

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST ROAD, BUCKFAST, TQ11 0EA

TEL 01364 642389 FAX 01364 644066

EMAIL [admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk)

WEBSITE: [www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk)



NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Just a reminder, on Tuesday we will be holding the Leavers' Mass at 9.30am in the School Hall and in the afternoon the Leavers' Assembly will start at 1.45pm. Some seating will be reserved for the parents / carers of the year 6 children.

There will be no after school club on Monday.

## CO-OP FUNDING

There are still a few weeks remaining for the school to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund. So far Co-op members who have chosen to support St Mary's Playground with their 1% have played their part in raising a second payment of £697.26 for the school. If you are not signed up or have not nominated St Mary's as your chosen charity, please do so as every £1 raised will go towards the cost of new playground equipment. Thank you.

## BUCKFASTLEIGH LIBRARY READING CHALLENGE

There is still time for your child to sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge. Please ask in the school office for more information. Your child will also be bringing home a leaflet about the activities taking place in Buckfastleigh Library over the holiday.

## MUSIC LESSONS

Just a reminder that we are able to offer drumming, guitar and piano lessons through independent teachers and they currently all have spaces available in September. We are also hoping to offer woodwind lessons but that is dependent on the numbers of children who show an interest in these lessons. Please ask in the office for more information.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers' Mass, 9.30am

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers' Assembly, 1.45pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Pupils return

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – First day of half term

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Pupils return

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November - Non Pupil Day

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

## TOP HOUSE POINTS

Dart House (yellow team) will be able to come to school in non-uniform this Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, as their team has scored the most points this half term.

## BUCKFAST ABBEY MILLENNIUM YEAR

As I am sure you are all aware, this year, the Abbey is celebrating one thousand years since the first monks made their home at Buckfast.

As part of the celebrations, the Abbey Education Department arranged a magical tea party for the children at which Millenium Medals were presented to representatives of the children and staff of St Mary's. Each child and member of staff has subsequently been presented with their own medal at school over the course of this week. A link to the photos taken at the tea party is available from the school office.

Recently, the children in Burrator have also visited the Millenium Way exhibition at the Abbey which is extremely interesting and informative and well worth a visit.

We are very grateful to the Abbot and the Community of Buckfast Abbey for all the support and extra activities they provide for our children. Indeed, a dozen children have been offered chorister scholarships for the coming year which is a new and exciting new venture for all concerned.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Abbot and the Community for everything they do for us.

## ATTENDANCE

You will see below that our attendance percentage has fallen well below our target for the year. This is very disappointing and, although some is due to illness, there have been a number of days lost due to avoidable circumstances. Attendance is something Ofsted looks at and it is important that we as a school address the problem. Please give careful consideration as to whether appointments or any planned absence, including holidays, can be arranged outside school term times. Every school day missed is an opportunity for learning lost.

## ATTENDANCE FIGURES

### 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Meldon	95.28%
Venford	93.64%
Fernworthy	94.17%
Burrator	88.28%
<b>Whole school this week</b>	<b>92.52%</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>94.69%</b>

**This year's target – 96%**