



Newsletter 1

11th October—22nd October 2021

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Mongleath Road
Falmouth
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01326 314540
secretary@st-marys-
fal.cornwall.sch.uk

Dear parent/carer,

I hope that you are all well. Autumn is definitely upon us now and sadly the trees are beginning to lose their leaves.

It is wonderful to see so many of you on the gate in the morning or in the afternoon. St Mary's is such a lovely school and the children are all great. I really enjoy seeing their smiles at the beginning and end of the day. Thank you to all of you who have made me feel so welcome, I really look forward to my trips to Falmouth.

I really wanted to give you an update on all that is happening at St Mary's. Mrs Shailes is doing an amazing job of standing in for me when I am not here, she is extremely conscientious and wants the very best for the school and the children and this is so evident in her whole persona and the way she leads. I have every confidence in her as a leader.

The children are all settled back into their learning and really enjoying the topics that they are learning about this half term. The children in Year 1 and 5 are enjoying their time with their new teachers and we must give our new teachers a huge round of applause for working so hard in their first term.

We have reinstated the **behaviour principles** and hope to share with you our behaviour policy as soon as we can. We aim to work in partnership with you, drawing on **positive behaviour** styles to ensure all children do their best at all times and are rewarded for this.

Every week we will be holding a celebration assembly and each week two children from every class will be nominated as **'Stars of the Week'** and receive a certificate for their positive attitude to learning, always trying their best, being respectful to others and generally going above and beyond. Alongside this we also have the **golden headteachers award** which is given to a child from each class for **'living'** our **Gospel value** of the week. We will be focusing on a value each week and will be expecting all our children to demonstrate this value in some way not matter.

Drop offs are working really well and we are pleased that everyone is getting used to coming into school confidently every day. Please can I remind you about parking at the beginning of the day, bear in mind other road users and also pedestrians when choosing where to park. Please keep the entrance to the turning circle clear so that one of our pupils can get through to the school gate area.

Pick ups are working well with EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 parents walking around to the classes to pick up their children. Year 4, 5 and 6 walk out at 3.30 independently.

We are considering cutting the end of the day by 10 minutes for the KS2 children which would mean a staggered exit of 5 minutes between **3.15 for EYFS and KS1 and 3.20 for KS2**. This time would be cut from their lunchtime so KS2 would have 50 minutes instead of an hour. This would also help with lunchtime supervisory cover. **We would like to know your thoughts; if you are concerned about this change at the end of the day and do not want the end of day to change from 3.30 please let us know.** Our teachers are happy to change this end time of the day to **3.20pm**

Clubs are now reinstated and I hope that your child has opportunity to attend the club of their choice.

Teaching and Learning is being reviewed to ensure all children are having access to areas of the curriculum which they may have missed due to the various lockdowns. We are really pleased with our children at St Mary's, every day they face new learning and new challenges and they certainly rise to the expectation. Hats off to you all for your continued support.

Next steps:

We aim to introduce Read, Write Inc phonics scheme that is complimented with Read, Write Inc reading books. Staff training (2nd half of the Autumn term) will focus on implementation so please do watch this space for accessing support materials to use at home.

We are also reviewing our curriculum ensuring it is broad and balanced in every way to guarantee every child reaches their full potential.

We have also reviewed our mission and vision statement that underpins everything we do at St Mary's.

After half term we will continue to refine our curriculum to ensure it is the very best offer in all subject areas of the national curriculum.

Uniform and clothes appropriate for school

As we begin a new academic year I just wanted to remind you about our uniform. The children are required to wear their uniform daily except when it is a PE day. The uniform needs to include the school jumpers, shirts and tie, trousers, shorts or skirts and smart shoes. Please do not wear trainers into school unless it is a PE day. For the PE uniform, please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform too. This includes shorts, T-shirt and suitable trainers or plimsols. We may ask you to provide a black or navy tracksuit for colder days as we try and get the children outside for PE as much as we can. Please do not encourage your child to wear alternative clothing and branded clothing if possible and please can children have darker trainers in line with our uniform requirements.

