



NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST

Friday 15th November 2019

FOSMs Christmas Fundraiser

Friday 6th December
Non-uniform Day

Wednesday 18th December
School Hall
After Christmas Concert

FOSMs have kindly agreed to organise some refreshments, seasonal stalls and a Christmas raffle. This will take place in the School Hall after the Carol Service on Wednesday 18th December. If you would like a table at the event, (£5 donation for a table), please see Mitzi or a member of FOSMs to make a booking. Raffle tickets will be sent out next week.

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 6th December when we shall be grateful if you could bring in donations for the raffle for FOSMs.

Safeguarding

CAP UK

Just a reminder that there will be a parent / carer workshop on Thursday, from 1.30 to 3.30pm, about the Child Assault Prevention Work which will be taking place with the children during week commencing Monday 25th November.

Anti-bullying Week

This week has been national Anti-Bullying Week. The children have thought about this through assemblies or during lesson times. Our School Council have suggested a system of rewarding kind behaviour by giving out stickers and certificates. We will begin this next week and receive feedback from our Councillors about whether it is having an impact on children's behaviour towards each other.

Parent Info.org

"Parent Info" is a free information service offering parents help and advice for families in a digital world. <https://parentinfo.org/>

Prayer Focus

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

"We praise God for being part of our lives and remember that when we choose what is good, we feel good about ourselves."

This fits in with our Anti-Bullying theme this week and the new initiatives that the School Council want to trial in the school. It is important to remember that we can also help those who need some support or kindness in their lives.

This Sunday's Gospel reading comes from St Luke's Gospel, chapter 21, verses 5-19. It reminds us that life is, and will continue to be difficult, both individually and on a global scale with wars and disasters. However the reading also tells us that we mustn't lose hope that God is with us always, even in the hardest times.

Reminders and Dates

Friday 15th November – Application facility for Primary place admissions opens.

Thursday 21st November, 1.30pm – CAP UK workshop for parents / carers

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

Thursday 28th November – Burrator Victorian Day, a separate letter has been sent about this.

Friday 6th December – FOSMs Non-uniform 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

Tuesday 17th December 2.45pm – Meldon Nativity, School Hall

Wednesday 18th December 3.45pm – Carol Service, Buckfast Abbey

Wednesday 18th December approx. 4.45pm, FOSM's Christmas Raffle and refreshments, School Hall

Friday 20th December – Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper Day, Last day of term

Fundraising Events

Cake and Coffee Morning

Dylan has organised a Cake and Coffee morning **tomorrow** (with the help of his mum) to raise funds for the Buckfastleigh Swimming Pool. The event takes place at **The Living Room, 55 Fore Street, Buckfastleigh from 10.30 to noon**. All donations will go towards the upkeep of the Open Air Pool.

Please go along and support Dylan and his family, not least because his mum, Mrs Blackmore, makes lovely cakes to have with a cuppa but also because his mum always supports our school fundraisers with her lovely cakes and it would be nice to show some St Mary's support for her and Dylan in return.

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who supported the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal again this year, and particularly to our School Councillors and staff who helped with this. Many thanks in particular, to Mrs Freeborn who kindly offered to transport the boxes to a collection point for the school (she has been helping with the charity for the past 20 years). There were twenty-one boxes this year and the quality of the contents was excellent. The School Councillors were able to fill another ten with donations so that's thirty-one smiley faces.

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need this year either with ear or cake purchasing or cake production!

Attendance Figures

This year's target - 96%

8th - 14th November 2019

Meldon	97.55%
Venford	96.43%
Fernworthy	100.0%
Burrator	96.82%
Whole school This week Year to date	97.64% 96.88%

Venford Songs of Praise

Thank you to all who supported the children for their nativity and BBC filming session at Pennywell Farm yesterday. It was a cold and lengthy morning, but the children all came back excited to tell the rest of the school about their morning and seemed to enjoy the experience. I understand that they will be in the episode of Songs of Praise that is aired on either Sunday 15th or 22nd December but I will confirm in a later newsletter.

Sporting Challenge

Coach Ben works with children across the school to run a lunchtime club on Tuesdays and Fridays. We are trialling a points system, to try and encourage children in Meldon and Venford to join in with the lunchtime sports. Ben will arrange a prize / certificate for the winners each month which will be announced in the achievement assemblies.

Achievement Assembly

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today:



Building Learning Power - Resourcefulness - Team Beaver!
Meldon - Eric, Kaiyah **Venford** - Alex, Dexter
Fernworthy - Courtney, Olivia J **Burrator** - George, Caoimhin



Maths Awards

Meldon - Braxton **Fernworthy** - Winnie, Sebastian **Burrator** - Jessica H, Katie

Other

Saints SW Awards - Harrison G, Evangeline, Courtney, Rowan

Robot model - Riley W showed the children the robot he had made at home.