



NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST

Friday 25th September 2020

Parent / Carer "Catch up"

Many parents / carers have been phoned by teaching staff this week to catch up on how children have settled at the start of term. If you have missed a call from school, and you would like to talk to your child's teacher, please contact the school office and we will ask your child's teacher to phone again. This has been a useful way for staff to 'meet' parents / carers and I hope that you have found it useful too.

We may do something similar later in the term as an alternative to our traditional Pupil Progress evenings in school, depending on the restrictions relating to COVID.

Drop off and Collection

Some children are being left unattended in the car park in the mornings before school. Whilst this is appropriate and acceptable for the children in Burrator, who are old enough to stand quietly and wait until the gate is opened, it is not appropriate for the younger children. The gate is being opened promptly each morning at 8.35am, please do not leave younger children alone in the car park before that time. Also, please do not leave younger children in the care of the children in Burrator. Thank you.

Uniform

Coats and jumpers

Please could you make sure that your child has their cardigan / jumper and a coat each day in school. As we are now experiencing the colder weather and with the need to ventilate classrooms and use the outdoors as much as possible during the day, children may need to wear their cardigans/ jumpers and coats.

Second-hand Uniform

The school has received quite a lot of second - hand uniform which is always useful to have. All of this has been in school and quarantined for several days now and so if anyone would like any second hand uniform supplies please let Miss Slack know or Mitzi know. We ask parents / carers for a donation of 30p per item which goes to school funds.

Online Learning

Everyone should have received their IXL and Purple Mash logins now. If anyone has issues logging on please let Mitzi or Miss Slack know.

<https://uk.ixl.com/signin/plymouthcast>

School Lunch Special Menu Thursday 1st October

From time to time, Devon Norse, who now provide our lunches, put on a special menu. Next week they are celebrating "USA Day" and the menu for next Thursday will be as follows:-

Main course

Hot Dog or
Vegetarian Hot Dog or
Jacket Potato with Beans and Cheese

Served with

*oven baked curly fries and
sweetcorn and baked beans*

Dessert

Shortbread Finger and Lamage Farm
Ice Cream or Fruit or Yoghurt

The children can order their lunch on this day at registration time as usual. Please contact the office if you require further details (for example, allergy information, etc.)

Tuck Shop

Just a reminder that the school's Healthy Tuck Shop is now operating from each classroom / bubble on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Cereal bars and low fat snacks are available and cost 40p per item.

Prayer Focus

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

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&v=4.4>.

This week's Gospel reading comes from St Matthew, chapter 21 verses 28-32. It reminds us that we do not always respond to God in the best way, but that God is always there for us no matter how many times we need to start again. For this reason the word of the week is 'change'.

Our prayer this week is:-

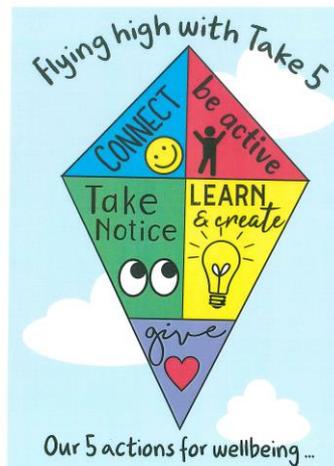
Dear Lord Jesus

Grant me the courage to change what can be changed, the peace to accept the things that cannot be changed, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Amen

Buckfast Abbey Take 5 Festival

Next week the children will be taking part in the Wellbeing Festival being run online by Buckfast Abbey Education Department. The festival will be focussing on developing spiritual, emotional and mental health based on five actions for wellbeing:-



We understand that more than four thousand children, far and wide, will be taking part - at least no-one will have trouble parking!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Poppy W for achieving another Blue Peter Badge, a Green Badge this time for her work on creating a bug hotel.

Also congratulations to Dylan for taking part in the Virtual Woodlands Scout Camp with Devon Scouts and completing all ten challenges set. He has now earned his Woodland badge 2020.

During lockdown Dylan was very busy raising £127.26 for the homeless and people in need and completing the library's reading challenge. Dylan also found time to work on his river swimming and is now confident at going down water rapids on a bodyboard with adult supervision.

Climate Change Challenge

The British Council has launched an international Climate Change Challenge which is open to pupils aged between 3 and 19 years old. The climate challenge encourages pupils to build on their climate change learning by taking positive action through the completion of up to twenty challenges, which increase in difficulty as pupils progress. In St Mary's, our curriculum subjects cover the seventeen UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development, which are discussed where appropriate across a number of different curriculum subjects. This Climate Change Challenge focusses specifically on UN Global Challenge 13, 'Global Action'. If your family decides to complete any or all (!) of the challenges, please let the school know so that we can share your achievements.

The link to the interactive challenge is:-

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/0820_british_council_etwinning_climate_change_challenge_-_sdg_13_20_challenges_a4_interactive_0.pdf

Safeguarding

With more children using online resources for longer periods of time, there are a number of resources on the ThinkUknow website for parents/carers to help them to keep their children safe online. The online safety section covers a range of topics including cyber security, privacy settings, gaming and to approach online safety with young children. The link to the website is <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Listing/?cat=68,72,73&ref=4768#mMain>