



# NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Upcoming Events

### Class trips

Just a reminder that:

**Fernworthy Class** are out on Monday on their trip to Escot Anglo-Saxon Village, so please could you make sure that your child has a packed lunch on that day.

**Venford Class** are going on a trip to Stover Country Park the following day, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, and they will also need a packed lunch please.

### Easter Bonnet Parade

Due to the ongoing concerns about Coronavirus and large groups gathering, it has been decided to cancel the Easter Bonnet Parade. The children will however still make their bonnets which they will bring home at the end of term.

### Meldon Class Learning Afternoon

For the same reasons, Meldon's Learning Afternoon (which was scheduled to take place this Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March) is **postponed** until later in the year.

## Safeguarding

### South West Grid for Learning (SWGFL) "Whisper" service

The school uses a service from SWGFL (who provide our internet service and filtering) called "Whisper". This provides the opportunity for pupils or families to report a concern, confidentially, relating to online safety or concerns about something that might have been posted online. This can then be dealt with by a member of leadership at the school.

*How does it work?*



Clicking on the Whisper button under the 'Parents' section of our website (<https://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/parents/>) will take you to an online form where you can leave your message. The school is then alerted automatically and will take action accordingly.

We will also be discussing Whisper with the children as part of our wider safeguarding education programme: how, why and when to use it. Also, how it can provide a useful route for them to help safeguard themselves, their friends or the wider school community.

If you have any questions about the service, then please contact Miss Slack for more details.

## Prayer Focus

This week's words are "God's Love". The Gospel reading this week comes from St John's Gospel and tells the story of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman drawing water from the well. The "living water" which Jesus talks about in the Gospel reading reminds us of the powerful way that God's love flows into people when they are baptised. The reading also reminds us that God loves all of us and that this love is shared equally.

*"Dear Lord Jesus*

*Please help our family to grow in your love and to share your love with others through the way we live our lives.*

*Amen."*

## Reminders and Dates

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Fernworthy Trip

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Venford Stover Trip

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Burrator Trip

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

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

## St Mary's News

Over the next two weeks our School Newspaper editors will be writing articles in preparation for the latest edition of St Mary's News which will be published at the end of term. If your child would like to write something to include in the latest edition of the school newspaper, please hand this into the school office by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

## Coronavirus COVID-19

Education helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email:

[DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Advice (updated on 12<sup>th</sup> March):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publication/s/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

## Fund-raising

### WWF biscuit Sale

Two of our pupils, Alice and Hazel, would like to raise money for WWF. They will be baking biscuits to sell next Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March. Children are invited to bring 50p into school to buy a biscuit during the school day.

### Sport Relief

Thank you to everyone who supported Sport Relief today. Coach Ben's hula-athlon was a great success and, by lunchtime, the children had collectively hula-ed the equivalent of a journey almost to Newton Abbot in one direction or Ivybridge in the other.

### CAFOD Raffle

Just a reminder that Ryan is organising a raffle to raise money for CAFOD in memory of his grandad. Tickets cost 50p and are available from outside Mitzi's office and the raffle will be drawn on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

## School Councillors /

## Eco Committee

This week we have welcomed some new members to our School Council. Congratulations to Holly B-D, Jess, Libby and Eva.

Our current School Councillors will continue as they have been working towards the Green Flag Eco Award over this year and will have a visit from an assessor early next term. The children have several initiatives that they have been working on this year which are summarised in their Eco Code:

1. Recycle and encourage others to do so.
2. Take care of wildlife in our school grounds and in our local area.
3. Save energy and remind others to do so.
4. Keep the local environment clean and tidy.
5. Take care of one another in our school and in the wider world.

One of the initiatives is to raise the profile of recycling. Don't forget that the school is a recycling centre for crisp packets, toothpaste tubes / toothbrushes and pens. The children and staff are also encouraged to separate paper, plastic and food waste so that this can be recycled too.

## Achievement Assembly

We celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly today:



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

Meldon - Sonny, Jonathan Venford - Sophie, Max  
Fernworthy - Sebastian, Riley AJ Burrator - Taylor, Poppy M

### Maths Awards

Meldon - Charlie T Venford - Theo S-G, Rebecca  
Fernworthy - Madeleine, Becky-Lou Burrator - Esme, Alice

### Witness of the Week

Meldon - Kaiyah Venford - Grace Fernworthy - Fliss Burrator - Archie S

### Other

Saints SW - Scarlett, Max, Leon, Alice Dance Awards - Libby



## Attendance Figures

This year's target - 96%

6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Meldon	93.53%
Venford	93.79%
Fernworthy	97.69%
Burrator	95.24%
<b>Whole school</b>	
<b>This week</b>	<b>94.99%</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>96.07%</b>

## FairAware School

Thanks to the efforts of Imogen and Natalie, supported by Mrs Kerswell, we can now call ourselves a "FairAware School". The girls have gathered information about how much people in school already know about FairTrade and completed a long and detailed questionnaire. They also arranged a cake sale to raise funds and awareness.