

Newsletter Issue 11: 8th February 2019

Dear Parents,

This term, as usual I've been visiting all classes to see the amazing learning and challenges in place, which really affirms the highly effective learning culture here at St Mary's. In every class there was such an industrious atmosphere, all pupils on task and really working hard. I've also been teaching in most classes this term which has been a real treat!

Teaching the Reception Class on Monday afternoon was simply amazing, as they all demonstrated their incredible thirst for learning and wanted to show me all they had learnt! If only you could bottle it and sell it! Classes 4 and 5 were equally inspirational. Their positive attitude to learning is really something to celebrate which will make a marked difference to their outcomes at the end of their time at St Mary's. Class 6 demonstrated what high achievers they can be and need to continue to strive to meet the expectations that have been set and thereby put themselves in a strong position to meet the challenges of secondary school. I'm looking forward to getting into the other classes soon.

I would like to thank all those who came along to the Parish School Enrolment Mass on the 27th January. It was a beautiful celebration and many parishioners commented on the children's wonderful singing, behaviour and reverence during the service.

I would like to thank Gareth Churcher, who was nominated and accepted the role of interim Chair of Governors for our school. Gareth has three children at St Mary's School and brings a wealth of valuable experience and knowledge to our school.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to a copy of a letter received from the Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP Secretary of State for Education and Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for School Standards, congratulating our school on the high level of progress that pupils demonstrated in the reading, writing and mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year (see Newsletter - Appendix 1).

Warm regards

Jacqui Scarborough



Are you able to help?

We're looking for volunteers;

- to hear readers in class
- to help in the library
- on the 'Walking Bus'
- to help with supervision on the swimming coach on a Friday
- to help with transportation to sporting events

DIARY DATES

February

11 th	Assembly and workshops - NSPCC
12 th	Cross-Country finals
14 th	Class 4 to Harbour Lights
18 th -22 nd	HALF TERM (Go Active Holiday Club on Thursday 21 st Feb)
25 th	Assembly with John Pinhay
27 th	iPad music sessions commence with Class 5

March

6 th	Ash Wednesday Mass
7 th	Class 3 Fairtrade Coffee Morning from 9.45-11.15am World Book Day
11 th	Exciting Writing Day
12 th	Cross-Country Races at Pool School
14 th	Paint the Town Yellow - Falmouth Spring Festival
20 th	Penitential Service Vision Awareness training for Reception Class
28 th	Songfest for Class 6 @ Falmouth Methodist Church
27-28 th	Class 5 residential to Carnyorth
28 th	Songfest for Yr 6 @ Falmouth Methodist Church

SPORTING NEWS

Cross-Country Races - We have 9 pupils from Years 4-6 who have qualified for the next round, which takes place at Pool School on Tuesday 12th March at 4.00pm.

Basketball - The St Mary's team played brilliantly on Wednesday. They showed resilience throughout the match against Marlborough School, but unfortunately were unable to secure a win.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES

A reminder of 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.

School Uniform

High expectations in all aspects of school life are a hallmark of our school and this includes wearing the specified school uniform. So many people in the wider community have commented on how smart our pupils look and I would like to thank you all for your efforts in sending your child/ren so smartly dressed in school uniform.

A small minority however are consistently arriving with no ties, leggings instead of tailored trousers, inappropriate footwear and colourful bows in their hair (very beautiful) but which are not in line with our uniform policy.

Details of the correct uniform are included in this newsletter edition, as after half term we will be carefully monitoring this and letters will be sent home if pupils are not wearing the correct uniform. Hopefully the half term period will give you time to sort uniform if your child is missing for example their tie.

The school uniform is as follows:

BOYS

- White shirt long sleeve shirt/short sleeve shirt for the Summer months
- Grey tailored trousers or shorts
- Royal Blue V Neck Jumper
- Clip on or Elastic School Tie
- Black or brown leather shoes (no trainers)
- Grey socks
- Royal Blue PE T Shirt
- Navy PE Shorts
- Long hair tied back

GIRLS

- White shirt long sleeve shirt/short sleeve shirt for the Summer months
- Grey skirts or pinafore dresses or grey tailored trousers or shorts
- Royal Blue V Neck Jumper
- Clip on or Elastic School Tie
- Black or brown shoes (no trainers)
- White socks or grey tights
- Royal blue head bands or school scrunchies
- Royal Blue PE T Shirt
- Navy PE Shorts
- Plimsolls (preferable laceless for infants)
- Long hair tied back
- No jewellery or nail polish is permitted.

Please note that pupils must wear only school caps for easy identification on trips and protection from the sun.

A strong bag to hold PE kit is needed too and all uniform should be labelled.

