



Art Competition Winners

As part of Devon Communities Together's 60th anniversary celebrations, to celebrate not only the past but also the future - and the generations that will look after our beautiful county for the next sixty years and beyond, children in Devon were asked to create a picture that shows their favourite part of Devon and why they love it.

The children in Fernworthy took part and four children have been chosen as runners up and have won three family tickets to Bicton and a £25 voucher for Orange Elephant ice cream between them. So, congratulations to:

Fliss, Gracie, Rebecca and Eva



Class Photographs

The class photographs were taken this week and the order forms / proofs will be sent through to the school in the next few days. Orders can be placed through school or online. More details will be available when the paperwork arrives.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 31st May – First Day of Half Term
Monday 7th June – Non Pupil day
Tuesday 8th June – Pupils return
Wednesday 9th June – Recycling workshops
Thursday 8th July – SDCC Transition Day
Friday 23rd July – Last Day of Term
Monday 6th September – Pupils return

School Uniform

Since the children returned to school last September, we have tried to ensure that the whole school was well-ventilated and, in the depths of winter, the children needed to bring extra layers of clothing to ensure they were not too cold in class. However, now, with the warmer weather upon us, children do not need to bring in additional clothes to wear in class and they will be expected to wear normal school uniform as a school jumper or cardigan in class, and a coat for outdoors, should suffice.

Also, just a reminder that we ask that children with hair longer than shoulder length tie it back to reduce the transmission of headlice which appear from time to time. Please note, hair accessories must be discrete and brown / black or school colours.

Safeguarding

"Looks sus? Tell us!" campaign

Devon and Cornwall Police have launched a campaign called "Looks sus? Tell us!" to raise awareness of child exploitation and grooming online. There is further information about this on their website <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/looksus>.

The NSPCC data shows that

- girls aged 12 to 15 were most likely to be targeted by groomers
- Evidence to date shows that girls and young women make up the majority of victims, but boys and young men are also exploited.
- The average age at which concerns are first identified is 12 to 15 years, however studies show increasing rates of referrals for 8 to 11-year olds, particularly in relation to online exploitation.
- If a child tells you that they have been approached by a criminal online, you can contact the police to report this or to Crimestoppers anonymously.

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/love?pid=MTA101634&v=26.7>

and on our school website:

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

This week's Gospel (St John, chapter 15, verses 9-17) is focussed on 'love'. It reminds us that God loves all of us and that we need to show that same compassion and forgiveness to others. Jesus' life is a lesson in how we are to be kind and loving to all people – even those people who don't love us in return. In this way we show our own love for God, by doing what Jesus asks of us. Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus
Thank you for being our
loving friend. Please help
us always to love you and
to keep growing in love
for one another.
Amen.



Achievement Assemblies

Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power - All Stars

Meldon – Eric
Venford – Bertie
Avon - Cally
Fernworthy – Riley A J
Burrator – Oscar

Witness of the Week

Meldon – Toby J
Venford – Hazel
Avon – Cici
Fernworthy – Rumer
Burrator – Suzie



Extra curricular activities

After School Clubs

As you know, we have started to re-introduce additional activities for the children, for example, the After School Clubs run by Saints SW are being run this half term for KS1 children and after half term, will be open to KS2.

Choristers

The Chorister programme has started to expand again and, this week, all the children were able to meet for their practice sessions before school. Children in Year 2 and above, who would like to find out more about what it is like to be a Chorister, will have the chance to find out later in the term when Mr Searles will be running taster sessions.

Swimming

We are hoping that swimming lessons will be able to go ahead this year. However, due to Covid restrictions at Buckfastleigh pool, there is not the capacity for both KS2 classes so priority will be given to Burrator class. The pool has been booked on Wednesday afternoons in readiness for the lessons to start after the half term break.

Activities week

Last, but not least, an activities week is being planned for Burrator class although the children will not be staying away overnight this year. A letter outlining the planned activities and costs will be sent out shortly. We are aiming for the costs to be similar to previous years (although the children are not staying at Grangehurst, there will be no savings as we are lucky to use the Abbey facilities free of charge).

Attendance Figures

These are the attendance figures for last week:

24th – 30th April 2021

Meldon	95.85%
Venford	93.04%
Avon	97.50%
Fernworthy	91.15%
Burrator	97.69%
Whole school This week Year to date	94.85% 96.29%