



Happy Christmas!

As the term comes to an end, it only remains to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The children return on Tuesday 4th January – if any government guidance changes over the holiday, we will contact parents by email and post and put the latest information on the website.

Christmas Events

The Carol Service for Fernworthy and Burrator classes went ahead this week without a congregation. The children did extremely well, and we were able to create a recording of the service in the Abbey church, which is now available to view on our school website. There are also nativity recordings from Meldon's performances last week:

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

FOSMs

Thank you to FOSMS for creating the wreath making kits and to those families who ordered them.

Christmas Jumper Day



Thank you to everyone who sent in their donation for Christmas Jumper Day. As you can see from the photo above, we were a very colourful bunch gathered together for Achievement Assembly today!

Sports Provision

After the Christmas holidays, we look forward to working with Exeter Chiefs who will be providing sports coaches for St Mary's. Each class will have a session with the sports coach and two lunchtime and after school clubs will be delivered by Exeter Chiefs. Further details about the clubs will be shared at the start of next term.

Clubs

There will be NO CLUBS running the first week back after the Christmas holidays. A clubs letter will go out the first few days of term and then clubs will start week commencing 10th January.

Patchwork Parenting

There will be a Patchwork Parenting course, open to all parents / carers at St Mary's next term. This has been organised, and will be run by, the Catholic Children's Society. These courses have been very successful in the past so it would be lovely to see as many people attend as possible - refreshments will be provided! There is a flyer attached to the newsletter with further information and posters displayed on our school noticeboards.

Safeguarding

ParentZone have produced a guide to support families in ensuring that any new devices are safe and ready to use <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/getting-tech-ready-christmas>

There is also a dedicated guide to smartphones and tablets, looking at options for family sharing and parental controls. <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/getting-tech-ready-christmas-smartphones-and-tablets>

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/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=47.2>

This link takes you to a booklet to carry you through to 5th January.

This week's Gospel comes from St Luke's Gospel (chapter 1, verses 39-45). The word chosen for this week is 'Visitors'. The Gospel tells the story of Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth to tell her that she was expecting a special baby. Elizabeth had good news of her own, as she was also pregnant with a baby who later grew up to become John the Baptist. Think about those people who are on their own and perhaps would welcome the chance to spend time with you over the Christmas period.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Please help us to see all visitors to our home this Christmas as special people who are loved by you.

Amen

Attendance and Punctuality

These are the attendance figures for the past week:

10th – 16th December 2021

Meldon	92.73%
Venford	92.63%
Avon	83.75%
Fernworthy	88.46%
Burrator	90.74%
Whole school This week Year to date	89.91% 94.48%



HAF FAMILY LUNCH CLUB

YOU ARE INVITED FOR LUNCH AT OPOP

THE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY FOOD PROGRAMME IS SUPPORTING US TO INVITE LOCAL FAMILIES FOR A COMPLETELY FREE LUNCH, WHEN PRE-BOOKED, FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

Available on; 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th & 31st.

Please call us on 01626 923007 to book.

Enjoy any main course, a pudding and a drink with no hidden charges. HAF fund needs to be mentioned when booking.

OPOP | 2A ST LAWRENCE LANE | ASHBURTON | WWW.OPOP.ORG.UK



Congratulations!

Well done to the following children who were awarded certificates in today's Achievement Assembly:

BLP

Meldon
Venford
Avon
Fernworthy
Burrator

**Harry R-O'R
Fraser
Charlie T
Ollie
Poppy**

WOW

**Leo
Rosie
Harrison G
Robun
Grayson**

Pupil of the Term

**Adaline
Charlie
Adsie-Elaine
Max
Poppy**



The following achievements were also celebrated in assembly:-

Karate grading – Peter and Ella
Gymnastics Medals and Certificates – Lolly and Braxton
Martial Arts Award – Scarlett
Kickboxing award – Harrison G