



Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school. Hopefully everyone had a peaceful Christmas and time to recharge their batteries over the holidays. However, some of our families have suffered bereavements before Christmas and our thoughts and prayers are with them over the coming weeks and months as they grieve for the important family members they have lost.

Speech and Language

Many of our children receive additional support for their speech, language and communication needs and our Teaching Assistants spend time focussing on this with a number of children.

There are free workshops for parents / carers being run by Babcock LDP in early March to help with strategies to support children with vocabulary learning.

The nearest courses are at Stowford Primary in Ivybridge on Wednesday 4th March, 13.30 – 15.00 and at Haytor Primary School in Newton Abbot on Thursday 12th March, 9.30 – 11.00.

If you are interested in, and would like to book a free place on one of these courses, please email:
sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com

Safeguarding

Domestic Abuse Support

Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service (DDASS) is a charity that offers advice, guidance and support to women, men and children affected by domestic abuse. Their main aims are to increase safety and improve wellbeing.

Further information can be found on their website:

<http://www.victimcaredevonandcornwall.org.uk/Victim-Support/Devon-Domestic-Abuse-Support-Service/>

If you require further information about this service, you can contact their helpline on 0345 155 1074 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
or email admin.devon@splitz.org.

Prayer Focus

This week each family should have received their first copy of The Wednesday Word leaflet and a letter explaining what this is. The word chosen from this Sunday's Gospel, which is highlighted in this week's leaflet, is "new start" and our prayer this week is:-

"Dear Lord Jesus

Please help me to be always ready to make a new start with you and with others as we start the New Year.

Amen"

Reminders and Dates

Thursday 23rd January – Tae Kwon-do sessions (taster sessions for all classes during the school day)

Monday 3rd February – Children's Mental Health Week - activities relating to positive mental health will take place during this week

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day - online safety activities will take place during this week

Friday 14th February, 2.45pm – Dance celebration for parents / carers. A separate letter about this event will be sent out nearer the time but the event will be limited to two tickets per family.

Monday 17th February – Half term starts

Monday 24th February – Non Pupil Day

Tuesday 25th February – Pupils return

Friday 28th February – Fair Trade Cake Sale (in support of Fairtrade Fortnight)

Tuesday 3rd March – Parent / Carer Pupil Progress Meetings

Wednesday 4th March – Parent / Carer Pupil Progress Meetings

Friday 6th March – St Mary's World Book Day – A separate letter about this event will be sent out nearer the time. Our theme for this year's World Book Day is based on the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Drew Daywalt and the children will be asked to dress in colours relating to this book.

Thursday 12th March – Reception and Year 6 Weighing and Measuring

Monday 16th March – Meldon Learning afternoon for parents / carers

Friday 27th March – Easter Bonnet Parade – 9.15am

Friday 27th March – Last day of Term

Tuesday 14th April – Pupils return

Clubs

Lunchtime and after school

Our lunchtime and after school clubs start next week (apart from choir which will begin the following week on Friday 24th January). Apart from the Gymnastics club which is full (with a short waiting list), there are still spaces in the other clubs. The children who are on the Gym waiting list know who they are – all the rest of the children who have put their name down for gym will be able to start on Tuesday. If you have not yet returned the letter and would still like to sign up for this term, please hand it in to the office as soon as possible.

Devon and Torbay Civic Award Clubs

In conjunction with our Mental Health Ambassadors, some of our Year 6 pupils have also agreed to run additional lunchtime clubs for pupils in Fernworthy and Burrator Classes. The purpose of these clubs is to support the well-being of pupils. There will be a book club and an IT club and a separate letter about these clubs will follow. There will be athletics club later in the year.

Sports News from Coach Ben

This term we will be concentrating on Tag Rugby and Dance during lessons. I am really pleased that our Tuesday Gym Club continues to be so popular and hope that a few more children will sign up for tag rugby after school on Fridays.

Last term was very successful with children learning and improving their movement and sequencing skills in gymnastics and, this term will be working on strategy and invasion game skills.



Building Learning Power - Resourcefulness - Team Ant!

Meldon – Felix, Evie Venford – Cici, Conrad
Fernworthy – Ruby, Sebastian Burrator – Esme, Dylan



Maths Awards

Meldon – Rosanna Venford – Ollie, Grace Fernworthy – Cherry, Olivia J Burrator – Archie S, Olivia Y

Witness of the week

Meldon – Adsie Venford – Kyree Fernworthy – Becky-Lou Burrator – Holly B-D

Attendance Figures

This year's target - 96%

20th December 2019 - 9th January 2020

Meldon	99.22%
Venford	91.43%
Fernworthy	99.19%
Burrator	95.45%
Whole school	
This week	96.24%
Year to date	95.57%

Rainbow Reading Challenge



The Rainbow Reading Challenge for Meldon and Venford will be continuing until half term. If your child has completed another coloured book mark, please send it into school so that they can receive their award at our Friday Achievement Assembly. The rewards for completing each book mark are as follows:-

Red – Sticker
Orange – Certificate
Yellow – Bookmark
Green – Pencil
Blue – Pen
Indigo – Keyring
Violet – Woodland storytime around the campfire in the woodland area

The Woodland Storytime will take place after half term when, hopefully, better weather will allow Mrs Hutchinson plan when to hold the event.

Achievement Assembly

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today: