



Important Visitors

Next Tuesday, we look forward to welcoming Abbot David, the Abbot of Buckfast, and Mrs Lesley Clark, our newly appointed Chair of Governors, to St Mary's.

It is nice to be able to welcome them into the school, in real life, and we are looking forward to them meeting some of the children as they look around. We all hope that they will enjoy their visit to the school.

Abbey Choristers

Thank you to those pupils who have expressed an interest in becoming a chorister. I know that some auditions have taken place already and there are more planned shortly. The Year 2 taster session was postponed but will hopefully now take place in the last week of term.

If anyone is still interested in finding out more about the Abbey Chorister Programme, please contact Matthew Searles, Assistant Master of the Music, (msearles@buckfast.org.uk).

Congratulations to our current choristers who sang at Mass yesterday in the Abbey. For some choristers, it was their first time singing at Mass so a particular well done to those children.

Attendance Figures

These are the figures for last week:

19th – 25th June 2021

Meldon	91.53%
Venford	96.09%
Avon	94.38%
Fernworthy	98.46%
Burrator	92.31%
Whole school	
This week	94.59%
Year to date	96.33%

Sports Events

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, as an alternative to the traditional sports day, we have decided to have separate sports events for each of the 'bubbles' in school. Coach Ben and Coach Ryan will be organising these for the children. As we are unable to invite parents / carers to the event, we will ensure that photographs are taken of the children (where permissions have been given) and displayed on the school website. Dependent on weather, these are the provisional dates for each class:

6th July – Burrator

9th July – Meldon

13th July – Fernworthy

16th July – Venford and Avon

Covid Protocols

Thank you to those families who have given things to the office to quarantine before being passed on or used by other pupils. Please could things, such as party invitations, be given into a member of staff to be quarantined in the office for forty-eight hours, before being distributed to other children.

Safeguarding

Online safety

As a result of the increased need for being online in the COVID pandemic, online safety has been something which has been discussed on lots of occasions in school this year and has been a regular feature of our newsletter. Over the past couple of weeks, we have once again been made aware of some online issues involving pupils in Fernworthy and Burrator classes. Please discuss online safety with your child and also about being respectful towards others online, especially when using chat facilities in online games and social media. Further information is available from: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-gaming-an-introduction-for-parents>

Prayer Focus

The Wednesday Word can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/welcome?pid=MTA101634&v=33.14> and on our school website.

This week's Gospel comes from St Mark's Gospel (Chapter 6, verses 1-5) and this week's word is 'welcome'. The Gospel reminds us of the importance of being welcoming to all, as Jesus was, although not everyone wanted his help. When we are welcoming others, we are also welcoming to God. Who makes us feel welcome? How could we be more welcoming to others in our daily lives this week?

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Please help us to welcome all visitors to our home, our school and our community, as special people who are loved by you.

Amen

Fair Active Award

Our two Year 6 Fair Trade Prefects, Lily and Taylor, supported in their work by Mrs Kerswell, have been working hard this year to raise awareness of Fair Trade amongst pupils, parents / carers and staff. This year, we have been working towards the Fair Active Award and, I am pleased to say, we have now achieved this standard. Next year, we will start work on the final Fair Trade award, the Fair Achiever Award.

Cultural Champion

Each term, as part of the RE curriculum, the children learn about another faith. This term, we are looking at Sikhism, so next week we are welcoming Avtar, a Devon Cultural Champion from the Devon Development Education Centre, to St Mary's. Avtar will be sharing with the children what it means to live life as a Sikh.

RE and Catholic Life

Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to those parents / carers who have returned the RE questionnaire already. Your responses are much appreciated and will help to shape future plans for St Mary's. The deadline for forms to be returned to school is this Monday, 12th July.

Wear it Wild Day

Thursday 15th July - Non uniform day

Linked to their current topic work, Year 3 and 4 pupils in Fernworthy are hoping to raise money for the World Wildlife Fund. Therefore, we are asking all pupils to come in non-uniform, or even dress as an animal, on Thursday 15th July, in return for a suggested donation of £1.

Congratulations!

Well done to the following children:

Building Learning Power

Meldon
Venford
Avon
Fernworthy
Burrator
Eric
Rosanna
Evangeline
Fliss
Ryan

All Stars Witness of the Week

Meldon
Venford
Avon
Fernworthy
Reuben
Kaiyah
Emmeline
Becky



STAnley 4 Award for Swimming - **Jess**

New Pupil Chaplain

Congratulations to **Madeleine**, who will join to our group of pupils who have been accepted to continue this work next academic year.