



Meldon "Collection Point"

After the Easter holidays, we will be welcoming a number of new pupils to Meldon Class. To ease congestion at the end of the morning sessions, after Easter, please could parents / carers collect their child from the car park, where children are dropped off in the mornings, rather than from Meldon gates. Thank you.

"Goodie Box"

Public Health Devon are running a new initiative for Easter called 'The Goodie Box'. Families who sign up will receive food for simple and delicious recipes delivered straight to their door, as well as a step-by-step guide on how to cook the recipes together as a family. The recipes are suitable for weaning age children and have modification suggestions to suit your tastes. The Goodie Box also contains a fun activity booklet and some cress seeds. Boxes will be delivered directly to the homes of families by the suppliers Devon Norse / Total Produce. All boxes will be delivered between 29th March and 16th April.

There is no specific eligibility for this initiative. They hope to support families with children under 5 predominantly, but are happy to receive referrals for families with older children where there is a need. There are a limited number of boxes available so this will be on a first come, first served basis. Referrals will be accepted up until 12th April.

If you are interested in applying, please email or phone the school office no later than next Thursday, 1st April.

CAFOD Non Uniform Day

Thursday 1st April – Last day of term

Just a reminder that, next Thursday, we will be fund-raising for CAFOD, by inviting pupils to come to school in 'mufti' on the last day of term. If children could bring in a donation (suggested donation of £1) on the day, that will be very much appreciated.

Free School Meals

Many families in Devon have seen their financial circumstances change due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. If you didn't previously qualify for free school meals, but your income has recently reduced or stopped, please visit the following website:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals> to check if you are eligible for this support. You can also call 0345 155 1019.

More than 15,000 children across Devon will be receiving free supermarket vouchers ahead of the upcoming Easter school break. Families of pupils currently receiving free school meals have been sent the vouchers to help them buy food over the two week holiday to replace the meals their child would have received at school during term-time. The vouchers – worth £30 (£15 per week for each child) – can be redeemed in major supermarkets across Devon.

Safeguarding

Gangs and exploitation

South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safeguarding Partnership have commissioned Safety and Resilience Consultancy to lead three virtual sessions for parents / carers starting on Tuesday 13th April. The sessions will explore and navigate the challenges parents / carers and young people are facing with the threat of gangs, exploitation and social expectations in 2021.

This isn't a parenting course but a way of raising awareness whilst empowering parents / carers to be able to support their children. It will offer an understanding of the reality of the challenges our young people face in these changing times. The sessions are aimed at parents and carers of older pupils, or those of secondary pupils.

Further details are available on the flyer (see attached). If you have any questions about the sessions please contact Chloe and Emma at Safety and Resilience Consultancy safetyandresilienceconsultancy@gmail.com

Prayer Focus

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

<http://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/easter-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=23.4>

and on our school website:

<https://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/catholic-life/the-wednesday-word/>

The Wednesday Word for this week is 'praise'. This Sunday is Palm Sunday and marks the start of Holy Week in the church's calendar. The Gospel reading reminds us of how Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem on a donkey. As Jesus entered the city, the crowds began to cheer and wave palm leaves. How can we praise God this week? Perhaps we can think of all of the good things that we have received from God, for example, the beauty of creation, our homes and our families.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

As Holy Week approaches, we thank and praise you for giving your life for us, so that one day we too may know the joys of heaven.

Amen

Achievement Assemblies

Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power - All Stars

Meldon – Leo

Venford – Rainn

Avon - Evangeline

Fernworthy – Theo C

Burrator – Dani

Witness of the Week



Meldon – Fraser

Venford – Jonathan

Avon – Alex

Fernworthy – Isabel

Burrator – Madeleine



Prayer Spaces

This week and next, pupils are taking part in an outdoor prayer space focussed on the season of Lent.

As you may know, we try to run 'prayer spaces' at St Mary's a couple of times during the year. Prayer Spaces provide children, of all faiths and none, with the opportunity to stop and reflect on some of life's questions and their faith in a safe, creative and interactive way. It is usually constructed and carried out as a whole school, but this year due to COVID, each class have their own resources to re-create the activities on the field or in the woodland area.

Staff have been impressed with the thoughtful responses that the children have given and from speaking to the children, they seem to have benefitted from this opportunity too.

One activity involved making a cross and placing it into the ground, whilst thinking about any worries they may have and perhaps even saying

a prayer. The crosses Avon created have been appropriately placed in our 'wellbeing garden'.



Attendance Figures

Here are the attendance figures for last week:

13th – 19th March 2021

Meldon	100.0%
Venford	94.09%
Avon	98.13%
Fernworthy	100.0%
Burrator	95.00%
Whole school This week	97.31%