

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH

Dear Parents / Carers

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN – Keeping children safe

Following this week's high profile reporting of an unpleasant challenge game targeting children, the UK Safer Internet Centre advice is that, in these situations, information about any app that raises safety concerns is not shared with parents directly or circulated broadly but on a 'need to know' basis. If a decision is made to share information widely, there is a risk of drawing attention to apps to children who don't already know about them. Evidence shows that naming specific online content or games can increase the risk of creating media coverage and social media sharing, which can inadvertently promote the content to young audiences. The best approach is honest and open conversations on an ongoing basis with your child about what they are accessing online and to reassure them that they can tell you or a trusted adult if they see something that worries them.

## WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

This week some of our older pupils began their first session of training with EH4MH to become Mental Health Ambassadors for the school. We also have our second workshop for parents / carers soon on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm**. The focus of this session is anxiety, so if you are interested in learning more, please do come along. Some of you may also have noticed some improvements being made to the area at the top of the field. We are creating a 'wellbeing and sensory' garden thanks to a generous donation to the school. The garden is being designed and created by Aaron Southgate and his team from the Abbey.

## AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

**Gymnastics Club** – Please sign up online, if you haven't done so already, for the Gymnastics Club which will be run each Monday by Premier Sports for the next five weeks. Twenty spaces are available and the sessions cost £2 per week and can be paid to school. The link for signing up is on [www.premier-education.com](http://www.premier-education.com)

## ACTS OF WORSHIP

The focus for the acts of worship and prayers in class next week will be "God's promise of love fills our lives and makes us a special people."

## MATHS LEARNING AFTERNOON & SCHOOL LUNCH TASTER SESSION

Many thanks to all of the parents / carers who were able to attend the maths afternoon led by Burrator pupils. There was lots of positive feedback and the children thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to share their learning and understanding of maths with others. As a school, we have been trying to incorporate lots of opportunities for the children to explain their learning to others as this is a clear indicator of how well someone has really understood something themselves.

Thanks also to John and Vicky Hughes from the Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre, who prepared food for our 'taster session' to give parents / carers and children the chance to try some of the meals on offer at lunchtime.

The next learning afternoon will be Venford class on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March and Fernworthy's will be on Tuesday 2nd April.

## ATTENDANCE FIGURES 15<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Meldon	94.09%
Venford	97.08%
Fernworthy	96.15%
Burrator	98.26%
<b>Whole school this week</b>	<b>96.51%</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>95.95%</b>

**This year's target – 96%**

## ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today:

### Building Learning Power – Top Scorers!

Meldon – **Kyree, Maria**                      Venford – **Sebastian, Freddie**  
Fernworthy – **Leyton, Katie**              Burrator – **Olivia K, Harvey**

### Maths Awards

Meldon – **Charlie B**                      Venford – **Conrad, Neo**  
Fernworthy – **Priya, Oscar**              Burrator – **Natalie, Hannah**

### Other

South Dartmoor Foodbank helpers – **Honey-rose, Poppy M**

