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# NEWSLETTER ISSUE 3: 5th October 2018

Dear Parents,

In the current climate of school budget cuts, all fund raising efforts by our hardworking FOSMs (Friends of St Mary’s School) are even more important. If you can help in any way please come along to the next FOSMs meeting on the 11th October at 3:30pm in the school hall.

Once again at the beginning of the school year, I would like to remind parents of the importance of listening to your child read daily and also helping them to learn their multiplication tables and number bonds. They need to be able to recall these number facts using instant recall and need plenty of practice in doing so. Daily reading at home makes a massive difference to outcomes at the end of the year. Many thanks in advance for all your support and help with these homework activities.

Finally, please don’t hesitate to speak to me at the gate in the mornings if you have any queries, concerns or just for a chat!

Warm regards

Jacqui Scarborough

# DIARY DATES

**October**

**9th** Class 2 celebrations @ 9:15am

**10th** Class 6 visit to The Eden Project

 Class 3 visit Trenance Chocolate Factory

**11th** Tempest Photographs – individual and family groups from 8.20am in the hall

**15th** Class 4 visit to Queen Mary Gardens

Apostleship of the Sea Assembly @ 9:10pm

16th Reception - Y5 Flu vaccinations

**17th** Class 1 Celebration @ 9:15am

**19th INSET Day – School Closed to Pupils**

**November**

**1st** Class 4 visit to Lanhydrock House

**25th**  ‘Christ the King’ Parish School Mass @ St Mary’s Church, Killigrew @ 10:45am

**December**

**W/B 3rd** Prayer Space

**6th** Hearing Tests Class 1

**7th** Choir to visit Stroke Club

**14th** Choir Performance with Truro Male Voice Choir @ 6:00pm

**20th** End of Term Mass @ 9:15am

**LEGO THERAPY**

We are keen to introduce an intervention group called "Lego therapy". Brick building play therapy can results in better communication skills for children. This specific type of play therapy can also improve children’s abilities to change their behaviour, understand and talk about their feelings, solve problems and learn about the world in which they live.

For this group to work we really need the donation of:

* brick building base plates
* Lego/brick figures
* Small/medium complete sets of Lego (or alternative makes), instructions are required.

Any donations are gratefully received.

**ADMISSIONS**

If you have a child born between 1 September 2014 and 31st August 2015 then you will need to apply for your child’s Reception 2019 place by Tuesday 15th January. For information and guidance please visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions where you will also find the application form. Email: schooladmissions@cornwallgov.uk Telephone: 0300 1234 101. For any help with your application, please contact the Family Information Service on 0800 587 8191. The National Offer date is 16 April 2019; this is when you will be notified of your allocation.

***Important Note*** – a Supplementary Form is also required for places at St Mary’s School. This is obtainable from the School Office or on our website.

**Transfer to Secondary School**

Don’t forget! Is your child currently in year six at primary school? If so, you will need to apply for a place in year seven at a secondary school for September 2019. The deadline for applications is 31 October 2018 which is fast approaching.

**ATTENDANCE REMINDER**

**Leave of Absence requests.**

As we begin the new academic year, we respectfully remind parents of the following;-

* Leave of absence will only be authorised in extenuating circumstances
* Reasons relating to financial advantages for example will not be authorised.
* If the permission to take leave is not granted and the pupil still goes on holiday, the absence will be unauthorised and referred to the Education Welfare Officer as to whether further action is required.

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

The Club runs from 8:00am until 8:45am. A selection of cereals, toast and various spreads and jams as well as fruit and yogurt will be available. The breakfast sessions are supervised by Mrs Alway (lunchtime supervisor) and Mrs Slater. The cost is £2:50 per session but if uptake increases, we’re hoping to reduce the daily cost.

Healthy breakfasts benefit pupils by improving their concentration, behaviour, attendance, punctuality and educational attainment. Research funded by the Education Endowment Foundation found that pupils who enjoyed a nutritious breakfast, boosted their reading, writing and maths by an average of 2 months’ progress per year.

