



St Aloysius Day

Non-uniform Day – Friday 18th June

Plymouth Diocese have asked schools to mark St Aloysius Day (St Aloysius is the patron saint of Christian Youth and young students) on Friday 18th June by having a non-uniform (mufti) day to support the work of the Catholic Children's Society. They are asking for a donation of £1 and for people to wear yellow, blue and white.

The Catholic Children's Society is a voluntary organisation which supports families of all faiths and none, within the Diocese of Plymouth, which covers Devon, Cornwall and most parts of Dorset. They provide financial support for families and children in need and offer courses for parents and pupils. Further information about the charity can be found on their website:

www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

Warm weather

In addition to our usual reminders about the importance of wearing suncream and hats in the summer months, I also wanted to ask for your support with another issue that has arisen recently.

Some children have been very reluctant to remove their jumpers or cardigans on very hot days which has resulted in them becoming over-heated and in one case, physically feeling ill. Overheating in this way can lead to heatstroke, which can result in fainting or more serious long term effects. All staff have been asked to remind children to remove their jumpers or cardigans on hot days and I will make contact with individual parents / carers, if there has been a particular issue with their child so that they are aware of the situation.

Sports Club

Our sports clubs, run by Saints SW, this half term are as follows:

Fernworthy Class - Tuesdays

Burrator Class – Fridays

The clubs run from 3.30 to 4.30pm.

Pupil Chaplains

We welcomed our first cohort of Pupil Chaplains last year and look forward to adding to their number this half term, in preparation for September. Our Year 4 and 5 pupils brought home a separate letter about this. If your child is interested in taking part, please let Miss Slack know by Monday 14th June.

Safeguarding

As more people are socialising and going out with the relaxation of COVID rules, there is the possibility that you may see or hear things in your local community that concern you. If you are worried about the safety of a child in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, you can contact Devon's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on:

0345 155 1071

or email:

mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

and give as much information as you can. If a child is at immediate risk, contact the police on 999.

MASH is the central resource for the whole of Devon, receiving all safeguarding and child protection enquiries. It is staffed with professionals from a range of agencies including police, health, mental health, education, social care, housing, probation, early years, youth offending, fire, and domestic abuse services. These professionals share information to ensure early identification of potential significant harm, and trigger interventions to prevent further harm or to safeguard children's welfare.

MASH staff gather and review information from a range of agencies and use this to decide the most appropriate way to support a family and ensure the needs of children are met.

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/holiday?pid=MTA101634&v=29.11>
and on our school website: <https://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/catholic-life/the-wednesday-word/>

This week's words are 'God's Kingdom'. The Gospel reading this week comes from St Mark and tells the parable of the mustard seed. It reminds us that Jesus came to establish a kingdom, God's kingdom of love. God loves all people equally and invites everyone to share in his kingdom. We can see God's kingdom by reading about Jesus' actions in the Gospels and also in the actions of other people that we encounter in our lives. How can we bring peace, love, joy, happiness, kindness or understanding to the lives of others?

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Please help us to build your kingdom in our hearts and in the world - to do your work on earth with love and care for all.

Amen

Abbey Choristers

Buckfast Abbey offers the opportunity for pupils from St Mary's to be part of their Choral Foundation. As a chorister, pupils receive a scholarship from the Abbey for individual vocal and piano tuition. Each chorister also works towards exams in singing and piano for the Associated Board of Royal School of Music. Year 2 pupils have received an individual letter about the programme, but if your child is in Y3-6 and would like further information, please speak to Miss Slack or to Matthew Searles by emailing him at msearles@buckfast.org.uk. Auditions will be taking place on 30th June and 2nd July.

Attendance Figures

These are the attendance figures for the week before half term:

22nd - 28th May 2021

Meldon	97.78%
Venford	100.0%
Avon	98.13%
Fernworthy	96.54%
Burrator	97.69%
Whole school This week	97.97%
Year to date	96.40%

Congratulations!



Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power - All Stars

Meldon - Toby J

Venford - Ayrton

Avon - Matilda

Fernworthy - Becky S

Burrator - Isaac

Witness of the Week

Meldon - Elwyn

Venford - Bertie

Avon - Nia

Fernworthy - Marcus

Burrator - Katie

Congratulations to some of our children who have been demonstrating active citizenship in their local community:

Well done to Olivia and Toby who have spent time over half term creating summer pictures for a local care home's 'Summer display'. They decided the elderly residents should have some bright colours to look at, whilst they eat their meals.

Also congratulations to Dylan who is one of our Year 6 pupils working towards his Torbay and Devon Civic Award this year. He is supporting a charity called Dog (A.I.D) - Dog Assistance In Disability and would like to raise awareness of this charity amongst our school community. The charity works to support people with disabilities to be assisted by training a dog (usually the owner's own pet) so that they can be independent in their day to day living and feel less socially isolated. Further information and videos about their work can be accessed from their website: <https://dogaid.org.uk>