

St Mary's News



Friday 25th July 2014 – Issue 4

Farewell to our Editors

It is now the time of year where the year 6's will be saying farewell to St Marys, and that also means that we, as editors, will be handing over our job. We would like to say a big thank you to Miss Slack for choosing us as the original newspaper editors and also big congratulations to Ben D, Sophie N and Jasmine F who will continue our role between them!

Goodbye from
Beth and Maddie!

Trip to Woodlands

Burrator Class had the opportunity to decide what to spend their 'Fiver challenge' money on. The class earned £437 and decided to spend it on a day trip to Woodlands. As we arrived at the theme park we were all very excited and couldn't wait to explore.

After we went on the water slides we went over to the ninja towers and did the obstacle course. We also found a troll maze to complete, which was pitch black. Later we went to the master blaster and had a war with the foam guns, it was really chaotic.

Before long it was lunchtime so we went to the big blue house to eat. Afterwards we tried out the trauma tower the death slides. I think everyone had a fantastic time and were pleased with the way that the money had been spent.

By Brian and Nathaniel

Fiver Challenge

Once Burrator Class had finished their SATS and end of year tests, the pupils began a competition called the 'Fiver Challenge'. The fiver challenge is a project which pupils from lots of schools from all over the UK took part in this year. The children were put into groups of four and then each given a five pound note in order to create a company.

The group names were Key Quality Crafts, EEP, JEKJ sales, S.C.E.T, HALF and Prize Popz. Key Quality Crafts made pencil cases, bags and purses out of denim. EEP made handmade papier-mâché frames and plant pots. JEKJ sales had a lemonade stand, sold loom bands and arranged an up cycle event. S.C.E.T sold cupcakes, drinks and loom animals. Prize Popz made popcorn and organised a raffle. HALF held a cinema evening and made loom bands.

The aim of the challenge was to make as much money as possible, but also to pay the five pound back after gaining money. Everyone did very well - some of the groups made over £100! It was all very exciting. At the end of the fiver challenge the class made a profit of over £400! With the money we raised, we finally agreed on going to Woodlands. We worked very hard all enjoyed the challenge - well done Burrator!

By Caitlin K, Kerys and Sophie N



Gardening Club

St Mary's gardening club, with the help of Mr and Mrs Norman have been busy this term growing vegetables and tending some of the gardens at St Mary's. Following the distribution of poppy seeds by the local town council to commemorate the centenary of the start of the First World War, the gardening club have set a number of poppies around the school grounds. The photograph on the right shows the poppies on the playground with some of our gardeners this term.

By Beth and Maddie



Annual sporting events

This year's sports day was a very successful one. With lots of victorious wins and valiant losses it was quite entertaining to watch! The team spirit was as upbeat as usual. The green team, Teign House secured their second and last triumph of the year, a head and shoulders above the rest!

Our annual swimming gala was also held on the 2nd of July. The previous weeks we practised races like front crawl, breast stroke, treading water and more, it was a really fun time for the children. Even the friends of St Marys came along to cheer on the children. It was held at Buckfastleigh swimming pool.

Here are some comments about the swimming gala: Ellie- "very challenging but fun"; Kerys- "it was really fun"; Miss Serra- "Gripping to watch."

St Mary's also raised money for CAFOD this term with the Run for Women. The whole school took part and even some staff and parents joined in!

By Jasmine and Callie-Ann



Rounders tournament at South Dartmoor

Congratulations to our rounders' team, who represented St Mary's at South Dartmoor Community College. Although it was a very hot afternoon and there were lots of strong teams from schools all over the local area, the team performed well in each of the games.

By Maddie and Beth



Dainton Golf Tournament

Fernworthy Class also represented St Mary's at the golf tournament held at Dainton Golf course this half term. We learnt lots of new skills. Everyone enjoyed the activities so much that we have invited Dainton Golf coaches to come to St Mary's next year.



By Ellie and Joseph



Outdoor education at the Abbey

During this summer term we went to Buckfast Abbey for one of our Outdoor Education sessions which we have each week. When we got there we were welcomed by Claudia and Alison who immediately took us for a walk around the buildings next to the Abbey. When we were walking they showed us the Gargoyles which were on the roof of the building. After that we went into the Education Centre to make some of our own Gargoyles! We were given a big chunk of air drying clay each so we could get started. Claudia gave us a picture of a Gargoyle each to look at for ideas.

When we had finished that, all of us went outside to make paper kites. Claudia gave us all a kite shaped piece of paper and two twigs. We had to stick the twigs together in a cross shape and then stick the twigs to the paper. After that Claudia made a hole in the paper so we could tie some string to it so we could fly them.

Everyone really enjoyed the day!!

By Thomas Taylor



Congratulations to all of Fernworthy and Burrator who were awarded the John Muir Award in recognition of their Outdoor Education Sessions this term.

Send a Cow Day

In St. Mary's school, Burrator class carried out a few activities with Pete from 'Send a Cow', a charity which helps people with sustainable gardening abroad. A man came in and helped us to plant lots of vegetables in our vegetable planters, make wooden badges, build dens and light fires safely.

By Nico and Fin

The wonderful woodland day

Burrator class took part in an event called Wonderful Woodland day. In World tree day we made key holders made from wood and decorated them with stickers with Dan and Pete. Then we made a money box out of wood and we decorated it with our own design with Sue and then we made an amazing wood necklace each with Claudia. Finally we had a leaf hunt around the Abbey gardens. We were given a sheet of paper with lots of different leaves on and we had to go and try to find the tree with the leaves on and we also measured the height of a tree. Burrator and Fernworthy had a great day!

By Ellie R and Jodie



Summer Fair and Fun Day

Our annual summer fair was held on our school field on the 11th of July 2014. There were many stalls and lots of parents and friends came to the fete. It was a really enjoyable afternoon with lots of stalls and games to participate in such as a BBQ, bouncy castle, handmade crafts and more!

Luckily the weather was beautiful which meant the day was even more successful!

By Madison and Bethany



Art project

Lucy Jackson has been helping us to make a huge collage for our new school hall. The whole school has been participating in this event, to leave their mark for future pupils to see. We have based our art on Richard Riley's work because it is very colourful and for our collage we have used nature, water, peace and love.

We started the week before by drawing small pictures using pastel colours and then we included these ideas for our main collage. Each class had the chance to add something to the designs and build up different 'layers' using acrylic paint. During the summer holidays, these designs will be transferred onto a board and displayed in our new hall.

By Ben and Angel

Please send any ideas or suggestions for St Mary's News to the School Office or email the information to

admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk