



Pupil Contact Details

Towards the beginning of term your child will have brought home a copy of the contact details we hold for you. Thank you to everyone who has returned this information, unfortunately, there are a number of families who haven't confirmed whether the details we hold are correct or not. Obviously, it is important that we can contact you in an emergency or if your child is unwell and needs collecting but also, as we approach the winter, we may need to contact you if the school needs to close or will not be opening due to severe weather conditions. We shall be grateful if any outstanding forms can be returned next week. Thank you.

Safeguarding



We will shortly be holding CAP UK workshops for the children during week commencing Monday 25th November. There will be a workshop prior to this, on Thursday 21st November from 1.30 to 3.00pm, when parents can find out about the work of CAP UK and get top tips on how you can help keep your children safe in the modern world and help them to grow into strong, confident people.

The workshops are designed to build children's confidence and self-esteem, they are lively and fun. Come and see what CAP UK do to teach children knowledge and strategies to deal with some of the more difficult aspects of growing up. There will be discussions about keeping safe around bullies, the internet, strangers and known adults and answer any questions you may have. The Parent / Carer workshops are not suitable for children.

The Parents' / Carers' information session is your chance to see what CAP UK do, your chance to have your say and your chance to get advice, information and resources.

Prayer Focus

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

*"We praise God joyfully.
We follow God's way faithfully."*

This week's Gospel is from St Luke's Gospel Chapter 19: 1-10. It tells the story of Zacchaeus, a tax collector who made the decision to change his life with Jesus' help. He had concentrated on money and the acquisition of material goods, but realised that having these things did not make him happy. He decided to rebuild his relationship with God and other people. The Gospel reading reminds us that God is always there and ready to forgive us, or help us to forgive other people.

Reminders and Dates

Tuesday 5th November, 4 – 6pm - Pupil Progress Meetings - Just a reminder that these take place next Tuesday. If you haven't already booked an appointment, please do so by signing up on the sheet opposite the school office.

Friday 8th November, 3pm – FOSMs AGM, Library

Wednesday 13th November – Shoebox deadline

Thursday 14th November – Venford Trip to Pennywell Farm (Songs of Praise)

Friday 15th November – Children in Need – Non-uniform Day in return for £1 donation

Friday 15th November – Application facility for Primary place admissions opens. This is for children born between 01/09/2015 and 31/08/2016. Parents / carers should shortly receive a letter from the Devon Admissions Team and can apply by going to: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

Thursday 21st November – CAP UK workshop for parents / carers

Mon 25th – Wed 27th November - CAP UK workshops for children

Thursday 28th November – Burrator Victorian day

Monday 9th December, 2.00pm – Crib Blessing, Burrator, South Brent

Tuesday 10th December, 2.00pm – Crib Blessing, Fernworthy, Ashburton

Thursday 12th December, 2.00pm Crib Blessing, Venford, Buckfastleigh

Fundraising Events

Poppy Appeal

To raise money for this year's Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, various items are available to purchase over the coming week. There is a poster detailing the items and the suggested donations on the board in the foyer. These are on sale before and after school.

Operation Christmas Child – Shoebox Appeal

Many thanks to those people who have already returned Christmas Shoe Boxes to school. If you would like to support this year's appeal, please ensure that your box is returned to school by Wednesday 13th November. If you do not have enough items to fill a whole box, please send in what you can and we will make boxes up from these donations.

Children in Need

Friday 15th November is Children In Need. This year we will be dressing in 'mufti' and asking for £1 donation. We will also be selling cakes after school so would appreciate any donations for this.

Between now and 15th November, the school will also be selling Pudsey headbands for £2.50. These are available from the school office, before and after school.

Christmas Card Orders

The deadline for the Christmas card orders has now passed and we are expecting delivery of the products in the next couple of weeks. There will be one last opportunity to order cards - the order cannot be submitted until 1st December but the cards will be returned before the end of term.

Visitors to school

This week we welcomed Wesam Lasheem, a Cultural Champion, to the school. The visit was organised through Devon Development Education with whom we have worked on a number of occasions. The children are learning about Islam this week as part of their RE and Wesam talked about her faith with them.

Each term the children focus on a different world religion, which we try and make as meaningful as possible for the children.

We also welcomed another visitor to St Mary's this week, Dr Barnett, who spoke to Fernworthy Class about keeping healthy.

Attendance Figures

This year's target - 96%

18th – 31st October 2019

Meldon	98.47%
Venford	91.96%
Fernworthy	97.40%
Burrator	94.89%
Whole school This week Year to date	95.56% 96.74%

FOSMs AGM

Friday 8th November

3pm

School Library

Please come along and show your support for the parents who are on the Committee.

If you cannot come on the dot of 3 o'clock, please do not worry – latecomers will still be very welcome!

Wellbeing Survey

Parents / carers of pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 will have received a letter about a wellbeing survey that the school has been invited to take part in. Pupils will be completing this next week in class.

Sports Catch Up

This half term in PE, we will be learning to be gymnasts – we will be practising a range of balances, rolls and movements. Venford made such a good start this Tuesday that they will be receiving a Superstar award for the whole class at the next achievement assembly!

After school Clubs this half term will be Gymnastics on Tuesdays for Reception to Year 6 and Netball on Fridays for Year 1 to Year 6.

If you would like to take part, please return the permission slip which will be coming out today.

Coach Ben