Masks

Although national guidance is that masks no longer need to be worn, public health have requested that staff continue to wear masks in communal areas in the school and when on the gates outside for meeting and greet and pick-ups. This recommendation will continue for the foreseeable future.

Track and Trace

Track and trace will now be undertaken by NHS England. The usual procedures apply, if your child has symptoms call NHS 111 or 119 and ask for advice. They will suggest a PCR. Your child must not attend school whilst they are displaying these symptoms. Please be aware that the symptoms for Coronavirus are:

- High temperature- hot to touch on the forehead and the back
- Continuous cough or a persistent cough

Loss of smell or taste

If in doubt contact NHS 111/ 119 or your local GP surgery

If you think your child has symptoms please inform the school immediately, you will be advised to get a test.

Once you have your test results, please let the school know.

If there is a positive case in one of our classes, we will work with Public health Cornwall to trace the children who have had immediate contact with a child who has tested positive. Those children identified will be required to isolate for 10 days.

Remote learning

As we move forwards to the winter months, there may be times when your child may have to work remotely. There are many links on our website that will help you with this. The teachers will also schedule live learning through Showbie/ Google meet and Google classroom.

Attendance

All schools are required by law to monitor attendance of their pupils over the year. This is reported to the DFE on a weekly, termly basis, yearly basis. Please can I politely remind parents and carers that I am unable to authorise holidays during term time. These periods of absence will be recorded as G (family holiday). I am very conscious of the number of children who are persistently absent and I know it is a challenging situation as COVID remains very prevalent in our lives however please can I ask you to make sure children attend school every day. It is so important for their wellbeing, their socialising and their learning that they try to attend on a daily basis. If you are struggling in any way, please let us know and we will put in place actions to help you and your child or children.

Thank you

I would like to say a huge thank you to you all, these times continue to be strange for everyone but I can say with a full heart that it is truly wonderful to be able to welcome back all the children to school as well as those who are coming into our school for their first time.

Thank you for your continued support; the team and I really appreciate all of your support during this challenging time. Have a wonderful half term break and we will see you all on Tuesday 2nd November.

With very best wishes,

Alison McDonald
Executive Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

25th-29th Half Term

Monday 1st November INSET DAY

Friday 5th November Open Afternoon for Reception Intake 2022-23

Wednesday 10th/24th November—Y5/6 Swimming

Wednesday 17th November—Y2 Act of Worship

Friday 19th November Children in Need day

Friday 26th November Open Afternoon for Reception Intake 2022-23

Sunday 28th November Christmas Tree Festival at Falmouth Pavillion

Wednesday 1st/8th December—Y5/6 Swimming

Friday 3rd December Flu Vaccination

Friday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day

17th December Last Day of Term

Tuesday 4th January Spring Term Starts

TERM DATES are also online www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk/web/term_dates/298666

Headteacher Award for the Gospel Value of Courage Head Teachers Award 11th – 15th October

Reception

Esther for ensuring the game was fair.

Year 1

Autumn for always sharing and making sure
things are fair.

Year 2

Harper

Year 3

Lacey for showing fairness to all of her
classmates.

Year 4

Molly for always ensuring that people are
treated fairly.

Year 5

Charlie for always being kind, considerate and
fair.

Year 6

Noah

Stars of the Week 11th – 15th October 2021

Learning And Achievement

Reception

Martha for joining in so well with our discussions.

Chloe for thinking of brilliant ideas to problem solve with.

Year 1

Manuel for great maths work and super number bond
knowledge.

Holly for always working hard on her writing and learning.

Year 2

Esther for fantastic fable writing.

Otis for his superb fable writing this week.

Year 3

Evvy for always being considerate and helpful without be-
ing asked.

Sebastian for making such great effort with his AR quizzes.

Year 4

Moqi for excellent problem solving in Maths.

Finlay for fantastic contributions in RE lessons.

Year 5

Euan for making such an enthusiastic start to his non-
chronological report about the Romans.

