

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 7: 7th December 2018

Dear Parents,

Our first termly parish school Mass celebrating 'Christ the King' was really well attended, so many thanks to you all for coming along and making this celebration so wonderful. I've received many messages from parishioners saying how well behaved our pupils were and how smart they looked in their St Mary's School uniform. They were all a credit to their school. An amazing **£1,100** was raised at this Mass for our school, which is so generous!

Thank you to everyone who made it such a lovely celebration.

It was 'International Volunteer Day' yesterday and I would like to thank all our volunteers for their time and support so far this academic year. This includes our wonderful FOSMs, readers, librarians, swimming and walking bus supervisors and last but not least our hardworking governors. Thanks also to the parents who support the school in many different ways by providing their services, time and expertise for free. Without you our school would not be the success it is.

Sadly, Mr Tony Schorah Chair of Governors has resigned from the governing body at our last meeting. I would like to thank him for his wonderful support and commitment to our school and on a personal note, to thank him for the support he has provided me as Headteacher. He will be extremely hard to replace, but we wish him well in the future.

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

December

11th	Exciting Writing Day!
12th	Christmas Dinner
12th - 19th	Prayer Space - Theme: Advent
14th	Swimming Gala (parents can watch) Last swimming lesson for Years 5 & 6 (fun session at Ships and Castles) Choir Performance with Truro Male Voice Choir @ 6:00pm
16th	Christingle Service @ St Mary's Church, Killigrew Street
17th	Reception Class Christmas Performance @ 2:00pm
18th	Classes 1 & 2's Christmas Performances @ 2:00pm and 6:30pm
19th	Classes 3 & 4's Christmas Performances @ 2:00pm and 6:30pm
20th	End of Term Mass @ 9:15am Christmas Parties

NORMAL FINISHING TIMES

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The last date for after school clubs for this term will be the 14th December. Certain clubs will not be running next week, these include: Netball Club, Gardening club and Forest Schools. The new 'After School Clubs' timetable will be sent home during the first week back and clubs will resume the week beginning 14th January 2019.

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.

Please note the school's Supplementary Admission Form must also be completed and returned to school by the deadline.

SPORTING NEWS

Netball

2 Falmouth Primary V St Mary's 1

Football

0 Falmouth Primary V St Mary's 3

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES

For those families who are new to the school, the emergency school closure procedure is as follows. We strongly recommend that you listen to updates on BBC Radio Cornwall, Pirate FM or Heart FM for up to date information on school closures which will also be posted on the radio stations websites. We will endeavour to contact all parents via the Schoolcomms system. This system sends a message to parent's mobile phones. If you have recently changed your mobile number, please inform the school office. Alternatively, log on to our school website for the latest details about emergency closure. www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk

In the event for example of heavy snow during the school day, you the parents are in the best position to assess the road conditions etc. where you live. If you need to collect your child early then this is acceptable. The school will remain open until all pupils have been collected.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES 2018

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our Christmas performances. This year the performances are more low key and shorter. The programme for the performances is as follows:-

17th December	Reception Class	2:00pm
18th December	Classes 1 & 2	2:00pm & 6:30pm
19th December	Classes 3 & 4	2:00pm & 6:30pm

Tickets have been issued but please return any unwanted tickets to be redistributed to those who have requested additional seats.

PLEASE NOTE ENTRY WITHOUT A TICKET WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.
PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE SLIGHTLY LATER STARTING TIME OF 2:00PM,
SO PLEASE IGNORE THE START TIME PRINTED ON THE TICKETS.

Afternoon Performances

Parents and visitors are politely asked not to arrive on either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon before 1:40pm as lunches are served from 12 till 1:30pm. The hall has to be cleared and set up for the

afternoon performances. Entrance will be through the green gate leading to the Reception Class playground for afternoon performances.

Evening Performances

Entrance to the school for the evening performances is through the front door.

Every year we ask parents **not** to return their child/ren for the evening performances before 6:00pm as the school is **closed** until staff are back on the premises to supervise them. As all St Mary's pupils will have seen the performances, please ensure seats are **strictly for adults only as space is limited.** Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Photographs/Videoing

Many parents and grandparents wish to take photographs and recordings of their child/ren performing for their own personal use. Therefore, if parents wish to photograph or film they are free to do so.

Please note that any photographs or videos taken of your child are for personal use and should not be posted on social media without the permission of the parents involved.

Please contact the school if you have any queries or concerns about this **before** the first performance on Monday 17th December.

HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for parents who can assist with dismantling the stage and scenery early Thursday morning from 8:00am on the 20th December in readiness for the end of term Mass which starts at 9:30am. Please let the school office know if you are able to spare half an hour.

Christmas Dinner Helpers - the catering department are looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen on Tuesday and/or Wednesday, 11th & 12th December. Please see Sarah Slater, our School Chef if you are willing to help.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

The annual Christingle Service at St Mary's Catholic Church on Killigrew Street takes place on Sunday 16th December at 5:30pm. This is a really beautiful service which brings home the true meaning of Christmas which all the family can enjoy. This is being organised by Mrs Shailes and Mrs Slater our School Chef and they would like an idea of approximate numbers in order that enough oranges are prepared. **Letters have already gone out in satchel post, so please complete the slip attached and do include any younger siblings who are not at school, who will also be attending and return to the School Office as soon as possible.**



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This festival opened on Sunday evening and our school choir was invited once again to mark the occasion with their Christmas repertoire. Many thanks to Mrs Austin Smith and Mrs Mulcahy who prepared them so well. The festival remains open until after the New Year and definitely worth a visit.

CONGRATULATIONS

WELL DONE to past pupil, Rosie Boulton, who has just returned from Australia, after winning a Bronze in the Surf Life-Saving World Championships.

FOODBANK

We hope you will be inspired by this idea and join us in collecting food items during Advent. There will be a collection box in each classroom during the month of December and pupils are invited to donate the usual packets, tins, jars for a Christmas donation to the Penryn and Falmouth Foodbank. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



[Help food banks this Christmas by starting your reverse advent calendar now](#)

The reverse advent calendar, which collects donations for food banks, has been launched for the second year in a row and urges people to start well ahead of December.

Help UK Air Ambulance Services by recycling your Used Postage Stamps!!!

The UK's Air Ambulance Services are charities which receive no government funding and rely entirely on charitable donations to continue flying and responding to life threatening medical emergencies.

We are now volunteering our time to help raise funds through the recycling of postage stamps.

All funds raised will be donated to the Association of Air Ambulances to be distributed equally to all UK Air Ambulance Services



All you need to do is cut or carefully tear the stamped corner from any envelope or packet that you receive in the post and start a collection

Please save all your used postage stamps and bring them into the school office in the New Year and we will send them on!

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

A Christmas Fair is being held at Jubilee Wharf on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th December from 11am - 4pm

On Tuesday 18th December at 7pm at the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro Youth String Orchestra will be giving a one hour free concert.

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 any responsibility or liability for any such activity/service.