



Dates for your diary!

Please find below some forthcoming dates, (all things being well and we continue to progress with the current government guidance):

Thursday 1st April – CAFOD Non uniform Day
Thursday 1st April – Last Day of Term
Monday 19th April – Pupils return
Monday 3rd May – Bank Holiday Monday
Monday 31st May – Half term starts
Tuesday 8th June – Pupils return
Friday 23rd July – Last Day of Term
Monday 6th September – Pupils return

Easter Bonnet Competition



This year, the children will be making Easter bonnets in school as usual. However, rather than sharing these collectively, each class will individually celebrate the Easter bonnet designs that have been created. The celebrations will be filmed and uploaded onto the school website so that families can also see them at home.

We will be awarding a prize for the best bonnet in each class. The prizes will be given out on the last day of term. FOSMs have kindly agreed to provide the prizes and also an Easter Egg for every child in school.

Red Nose Day



Thank you to everyone who supported Comic Relief today by coming into school dressed in non-uniform. Any late donations can still be sent in on Monday. Thank you also to Coach Ben who led the superhero activities throughout the day and fully entered into the spirit of the event by coming dressed as Wonder Woman.

CAFOD Non Uniform Day

Thursday 1st April

This Lent, CAFOD are raising money to support some of the poorest communities in Ethiopia. One of the issues for many people living there is the need to make long journeys each and every day, to collect fresh water. Many people in the UK are taking part in CAFOD's Walk for Water fundraising activity where they have been challenged to walk 10,000 steps a day, every day, for forty days throughout Lent.

We would like to help CAFOD, to enable more people to have access to fresh water closer to where they live, by inviting pupils to come to school in 'mufti' on the last day of term, Thursday April 1st.

If children could bring in a donation (suggested donation of £1) on the day, that would be appreciated.

Safeguarding

Digital resilience

For young people, being digitally resilient means:

- Understanding that there are some risks online, and that these come in different forms, from fake news to being tempted to behave in ways they might later regret.
- When they encounter risks, or when something difficult or unpleasant happens, they know where to turn for help.
- They can learn from their experiences.
- They can recover.

Digital resilience grows through experience. It doesn't come from avoiding the digital world. Parent Zone have produced some activities that are designed to build 'digital resilience' which can be accessed from the following link: <https://parentinfo.org/article/five-activities-to-help-your-child-build-their-digital-resilience>

Prayer Focus

The Wednesday Word is still being produced electronically and can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/follow?pid=MTA101634&v=22.3> and on our school website: <https://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/catholic-life/the-wednesday-word/>

This week, the Wednesday Word is 'follow'. Choosing to follow Jesus is not always easy; it demands commitment. Following Jesus means respecting and caring for those who may be neglected or rejected. In this coming week, think about how you could follow Jesus in small ways. Perhaps you could be a good listener, if someone is feeling sad, go out of your way to help someone or make time to pray for others and their needs.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord

Thank you for giving your life for us and for calling us to follow you, so that our world may become a better place.

Amen

Achievement Assemblies

Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power - All Stars

Meldon – River
Venford – Clara
Avon - Emmeline
Fernworthy – Neo
Burrator – Sophia T

Witness of the Week

Meldon – Sonny
Venford – Jessica
Avon – Cally
Fernworthy – Becky
Burrator – Leon



Music Lessons

Miss Deasy has been very pleased with the response to her offer of singing and piano lessons. So much so, she has offered to come into school for an extra day so there are still some spaces for piano and individual singing lessons. These are open to pupils from any class. Lessons start at £10 for a twenty minute lesson.

If anyone is interested in finding out more information please contact the school office.

Lateral flow tests

Lateral flow tests for families of school-age children

Just a reminder that it is possible for parents / carers of school-aged children to use lateral flow tests at home as part of the safety measures relating to COVID – further information is available from the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>
Tests can be collected in person from sites in Plymouth or Exeter, or you can order online for home delivery.

Attendance Figures

As you are probably aware, the usual rules on attendance apply once more, and children are expected to be in school apart from in exceptional circumstances.

So, after a gap of exactly a year since we last included this in a newsletter – here are the attendance figures for last week:

6th – 12th March 2021

Meldon	98.46%
Venford	91.36%
Avon	98.13%
Fernworthy	99.20%
Burrator	100.0%
Whole school This week	97.51%

Well done Burrator for a great score for the first week's return to statistics!