Zoe for always having a positive attitude toward learning
and for her willingness to have a go at anything.

Year 6

Ora for working exceptionally hard, especially in her writ-
ing.



150 minutes learning time lost

since September, for those
children who have arrived late.

Please try to be punctual.



The Y6 July residential is booked at the

Delaware Centre. They specialise in out-
door and adventurous activities with ex-
perienced instructors. They have an ex-
cellent reputation for delivering safe and
enjoyable activity sessions at all levels.

The cost will be £195 per child, payable
via Parent Pay. We have set up Parent
Pay so you start to save.

St Mary's Football News

Wednesday 13th October

A team drew 0-0 against King Charles

B team won 4-0 against King Charles!!



**Y2 celebrated Carnival today
with their wonderful masks!!!**

"next steps" band
are returning on
Wednesdays after
school. Based at Fal-
mouth school from
3.30 - 4.15pm, this
group will meet dur-
ing term time.

Any player who can
play three or more
notes on
their instrument is
welcome.

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

MY EDVENTURE

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMPS
Come and take part in our Edventure half term provision, offering children a fantastic opportunity to build friendships through team sports and outdoor adventures, and explore their creativity with themed group games and arts & crafts.

<p>TUE 26TH OCT - THUR 28TH OCT 3 DAY SUPER CAMPS 5-7 YEARS 8+ YEARS</p> <p>FEATURING A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDING: DODGEBALL, DEN BUILDING, GYM, PAPER PLANE WARS, ARTS & CRAFTS, DANCE OFF, FOOTBALL GOLF, CAPTURE THE FLAG, BOARD GAMES, FILMS, TEAM CHALLENGES & LOTS MORE!</p> <p>JUST £45 FOR 3 DAYS OR £15 A DAY</p>	<p>MON 25TH & FRI 29TH OCT FULL/HALF DAY CAMPS: CLIMBING WATERSPORTS GOALKEEPERS FOOTBALL PRINTMAKING TRAMPOLINING TENNIS AND MORE...</p>
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FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE COURSES & HOW TO BOOK:
WWW.MYEDVENTURE.CO.UK
01326 372379



Dear Parents

The school is unable to support the amount of arrears that have been accrued on Parent Pay.

Currently £535 is outstanding on school dinners and £345 is outstanding on Breakfast Club.

If you are struggling to pay please contact the School Office as we are happy to discuss the possibility of a debt repayment timetable.

Please also consider contacting Cornwall council to see if you are eligible for free school meals

www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-meals/

From 2nd November please provide your child with a packed lunch if your account is in arrears.

Breakfast Club places will be also only available to book via

Parent Pay from November.



Your local Link into Learning

Helping you to help your child
Helping you to gain confidence
Helping you to learn new skills



Why not drop in to our... Informal family learning session where we listen to what you want.

Other adults to talk to; fun ideas for home activities; ways to de-stress and help with homework; well-being tips; literacy knowledge; maths skills; ICT and more...

Being held at: Falmouth Adult Education Centre on Tregenvor Rd.

On: Friday 19th November, 10 - 11:30am drop-in.

For more information and a chat, please text or ring Vicki on 07968 992495 or email vicki.salvidge@cornwall-acl.ac.uk

Regional sponsor: **The Exeter**

children's hospice SOUTH WEST

Celebrating 30 years

Santas on the Run goes freestyle

eden project

Raise festive cheer in your Christmas gear!

Join us at the Eden Project on Sunday 5 December 2021
www.chsw.org.uk/santas
Or take part virtually, anywhere!

Registered Charity No. 1003314

It's easy to apply online today
www.cornwall.gov.uk/adultlearning
Call 0300 1231 117 Local charges apply





 Reception met their Y4 Buddies last week, and
 planted bulbs on the field with their new friends.
 Y4 also had a very successful visit to the
 Maritime Museum.
 This was part of their Tudor history project.
 They were learning about Tudor explorers, especially Sir
 Francis Drake.



THE ROMANS INVADED Y5 TODAY!