All uniform is available from: MC Sports, 29 High Street, Falmouth

PE KIT

An increasing number of pupils are arriving in school without their PE kit. This then means they miss their PE lesson as we don't encourage borrowing kit from children in other classes. Pupils have been reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure they have their PE kit in school at all times. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

MUSIC PROVISION

Last term parents were surveyed about contributions towards Music provision across the school. In the past the school has funded the whole class brass, ukulele and violin lessons as well as funding the cost of the instruments. This provision will be extended to include the Reception Class and Class 1 who will also have specialist music teachers to support their development from March. After half term Class 5 will also have a specialist teacher to teach music through technology.

As explained, the school can no longer continue to fund this provision. To date, a few parents have contributed on Parent Pay for these enhanced lessons from some classes but not all.

Can I gently remind parents that the small voluntary contribution of £1 per lesson for one child and those families with more than one child, 75p per child per session is paid as soon as possible to ensure the success of the pilot and continued specialist music provision. Details of when payments need to be made for those classes who haven't started these sessions (Reception, Class 1 and Class 5) will be sent out before half term. I'd like to thank those who have already started to contribute.

Many thanks for your support regarding this.

NSPCC VISIT - 11TH FEBRUARY

We welcome the NSPCC 'Speak out. Stay safe. Programme' once again to St Mary's. The theme of their visit is to ensure that every child understands abuse in all its forms and recognises the signs of abuse and gets help if they need it.

Speak out. Stay safe. Assembly

They will be delivering a 30-minute assembly to both KS1 and KS2 with key safeguarding messages for the children. For Classes 5 and 6 these are then built upon in an hour-long classroom based workshop.

FUNDRAISING HALF MARATHON

We all know someone who has had the wonderful services of Cornwall Hospice Care. Every year I run a fundraising Concert in Falmouth for CHC to help this amazing charity. This spring I will be running something a little different! So please go to the website below to support me and CHC by way of sponsoring my challenge if you can..... Many thanks for reading. Gareth Churcher

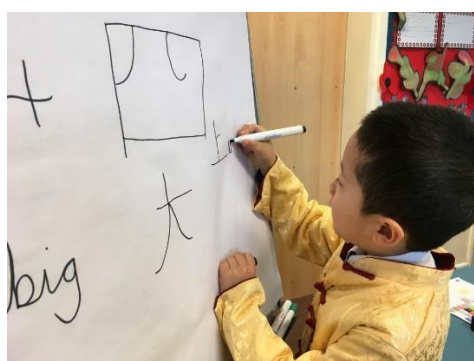
<https://chcl.charitycheckout.co.uk/pf/gareth-churcher>

DONATION


The school has received a generous £500 donation from Mr Mark Keppel who currently resides in Plymouth. On reaching retirement, he made the decision to donate money to his first school, St Mary's, for which we are very grateful.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Thanks to Moqi in Class 1, who shared his family's celebration to mark the Chinese New year, which is the Year of the Pig. He visited every class to tell them about his family's celebrations, wearing the traditional costume and greeting each class with the Chinese for 'Happy New Year'. He did an outstanding job and everyone learnt something new about his culture. He also taught Class 2 how to write some numbers in Chinese and also the word 'big'. Well done Moqi!



Captain's Table - 5th February

	Class 6
St Mary's Super Stars 	Rosie Maxwell Rebecca Dylan Lola T Issy Saffron

POPPY APPEAL

The Royal British Legion sent their thanks this week for the marvelous fund-raising efforts of our school. We raised a total of £173.12. (See Newsletter - Appendix 2).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cornwall Air Ambulance will be opening its doors for its first ever Blue Light Day on the 24th February 2019. This unique fundraising event will showcase the work of emergency services working across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. We are delighted to welcome representatives from Devon & Cornwall Police, Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service, HM Coastguard, RNLI, Cornwall Blood Bikes, amongst others at the event. Visitors are set to enjoy a fun day with demonstrations from the emergency services where they'll have the chance to learn more about the work they do including those who volunteer to keep our community safe.

Entry is free but donations are welcome.

Coose Trannack Cross Country Races are set to take place on Saturday 16th March, This event is open to single entry registration. To find out further information on Facebook by searching for: Coose Trannack.

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University of Leeds are conducting a study to find out more about children's eating habits and food in the family home. In particular, they are interested in the views of parents of primary school aged children.

They have developed an online questionnaire and are trying to get as many parents to fill this in. The questionnaire takes about 8-12 minutes to complete, is anonymous and voluntary.

*Questionnaire link - <https://leeds.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/food-in-the-family-home-2018> *

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The Cornwall Music Education Hub have teamed up with Penryn College to offer a 2 day musical theatre workshop for young people aged 8 years plus, at the subsidised rate of £30 for both days.

To book, go to <http://myedventure.co.uk/events/musical-theatre-6>

Cornwall Music Education Hub

Musical Theatre Workshop

A 2 day Pantomime themed workshop
for young people aged 8 plus
20th & 21st February 2019, 10.00 - 15.00
Penryn College
£30 per child for both days
Book online— <http://myedventure.co.uk>

A musical theatre workshop including: vocal production and projection, breathing techniques, drama, improvisation and characterisation.

ADVENTURE
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

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.