



## Reading at St Mary's

### Reading meeting – Meldon

Just a reminder that, on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, there will be a reading meeting for Meldon parents / carers. This starts at 2pm and will be led by Mrs Teeder, who will be joined by Carolyn Kennett from the Devon Library Service. Please support this event if you are able to.

### Rainbow Reading Challenge Meldon & Venford

Pupils in Meldon and Venford will be receiving a letter today about this year's reading challenge. We hope that this challenge will prove just as effective as last year's RED TED initiative, in encouraging pupils to read regularly.

### Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all of the pupils who completed the Summer Reading Challenge in association with the Library Service. Although some of the pupils have received their certificates and medals, a librarian from Buckfastleigh Library will be joining us next Friday for our Achievement Assembly to present the remaining awards. Special congratulations to Dylan, who was selected from all of those who completed the challenge, for winning a session with FabLab staff to learn how to use their 3-D printer and software – we are sure that he will enjoy the experience.

## Safeguarding

### Domestic abuse:

Domestic abuse can be any type of controlling, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. If children witness this, it can cause them harm (further information can be found at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/domestic-abuse/>). A report recently published by the National Rural Crime Network, 'Captive and Controlled' reveals the scale of domestic abuse in rural Britain (<https://www.ruralabuse.co.uk/>) If you, or anyone you know, maybe affected by domestic abuse, the Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service (DDASS) is a charity that offers advice and support. For further information, you can contact their helpline on 0345 155 1074 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or email [admin.devon@splitz.org](mailto:admin.devon@splitz.org).

## Prayer Focus

The focus for the acts of worship and prayers in class next week is:

*'We believe our lives are filled with God's love. We know he calls us to go out and love others.'*

There are many different ways in which we can do this. This week, we have done it by raising money for CAFOD and bringing in donations for our local food bank. This Sunday's Gospel reading from St Luke (Chapter 16: 1-13) also reminds us that other people and God are more important than money and possessions. In their prayer time this coming week, the children will be thinking of different ways that they can care for others and share what they have.

## Reminders and Dates

### Car parking

Just a reminder to park considerately in our school car park, particularly at the end of the day. We now have two buses picking children up from the car park and so they require space to manoeuvre, so your patience and consideration would be appreciated.

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** – Deadline for return of Scholastic book orders to office.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** - Reading Meeting for Meldon Parents / Carers at 2pm in the School Hall.

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** - We have Tempest photography in school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 1.30pm. If you would like your child to have a photograph with a younger sibling who does not attend St Mary's, please bring them along at 1.30pm and let Mitzi know in the office.

### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October - Apple Day

This year St Mary's will be using our new orchard in an Apple Day, which will take place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October and will be organised by the Abbey Education Department. Children from all of the classes will learn how to press apples to get apple juice and take part in a number of 'apple themed' activities. We are also hoping to create some artwork linked to the theme of apples, organised by Miss Keir, which will be displayed in school.

## Harvest

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest this year by attending the Liturgy on Wednesday, donating produce to Buckfastleigh Food Bank or bringing in a donation for CAFOD for our 'Wear it Bright' Harvest mufti day. We were pleased to see Fr Christopher at our liturgy despite being unwell and all hope that he starts to feel better soon.

## Curriculum

### Curriculum Maps

The children will be bringing home the curriculum maps for this half term on Monday. Please take a look at what they are covering this half term and if you are able to help with any of the themes, please contact myself or the class teacher. We are already planning for some local fire fighters and a fire engine to visit Meldon class thanks to our parents.

### Learning Afternoons

Following the success of last year's "learning afternoons", we have decided to continue to have these throughout the coming academic year. Each class will showcase some of the work they have been doing across the curriculum and invite parents / carers to join them. The first class to hold their learning afternoon this year is Fernworthy Class. Their topic this half term is "Healthy Humans" so the children will be inviting parents / carers to find out a bit more about their learning across the different subjects and also to have some soup which the children will be making to share.

## Attendance Figures

**This year's target - 96%**

**13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Meldon	<b>99.59%</b>
Venford	<b>99.26%</b>
Fernworthy	<b>99.17%</b>
Burrator	<b>91.74%</b>
<b>Whole school This week Year to date</b>	<b>97.56% 96.78%</b>

## Sports Report

This year, Coach Ben will be providing a regular news update about the sport that is happening in St Mary's:-

"We have had a very good start to the Autumn term with Venford, Fernworthy and Burrator all working on their tennis skills and Meldon working on "fundamental" movements.

Our tennis club on Tuesday after school has been very popular and is virtually full but there are still some spaces in the Friday football club

Tuesday Girls' Football Club is back and running from 4.45 - 5.45pm. The first session is free and the following sessions are £4.

There is the opportunity to join Holiday Clubs for October half term. Both these clubs can be booked online on [www.saintssouthwest.co.uk](http://www.saintssouthwest.co.uk)"

## Achievement Assembly

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today:

ComPletely  
Totally  
PRoud of  
You



### Building Learning Power - Reciprocity - Team Ant!

Meldon - Sophia-rose, Jessica A Venford - Marcus, Ned  
Fernworthy - Amélie, Aiden Burrator - Leyton, Poppy M

### Maths Awards

Meldon - Rainn Venford - Harrison, Sophie Fernworthy - Isabel, Priya Burrator - Olivia Y, Ty

### Saints SW

Meldon - Maria Venford - Conrad Fernworthy - Madeleine Burrator - Caoimhin

### Other

FabLab Prize for Reading Challenge - Dylan Dartmoor Rescue 5 mile Family Walk - Ollie