

St Mary's News



February 2016 – Issue 12

BMX sessions at Decoy

This term has been very exciting as BMX sessions have started at Decoy, near Newton Abbot. Lots of pupils from St Mary's have been to these BMX sessions and I can report that it is going brilliantly and I hope our winning streak continues! This is a beginners' standard course and is totally safe as it is run by a qualified instructor. If any of the parents want to watch they are welcome to come along as there is a sofa that they can sit on and a shack to shelter under from the rain. There are six weeks of lessons altogether and there are just two remaining.

By Lillian



Ash Wednesday

We held an Ash liturgy in school on Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is when you go to church and you get an ash cross put on your head, to remind you that it is the start of Lent (the cross is a symbol of Jesus' resurrection). The ashes come from the palm crosses from last year, which are burnt to make the ash. Father Christopher led our service in the hall and each person made a Lent promise afterwards. These all involved trying to become a better person during the forty days of Lent.

By Tobias

Shrove Tuesday

Last Tuesday it was Shrove Tuesday, although most people know it as Pancake Day. Shrove Tuesday is when you use up all milk, eggs and flour to make pancakes before Lent, the 40 days before Easter, begins. This tradition began in the Anglo-Saxon times when they would go and confess all of their sins to prepare themselves for Lent. People would ring bells to call everyone to confess, and this was called the pancake bell, hence the name pancake day.

By Eleanor

BMX sessions at Decoy

Over this term a group of children have visited Decoy BMX track. They have learnt a variety of helpful tricks and requirements, to help them ride their bike that they were lent.

We all had helmets and looked like storm troopers. By the second time we went, we were all hyped up on the track, although the corners and bumps were treacherous for many of us!

By Louis and Henry M



Body Language 2016

On Tuesday 12th January, Burrator started practising for Body Language. Body language is an event where schools from Devon go South Dartmoor Community College to perform their dances to other schools and parents. The dances all have a theme and this year it's Disney classics. Burrator are very excited for the performance, on the 1st of March. Body Language is an amazing experience for young pupils to work together and express themselves.

By Polly

Safer Internet Day

As you know, last Tuesday was safer internet day where we think about the importance of E-safety. It is about being safe on the internet and knowing what to do if you are worried. Teachers in school talked to children about how to use the internet responsibly and safely. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

Burrator class' ideas were used in a slideshow for parents and a display outside Mitzi's office.

By Ethan



Safer
Internet
Day 2016
Tuesday
9 February
Play your part for
a better internet
www.saferinternetday.org.uk



Drama Club

In St Mary's Catholic Primary school, after lunch on Thursday, we have our drama club with Anna from the Education Centre at the Abbey. At Drama we play lots of games such as 'Greetings your Majesty', giants, wizards and knights, prisoners and guards.

We are also planning our own play about lots of different fairy tales.

By Adele and Hannah W

Burrator 'Where My Wellies Take Me' Walk

Earlier this month Burrator class went on a poetry walk around Buckfast to help us with a story we were reading in the class. The book had poems, stories, pictures and other information too. On the walk and we had sheets with us and we were looking at different things, taking that information and turning it into a 'tale' of our own. On this journey we saw lots of beautiful things. At one point we saw a cat follow us over the road. It stopped in the middle of the road and basically helped us cross the road; Mrs Evans came up with the name the lollipop cat! At the end of the walk we used what we had seen to create our own poems

By Denham

RSPB Bird Schools' Birdwatch

On the 25th January we took part in the RSPB's big schools bird watch. 7 students took part in an hour long bird watch. We sighted 17 birds, a few of the species were: nuthatch, blue tit, great tit, coal tit, gold crest, pigeon, black bird. We were particularly pleased to see a gold crest as this is quite rare.

By Toby R



World War Two topic

Until the end of term, Burrator are going to be researching events in World War Two. This is an amazing topic as there are so many artefacts and areas which we can learn about. Burrator are going to have quite an experience. Although intriguing, it is sad to hear some of the stories that happened throughout the second world war.

By Ellie B-D

St. Mary's film

As most of you know, last year's Year 5 & 6 created a film for the Education Department in the Abbey. This year, our school has decided, because last year's went so well, that we are going to create a new film to advertise our school. The children, mostly KS2, are going to film, direct, act and plan the entire thing. Once the film is completed, you will be able to check up on our website to see the amazing film that the whole school has created. Burrator class met up with Alison and Anna, from the Education Department, to discuss ideas of what the pupils are going to produce. So far we have come up with loads of ideas that are going to be placed into the film.

We are going to start the filming after the half term holiday and this activity is most likely going to take up sessions between now and the end of the summer. All of the pupils are very excited about this activity that is taking place.

By Hannah M

Arsenal Football Club

At St Mary's Catholic Primary, we have lots of fun clubs, such as Football with Coach Chris. This runs on a Wednesday after school from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. We often play a match and practise passing skills. At the end of term we will have a match against Buckfastleigh school.

By Serephina and Hannah T

Tennis Club

On Thursday lunchtimes a group of pupils go to Southpark Community Centre (across the road) to do tennis with a coach called Tim. We learn to strengthen our weaker side and we also learn to have control over our strength. We rally against Tim and practise hitting the tennis ball with our backhand or forehand. We play doubles matches although we usually lose!

By Henry B-D and Rory

Mimi and the Mountain Dragon

The whole of Fernworthy class have made their own story based on Mimi and the Mountain Dragon, which is a book about a Dragon that comes down on loads of logs from a mountain. Fernworthy have also made their own little monsters!

By Kayla and Lily L

Visitor from the Antarctic

We had a visitor, called Mr Mansell, to Venford class, who told us all about how he had been to the Antarctic. The best bit of the visit was when he dressed up Mrs Cherrett in lots of warm clothes, which he had taken on his visit to the Antarctic.

By Daisy M and George

Fab Lab session

Burrator class had a Fab Lab session which was organised by Plymouth College of Arts. In the workshop we got to programme an electric car and make some designs of our own out of playdough. There were two motors which powered the back wheels like a real car.

We also got to see how a 3-D printer worked and printed some 3-D faces and food.

By Ben and Ellis



Fernworthy's Viking Dance

Over the past week, we been linking our topic, which is the Vikings, into a great dance.

Marina, our dance teacher, has been helping us to learn this technical dance.

We have not yet finished, but with a bit more hard work we will be done after half term - thank you Fernworthy for creating a great dance!

by George and Aidan