**WALKING BUS**

The ‘Walking Bus’ leaves the Co-Op at the bottom of Mongleath Rd at 8:30am to walk the short distance to school. This relieves congestion in the cul-de-sac and also gives a healthy start to the day for the children. To enroll, please collect a form from the school office. **If you are able to assist, even if only for one morning a week, please let us know.**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Congratulations to our new class representatives who were voted by their classmates after presenting their magnificent manifestos. They’ve already participated in their first School Council Meeting.

Class 1 - Phoebe and Owen

Class 2 - Zephyr and George H.

Class 3 - Millie and Carsten

Class 4 - Mollie and Spencer

Class 5 - Ava-Rose and Mawgan

Class 6 - Lola T., Rosie, Chloe, Thomas P., Charlie, Lewis

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP ON THE SWIMMING BUS**

We desperately need a volunteer to help on the swimming bus on a Friday at 12.30pm.

Please let the School Office know if you can help out.

**PLYMOUTH CAST -VISION & VALUES CONSULTATION**

***An opportunity to have your say on the vision, mission, values, principles and behaviours which will bring about a step change in the quality of education in CAST schools, inspired by the Gospel and the teaching of the Catholic Church.***

Raymond Friel, the recently appointed Chief Executive Officer of our multi academy trust Plymouth CAST, is consulting with all stakeholders (parents, staff, pupils and governors) to contribute to a new Vision and Mission Statement. A PowerPoint which includes the key information and questions are available on our school website to any parents who would like to contribute. Please return any responses in writing and submit to the school office by 11th October.

Click on the link to access the vision and values consultation page on the school website.

 <http://www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk/web/vision_and_values_consultation/372068>

**SPORTING NEWS**

**Competitive League**

St Mary’s v St Francis 3-3.

**Training League**

St Mary’s v St Francis 1-0

Congratulations to both teams for a great start to the netball season!

**HARVEST**

Many thanks for all the Foodbank offerings which were presented at our Harvest Mass this morning. Mr Pipkin will be delivering the food to the Foodbank on Tuesday 9th October, so if you haven’t had chance to contribute, please bring your offerings in by then.

**TWO MIDDAY SUPERVISOR VACANCIES**

***About the roles***

We have two vacancies for Midday Supervisors to join our dynamic

Lunchtime team.

One of the positions is 1:1 to a child with special educational needs.

Hours: 6.25 hours per week – 11:45am - 1pm

Fixed Term position for initially 2 terms, term time only

Start date: As soon as possible.

We are looking for supervisors who will ensure the smooth running of the canteen meals, packed lunches and the supervision of children at play. Successful candidates will support school behaviour management by supervising areas of the school during lunchtimes and encouraging pupils to behave in a healthy, safe and considerate manner.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and all applicants will be required to obtain an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

**Application pack:** Available from the School Office.

**Closing date:** 15th October 2018

**Interview:** TBC

SOUTH WEST CELEBRATE WEEKEND

A joyful and faith-filled event for all the family!

13th/14th October

 Notre Dame School, Looseleigh Lane, Plymouth PL6 5HN

*Main Speakers:* Maria Heath, Fr. Oscar Ardila, Charles Whitehead

Separate streams for children & young people

Lively worship, drama, a variety of workshops, family Mass

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*Online booking now open* (Prior booking essential)

*More details:*[www.celebrateconference.org](http://www.celebrateconference.org)

*Email:*southwest@celebrateconference.org

Rebecca 01395 489902

Or Susanne 01803 606256

(*Poster Erratum*: 16 -22 Conference Fee should read: £15)

*Please note that signposting to any activities/services by St Mary’s School does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. It is recommended that parents/carers make their own enquiries to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of these. Under no circumstances will either St Mary’s School or Plymouth CAST accept responsibility or liability for any such activities/services.*