



Covid 19

With the increase in cases of COVID 19, our Academy Trust (Plymouth CAST) have asked all schools to remind parents / carers and children about the importance of adhering to the current risk assessments that we have in place. These include:

- Maintenance of social distancing when dropping off and collecting children
- Ventilation in the school building
- Reminding children about good hand and respiratory hygiene
- Encouraging regular lateral flow testing at home
- Staying at home if symptomatic
- Self-isolating in the event of a positive test or having been in close proximity to a positive case.
- Staff and visitors wearing face coverings in communal areas, when moving around school, and when social distancing can't be maintained.

Torbay & Devon Civic Award

Next week, our Year 6 pupils, who have been working towards their Torbay and Devon Civic Awards, will be handing in their folders for assessment. They will then be speaking to Alison Gagg, Head of Buckfast Abbey's Education Department, about their hard work. When the assessments have been completed, we will share with you the list of children who have achieved this award.

Attendance Figures

These are the latest attendance figures:

29th May – 11th June 2021

Meldon	100.0%
Venford	98.91%
Avon	92.19%
Fernworthy	98.56%
Burrator	92.31%
Whole school	
This week	96.56%
Year to date	96.41%

Sun Safety

With the summer sun now making an appearance, please can I remind parents / carers to make sure that children have a hat in school each day, so that this can be worn during breaktimes and lunchtimes. In addition, children will require sun cream to be applied before school and also during the day. With parental permission, staff can help children to re-apply cream - please speak to a member of staff or Mitzi in the school office about this.

Further information about the importance of sun safety can be found at the following websites:

- <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/sun-safety-for-kids>
- <https://www.skcin.org/sunSafetyAndPrevention/childrenBabiesAndToddlers.htm>

The school has also registered to be a SunSafe School so will be working with parents / carers and pupils over the next few weeks to develop awareness of the importance of staying safe in the sun.

Safeguarding

CAP (Child Assault Prevention)

You may remember that, last academic year, we were visited by CAP who worked with children across the school to help them to learn how to stay 'safe, strong and free'. The charity are unable to visit the school again this term due to their COVID restrictions, but have sent a virtual assembly which children will watch in class next week.

Further information about the charity and the work that they do with children can be found on their website: www.safestrongfree.org.uk

Prayer Focus

The Wednesday Word can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/calm?pid=MTA101634&v=31.12>

and on our school website:

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

This week's Gospel comes from St Mark and tells the story of how Jesus calmed a storm that was raging around him and the disciples, whilst they were out at sea. Sadly, we all suffer from stress and times of sadness in our lives. This story reminds us that God is always there for us and that the more we get to know God, the more at peace and calm we will become. In difficult times we benefit from having someone around us who is calm. Is there anyone you know who might be troubled, frightened or upset? Is there anything you could do to support them this week?

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Please help me to stay calm when life is stormy and show me how to help others to stay calm too.

Amen

Achievement for All

St Mary's is delighted to have been awarded the Quality Lead Mark from the charity, Achievement for All. The aim of the charity is to accelerate academic progress to close the gap for all ages and stages, regardless of their background, challenge or need. Following the successful completion of the Quality Mark, the school has now been awarded 'Quality Lead' status. This is a recognition of our collaboration with other schools and the leadership opportunities that have been developed within the school for staff and pupils.

More information can be found on the school website.

<https://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/gallery>

Somerset Literacy Network

Last half term, pupils in Avon Class entered the Somerset Literacy Network competition, "Focus on Faces" poetry. We are delighted to say that Cici and Ned will shortly be receiving certificates of commendation for their entries – congratulations to both of them! The organisation received a massive 2061 entries this year and they said that the standard of work from schools was particularly high this year. Somerset Literacy Network judges also thanked all the children for their entries, they said that they enjoyed reading all of them.

Congratulations!



Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power - All Stars

Meldon – Thomas

Venford – Ava Y

Avon - Emmeline

Fernworthy – Olivia

Burrator – Courtney

Witness of the Week

Meldon – Fraser

Venford – Archie H

Avon – Kyree

Fernworthy – Riley AJ

Burrator – Oscar

Congratulations also to:-

- Rumer and Mariska, who have recently had their long hair cut short and donated this to the Little Princess Trust Charity which uses donations of hair to make wigs for children who have lost their own hair as a result of cancer treatments or other conditions.
<https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk>
- Olivia and Toby J for being awarded horse riding and horse care rosettes
- Archie R who has just started martial arts
- Sonny who has been awarded his yellow striped belt for martial arts