



NEWSLETTER ISSUE 6:24th November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Celebrations began this week to mark the 50th year on the current site at Mongleath Rd. The week began with an assembly where I shared my memories of being a pupil starting school at St Mary's in 1966. At that time the school was situated in the Church Hall off Killigrew Street. In September 1967, the school moved into a brand new modern school building here on Mongleath Rd, costing £42,000. One hundred and twenty seven pupils attended from September 1967 and this number has grown to two hundred and seventeen today.

It was so lovely to welcome past members of staff and friends who joined us for the 50th Anniversary Mass on Wednesday. They enjoyed a guided tour conducted by our Class 6 ambassadors and had an opportunity to look at old photos, press cuttings and slides. Many of our special visitors were amazed to see how the building had changed from five classes to seven classes with additional breakout rooms, offices and an enlarged hall.

St Mary's School has always been such a very special place and I feel extremely privileged to have led the school for the last thirteen years, building on the wonderful work of previous heads, Mr D'Silva, Mrs Beresford, Mr O'Brien and Mr Hannon.

Further celebrations are being planned for the Spring and Summer Terms involving ex pupils and staff which we will keep you informed about. We're also working on a short film about our school. In the meantime, we would be extremely grateful if you could bring in any photos or memorabilia which we can add to our archive.

I would like to thank local businesses who have sponsored future events and activities for this special year. These include, Watson Marlow, Hine Downing and Pendennis Shipyard.

Warm regards

Jacqui Scarborough

DIARY DATES

November

- 28th Education Welfare Officer visit
Education Library van visit
- 29th Parent Consultation Meetings from 3:30pm to 6:30pm

December

- 1st Dress Down Day - Cakes
Christmas Fayre @ 3:30pm
- 3rd Christmas Tree Festival at Princess Pavilion @ 5:00pm
- 5th Parent Consultation Meetings from 3:30pm to 6:30pm
- 8th Choir singing at Age Concern and the Stroke Club
- 10th Live Nativity in Falmouth
- 12th Reception Class Christmas Performance @ 2:00pm
Bags to School - FOSMs
- 13th Classes 1 & 2's Christmas Performance @ 2:00pm & 6:30pm
- 14th Classes 3 & 4's Christmas Performance @ 2:00pm & 6:30pm
- 17th Christingle Service @ 5:30pm

18th FOSMs Santa's Grotto from 3:30pm
19th Christmas Dinner
St Mary's School Choir Concert
20th Whole School End of Term Mass @ 9:30pm
Christmas Parties from 1:30pm
Break up for the Christmas holidays @ normal time

Parent Consultation Meetings

On the 29th November and the 5th December Parent Consultations Meetings will take place and you will have the opportunity to speak to your child/rens class teacher and view their work in their classrooms. I hope you will take up this opportunity to discuss and see their progress to date and also to be informed of their next steps.

FOSMS

Our Christmas Fayre takes place on 1st December 2017 and our hard working FOSMs are planning and organising this event. If you can help in any way please do let them know, as many hands make light work! Any goods for the stalls or raffle and hamper items are gratefully received. Please do come along to support this event which raises much needed additional funds for our school. (Further details available below)

Dates for your Diary

Dress Down Days for Donations

1st December Cakes

Teddy Donations/Books/Games/Toys can also be made any Friday

Thank you in advance for all donations - FOSMs

FOSMS are looking for raffle prizes so if you run a business and are able to donate something we would be very grateful.

Sporting News

Netball League

The netball team have been on a bit of a roller-coaster over the last 2 weeks with the with the A team winning against St Francis B team 28-0 and our B team winning against St Francis A team 6-5. This week our A team lost to King Charles 4-1 and the B team lost to Falmouth Primary 4-3.

Football League

The football team have played two matches over the last 2 weeks, losing to Marlborough 2-1 and achieving a draw with Penryn Juniors 1-All.

Well done to all the teams and a thank you to all the parents that have supported the children at these matches.

Admissions 2018-19

Starting Primary School

If you have a child born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 then they are due to

start school in September 2018. The deadline for applications is 23:59 on 15th January 2018. You can apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions.

Please remember if you are applying for a place at St Mary's School you need to complete a **supplementary form** (as well as the Local Authority application form) which can be obtained from the School Office or our website in the Parent Area www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk

Anti-Bullying Week

Last week was Anti-Bullying week and the School Council were very busy promoting the theme 'All different, all equal'. Throughout the week children from all classes were invited to help to create a video to document the children's thoughts about bullying and what we can all do to prevent bullying. They ensured that children from across the school were involved and have now edited the film and it will soon be available on the school website for you to view. Throughout the week the children sold blue Anti-Bullying wristbands at playtimes and lunchtimes at a cost of £1. On Friday we held an odd socks day to celebrate our differences and the school council enjoyed taking photos of the odd socks in their classes. The odd socks provided lots of opportunities to talk about our differences and also what makes us all unique. During the week the School Council worked hard to review the children's Anti-Bullying policy and an updated copy is available on the school website.

Christmas Performances 2017

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:-

12th December	Reception Class	2:00pm
13th December	Classes 1 & 2	2:00pm & 6:30pm
14th December	Classes 3 & 4	2:00pm & 6:30pm

To meet health and safety requirements, we will be issuing tickets for all performances from Tuesday 28th November. There will be no cost for these tickets, but as usual there will be a collection at the end of each performance. This is a St Mary's tradition to consider the needs of others at this special time of the year, a time of giving. All donations will be distributed amongst the children's chosen charities.

Each family will be issued two tickets for each performance, except for the Reception Class where four tickets per family will be available due to the reduced numbers performing. If you don't require some of your allocated tickets, please return them to the School Office by Monday 4th December when they can be re-issued to families who request additional tickets. Please note additional tickets will only be issued from the 5th December.

Please note entry without a ticket will not be permitted.

Afternoon Performances

Parents and visitors are politely asked not to arrive on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon, before 1:45pm 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 the afternoon performances.

After the afternoon performances on Tuesday and Wednesday, siblings in other classes may be collected if this is before the usual finishing time. Please wait on the playground for your child/ren to be collected from other classes and not in the foyer or inside the building where space is limited.

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 the school will have seen the performances, please ensure seats are for adults only.

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 Tuesday 12th December.

Help Required!

We are looking for any Dads, who can assist with dismantling the stage and scenery early Friday morning on the 15th December. Please let the school office know if you are able to spare half an hour.

Christingle Service

The annual Christingle Service at St Mary's Catholic Church on Killigrew Street takes place on Sunday 17th 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. A letter will be sent home next week, so please return the reply slip and include any younger siblings who are not yet at school, who will also be attending. Return to the School Office by 11th December 2017.

Library

There is so much to do organising the books in the library and many hands make light work. If you're able to help, please let the School Office know. Thanks to those who have already offered help.

Celebration Cake

A BIG thank you to our chef, Mrs Slater for creating this marvelous 50th celebration cake, which was distributed to all children at the end of school today.

