



## Request for equipment

We are trying to build a collection of items to use in activities designed to support children's social and emotional wellbeing. If you have any of the items listed below that you would be willing to donate to the school, we would be very grateful.

Items needed include:-

- small world toys,
- action or monster figures,
- small animals,
- buttons,
- beads,
- blankets and
- cushions.

We will also be starting to use Lego for therapy sessions with the children which requires Lego models and the instruction leaflets which go with them. The Lego will be used under adult supervision so we are hopeful that we will be able to ensure that no pieces get lost. If you know anyone whose children have outgrown their Lego and who still have the instruction leaflets, please could you ask if they would consider donating it to the school for use in lessons.

## Safeguarding

### Staying safe online

As children are accessing the internet and technology from a younger age than ever before, the National Crime Agency's education programme 'Thinkuknow' has created three new animations for 4-7-year olds called 'Jessie and Friends.' These short video clips follow the adventures of three friends as they go online, with the aim of teaching children how to stay safe online and what to do if anything worries them.

The resources can be accessed for free at:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parent/s/jessie-and-friends/>. The website also suggests ways of using the video clips at home and shares feedback from parents / carers who have used the resources with their children.

## Prayer Focus

This week each family should have received their second copy of The Wednesday Word leaflet. The word chosen from this Sunday's Gospel is 'Witness'. The prayer for this week is:

*"Dear Lord Jesus*

*Please help us to be your witnesses by our love, so that others will come to know the joy of knowing you.*

*Amen."*

## Reminders and Dates

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Tae Kwondo sessions

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

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet Day - online safety activities will take place during this week

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> February** – Half term starts

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** – Non Pupil Day

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** – Pupils return

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Fair Trade Cake Sale

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** – Parent / Carer Pupil Progress Meetings

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent / Carer Pupil Progress Meetings

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> March** – Reception and Year 6 Weighing and Measuring

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Meldon Learning afternoon for parents / carers

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Please note the change of date for the Fernworthy Trip – it is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March not Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> as written in the letter sent home yesterday. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Easter Bonnet Parade – 9.15am

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Last day of Term

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April** – Pupils return

## Clubs

### Lunchtime and after school

Many of our clubs are now full, but there are still spaces in some clubs, for example, Tag Rugby. If your child would still like to sign up for a club but hasn't done so already, please send the completed Clubs' form into school or speak to Mitzi in the school office.

## Tae Kwon Do

Next week we welcome Peter and Gillian O'Neill from MartialArts4Fun to St Mary's. They will be leading Tae Kwon Do taster sessions for all classes, introducing a range of different Tae Kwon Do techniques. Please could you ensure, as always, that pupils have their PE kits in school all week but, in particular, on Thursday for this event.

## RSPB's Schools' Bird Watch

The School Council will be taking part in the RSPB's Schools' Bird Watch this month. As part of the school's work with the Devon Wildlife Trust this year, we are continuing our focus on taking care of birds in the local environment and developing pupils' knowledge of native birds. If you would like to participate in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch at home (in your garden or local park) between 25-27 January you can sign up at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

## Attendance Figures

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

**10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

Meldon	<b>97.00%</b>
Venford	<b>96.79%</b>
Fernworthy	<b>98.85%</b>
Burrator	<b>97.27%</b>
<b>Whole school This week Year to date</b>	<b>97.47% 95.70%</b>

## Purple Mash

Pupils continue to use Purple Mash, the online platform which supports pupils' learning across the curriculum. The feedback we have had from pupils has been very positive, reinforced by the number of children who attended the new Computer Club this week, which focusses on using Purple Mash.

Pupils also have access to this resource at home so if you need any additional support using the programme, please see the instructions below on how to log on or your child's class teacher who can give you further information about how to use the site. The activities can be accessed from the following website: [www.purplemash.com](http://www.purplemash.com). From there, click 'log in'. On the log in page select 'Find your school's portal'. Start typing 'Buckfast' and then St Mary's will be easier to find. Then you can enter your child's username and password or register as a parent.

## Achievement Assembly

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today:



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

Meldon - Ayrton, Harrison R Venford - Rumer, Harry H  
Fernworthy - Cherry, Abigail Burrator - Holly B-D, Ty



### Maths Awards

Meldon - Ngaio Venford - Jenson, Matilda Fernworthy - Ruby, Olivia J Burrator - Dylan, Katie

### Witness of the Week

Meldon - Maria Venford - Mariska Fernworthy - Madeleine Burrator - Jessica H

### Other

Saints SW - Jack E, Ollie, Olivia J, Dylan Saints SW Lunchtime Challenge - Rumer  
Football Trophy - Jack Y Swimming Award - Nia