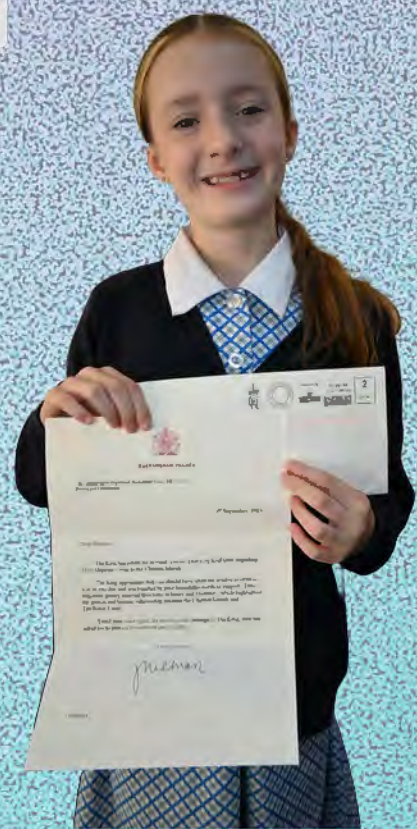
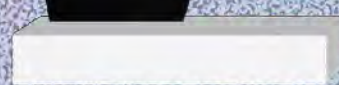
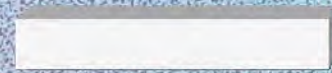
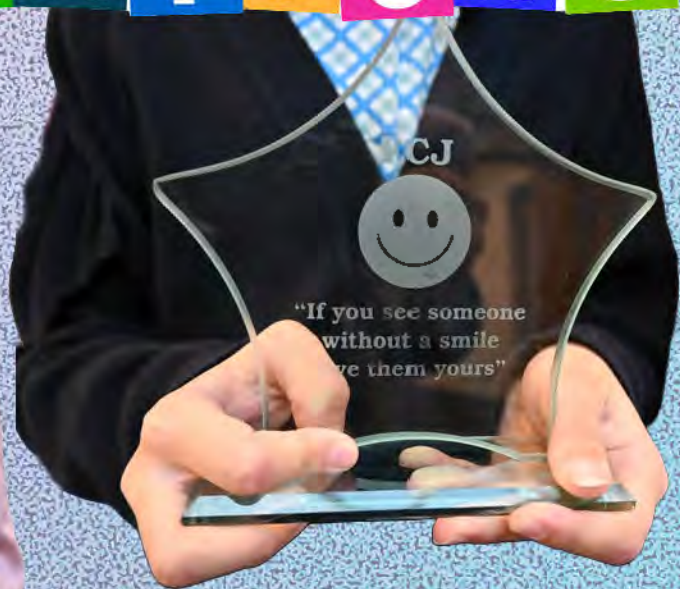


No Dogs Please



Please note that dogs are not allowed to be brought onto school premises at any time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CONGRATULATIONS





HeadTeachers Award



**Congratulations to all the pupils who have
received this award.
We are very proud of you all!**

MARATHON MILE 2024

On Sunday 6th October, we welcomed lots of FCJ children and parents to the Weighbridge to take part in the Marathon Mile. We were blessed that it didn't rain until after the event! It started at the Weighbridge and went around the streets of St Helier for one mile. It was so lovely to see all the children and adults thoroughly enjoy this event. We are hoping that we can win the trophy for the 4th time with the most children taking part from our school. It was a huge success and we are already looking forward to next year!





B TEAM WIN 2-1 FOOTBALL

This term we have already had our first football matches against St Lawrence. The B team took part in a thrilling match coming from behind to win 2-1 after a fantastic solo run from Rowan McCormack finishing with a brilliant goal to win the Game.

Unfortunately, the A team lost after initially coming from behind to draw at half time. Fighting valiantly the boys fended off a tough opposition than were in the end, just too strong. We look forward to more matches throughout the year.



FCJ CROSS COUNTRY



We have already had our first cross country event of the year and it was an amazing success with a huge showing of pupils from FCJ. Some standout performances have meant that pupils have placed as high as 8th in a field of over 300 pupils with nearly 1000 total pupils from all schools.