



# NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

## Term Dates

On the reverse of this letter you will find the term dates up to the end of the Summer Term 2023. You may notice that an extra day's holiday has been added to this academic year! Pupils will be finishing on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 as we have been able to choose an extra day off to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year. And finally, just a reminder that the children return to school a week on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, after the half term break.

## Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to Mrs Freeborn who came to St Mary's this week to talk to the children about Operation Christmas Child. We are again collecting shoe boxes for their appeal, organised by the charity, Samaritan's Purse. Further information can be obtained from their website:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Any shoe box can be used and covered in wrapping paper, although there are also a limited number of new, flat-packed shoe boxes in school which parents / carers can collect from the office.

The appeal this year runs until 22<sup>nd</sup> November, so we would need shoe boxes in school by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November at the latest** so that they can be delivered to a drop off centre.

It has also been suggested that, if people are not able to pack a whole shoe box, they can bring in items which can then be made up into shoe boxes in school. If you would prefer to do this, please bring in suitable items and give these to Mitzi in the school office.

## Prayer Focus

Each week, we include a short reflection on the Gospel reading for the week. The school also subscribes to a weekly booklet called The Wednesday Word that can be accessed on our website or via the following link:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=41.5>

This week's chosen word is 'courage' and this Sunday's Gospel reading comes from St Mark's Gospel, Chapter 10, verses 46-54. It reminds us that putting our faith in Jesus helps to give us the courage to do what is right. How can we have more courage? Perhaps we could pray to God or support each other to do what we know is right, even if we are afraid.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Please give us the courage to always do and say what is right and help us to remember that we can always put our faith in you.

Amen

## Safeguarding

As the clocks go back on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October, please see websites below which might help support your child with safety:

Keeping children safe in the dark:  
<https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>

Cycling at night:  
<https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Walking and cycling at night:  
<https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>

## Congratulations!



Well done to the following children:

	BLP	WOW
Meldon	Emily	Harry R-O'R
Venford	Ngaio	Jessica
Avon	Maia	Felix
Fernworthy	Max	Grace
Burrator	Riley AJ	Courtney