



Coats and jumpers

As the weather is turning colder and wetter and Covid guidance requires that we continue to ventilate classrooms and use the outdoors as much as possible during the day, the children will probably need to wear their cardigans / jumpers in class. They definitely need coats for the long walk to and from the car park and the inevitable waiting around which will occur from time to time.

Just a reminder to ensure that your child has their cardigan / jumper in school and a coat each day. On days when it is PE, please remember that children can wear their jogging bottoms or leggings over their shorts.

School Photos

Your child should have brought home their proof and order form for the individual photos that were taken recently. We were very lucky with the weather and the children were photographed outside and there were lots of lovely photos as a result. If you would like to place an order through the school, please return your payment and form in the envelope provided no later than Monday 12th October.

Any commission goes to the Friends of St Mary's fundraising for the school.

Late orders can be sent direct to Tempest but will incur an additional charge.

Take 5 Festival

As you know, the children have taken part in Buckfast Abbey's online virtual wellbeing festival this week called "Take 5". There have been a number of activities that children have taken part in including encouraging acts of kindness, being creative, mindfulness sessions and learning to notice and appreciate the world around us.

Christmas Cards!

Although it is very early to be thinking about Christmas, for the past few years the children have enjoyed designing a Christmas card that can be printed onto individualised cards and gifts. The children will complete these next week and they will be sent out to families with an order sheet in case you wanted to order anything. All orders will then need to be in by Friday 23rd October (just before half term). Further details and the designs will be sent out with next week's newsletter.

Safeguarding

The **Teignbridge Covid-19 Hardship Fund** may be able to help with any essential additional costs arising from coronavirus. To be considered, applicants need to be: resident in Teignbridge for three months prior to the application and financially impacted by the COVID19 pandemic. Payments will normally be up to £200, other than in exceptional circumstances, and will be paid directly to creditors / suppliers. For further details and to apply, go to www.teignbridge.gov.uk/covid19hardshipfund If you don't have internet access, you can call them on 01626 215 512.

Teignbridge Housing Solutions team are available for advice and assistance to support / to prevent people becoming homeless. This could include: money and debt advice, support to identify any additional benefit entitlement or discretionary payments that could assist, support to move to more affordable accommodation if your current home is no longer affordable to you, negotiation with a landlord or housing provider in relation to rent arrears or other issues relating to your tenancy. Contact the Housing Team on 01626 215347 or by email to housingoptions@teignbridge.gov.uk and they will call you back.

Prayer Focus

This is the link for this week's The Wednesday Word:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/messenger?pid=MTA101634&v=5.5>.

This week's Gospel reading comes from St Matthew, chapter 21 verses 33-43 and the word this week is "Messenger".

In many ways we are like tenants in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a great plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life. It can be easy to forget what is important in life and sometimes we need to be reminded about this.

Our prayer this week is:-

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for all your messengers who help us to know you. Help us to be your faithful messengers, so that others will come to know the joy of loving you.

Amen

Thank you

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Stacey for donating a set of beautiful handbells for use at St Mary's. As we have a resident handbell ringer in Mrs Sparks, I am sure that she will make sure that the handbells will be put to good use and enjoyed by all the children in the future.



Flu Immunisation Consent

The link for the flu immunisation has not always worked – it appears that sometimes the last few letters are not included which means the consent link isn't being accessed. The full link is:-

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Honey-rose and Ned for achieving a number of Blue Peter Badges, including the Silver Badge for doing a range of activities including asking people to pick up litter, starting to learn how to play the recorder, learning how to play cricket, designing new buildings and writing poems.

Also congratulations, again, to Dylan for being awarded the overall winner in the Hello Summer Bat Colouring Competition which he entered. Some of the entries can be viewed in Buckfastleigh as they are on display in Fore Street.

Peter and Ella have also been very busy with their gradings for Shotokan Karate – Peter has earned his green stripe belt and Ella her orange stripe. Well done to all of you.

Summer Reading Challenge

If anyone completed the summer reading challenge please could you let the school know. Buckfastleigh Library have asked for names so that they can award their Reading Challenge certificates. I have just one name so far which has been given to me. Please could I have any additional names by Tuesday 6th October so that I can pass these onto the Library Service.

Breaktime Snacks and Packed Lunches

The following is an excerpt from our healthy eating policy:-

"Parents / carers are encouraged to provide healthy breaktime snacks and packed lunches for their children. Fizzy drinks, chocolate bars and sweets are not permitted in packed lunches or as snacks. ... All packed lunches are stored away from direct sunlight at a cool temperature. Pupils are encouraged to bring packed lunches in a cool bag." Please talk to your children about what this means and looks like.