

St Mary's News



Friday 27th March 2015 – Issue 8

This week we have combined the newsletter and the newspaper. Once again, each class has written about what they have been up to over the past few weeks.

Easter Bonnet Parade

This week every child in school has been designing their own Easter themed hats for the end of term Easter Parade. Parents and staff were invited to the Parade in the school hall and prizes for the best hats were kindly donated by FOSMs. Alison and Holly from the Abbey Education Department came into school to judge the hats.

Although all the hats looked spectacular so it was very difficult to decide which hat in each class was the best, in the end the judges decided that the winners were:

Venford – Harvey
Fernworthy – Serephina
Burrator – Polly

Congratulations to those children and well done to everyone for producing such fantastic designs!
By Ben D

End of term

We have come to the end of a very busy term and I am sure we are ready for a relaxing Easter break.

We return on Monday 13th April. A clubs letter will be sent out during that week and all clubs will start the following week.

The summer term is full of exciting events and, as soon as the dates have been confirmed, a calendar of such things as Sports Day and Swimming Gala will be sent out.

Thank you to everyone who entered the energy poster competition in the previous edition of St Mary's News and congratulations to the winner – Toby Rowe. You can now see copies of Toby's energy saving poster displayed around the school.

Diary dates

Monday 13th April – First Day of Summer term
Monday 11th May – KS2 SATs week starts
Monday 25th May – Half term starts
Tuesday 2nd June – Pupils return
Monday 6th July – Yr6 SDCC induction week
Monday 13th July – Burrator Residential Trip
Tuesday 21st July – Last day of term

ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

This week we celebrated the following achievements:-

Pupils of the term

Venford – **Ty** Fernworthy – **Lillian** Burrator – **Ellie R**

Building Learning Power –Top Scorers

Venford - **Renais, Imogen** Fernworthy – **Rory, Kayla, Venitia** Burrator – **Finlay, Nico**

Courtesy Certificates for "good manners in class"

Venford – **Taylor** Fernworthy – **Ben H-W** Burrator – **Polly**

Golden Book- **Nicole**

Top House Points – Dart will be able to come in to school on the first Friday of the new term in non-uniform as they had the most house points – they pipped Teign to the post by two points 117 to 115

Around the classes ...

VENFORD

The children in Venford have been looking at Springtime this half term. They have enjoyed a Spring walk around the Abbey and produced some lovely poetry and beautiful artwork linked to this topic.

Venford's Spring Walk

Last week we went for a Spring walk to the Abbey gardens. We found a long tailed tit bird nest in a bush made from a spider web.

We saw snowdrops, daffodils, primroses and blossom.

Aaron showed us a bush that smelt and tasted of coconut.

We saw frogspawn in the Abbey pond.

It was very sunny and we had a lovely Spring walk.

Spring artwork



Frogs and tadpoles

We were set a challenge to mix as many different shades of green as we could. First we had to find out how to make green! Then we had to paint our frogs.



25.3.12

Evelyn Roberta Chew



The Distant Daffodils

Swaying golden dancing, distant daffodils,
Flowing in the fluttering breeze;
Beautiful bobbing bonnets they
glow like golden syrup pouring
from a jar.

Chicks



Today Daisy M's mum brought in some real chicks for us to look at - we were very excited!

Mythical Potions and Spells

As part of our maths learning on measures, we were lucky enough to have a visitor; Witch McCullough!

She brought into school her collection of magical potions such as 'Dragon's Breath' and 'Inky Slime' and we were able to design and make our very own potions. We had to measure out each of the potions carefully to make sure that our creation was just right.



Around the classes ...

FERNWORTHY

Fernworthy have continued their Romans topic this half term.



Football Fun!

Thank you to Mr Hayne who has been working with us this half term on our football skills. We learnt lots about passing and dribbling.



Roman Day

In Fernworthy, we have thoroughly enjoyed a term of learning about the Romans. To finish our topic, we had a Roman Day. In the morning, we baked Roman Shield biscuits which we carefully decorated with coloured icing and jewels to represent the shield patterns from the time.

Then we rehearsed a short Roman-Celtic Battle re-enactment. We thought carefully about how the two sides would have felt and put this into our play. The Roman army followed real Latin commands and had to try hard to walk in formation. We think that our Romans managed this very well.

Our families and Burrator class came to watch and then we enjoyed sharing our Roman biscuits. We will miss learning about the Romans!

Spring gardening

Fernworthy pupils have been preparing the vegetable gardens by digging over the raised beds and ready for after Easter when we will be planting crops to harvest by the end of the summer term.

We have now made a link with a school in the African country of Uganda, so we will be comparing our school gardens and crops to those grown in a different country.



Easter activities at the Abbey

Last week, each class went over to the abbey in the afternoon to do a treasure hunt. This was a very ingenious idea as you didn't get given chocolate, but you had to do interesting activities that made you think more about what Easter actually is. The activities were things to show your friendship with others in your group. There were very nice comments given such as "you're my friend because, if I fall over you help me up off the ground and then you take me to the teachers!" Overall, we did seven wonderful activities with a new member from the abbey. Holly! She was very kind to us and we hope to do other activities with her in the future!

By Sophie N

Badminton

For the past few weeks, Zoe Hills, a teacher from the South Dartmoor Sports Partnership has been teaching Fernworthy and Burrator pupils how to play badminton. She started teaching us the basics of the sport and over each session we have made good progress in developing our badminton skills, although we still have a lot to learn! Miss Hills is hoping to return to St Mary's after Easter, to work with Burrator class again and introduce them to 'New Age Kurling'.

By Nathaniel and Brian



Around the classes ...

BURRATOR

Burrator have continued their Space topic this half term and have prepared for the Body Language dance festival at South Dartmoor which was a great success.

Space costumes

For the past couple of weeks, Burrator have been researching different planets using books from the library and on the computer. For example, did you know that Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system.

The information was then used to design a costume to be worn for a planetary fashion show. Groups of pupils also created a power point with a photograph and information about their chosen planet.

If you look at the screen near the school office, you will see some of our fantastic costumes!

By Mahlia and Eleanor L



Eclipse

Last Friday the school viewed a very exciting partial solar eclipse! As soon as we got into school nobody could sit still and we were all itching to go outside and start watching it.

When we did go outside, we were given special viewers to safely watch it through because looking at the sun directly could damage your eye sight.

It was truly spectacular and something I, and many, will treasure forever.

By Jasmine



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 .