



KS2 SATs

Next week is Key Stage 2 SATs week for Year 6. Please could Year 6 children be in school promptly next week so that they are ready for the start of the tests each day.

- Monday – Grammar and Spelling
- Tuesday – Reading
- Wednesday – Maths (Arithmetic; reasoning paper 1)
- Thursday – maths (Reasoning paper 2)

We are very proud of all the children, who have worked hard to prepare for these assessments.

Buckfastleigh Foodbank

The Foodbank in Buckfastleigh has seen an increase in demand over the past few months. As a result, we will be asking for donations of food and other non-food items over the next few weeks (until May half term). If you would like to donate any items, please send them into school with your child and we will make a collection point outside the office.

This month, the volunteers at the foodbank are particularly requesting the following items:

- Toiletries
- Cleaning products
- Meaty soup
- 1kg bags of rice
- Fabric conditioner
- Tins of broad beans
- Tins of green beans
- Sponge puddings
- Bottles of squash
- Tins of fruit

Pokémon & Football Cards

Please do not allow your child to bring in Pokémon or football cards to school, unless it is on Thursday for the KS2 lunchtime club. This is so that they do not get lost, given away or swapped.

Lunch and snacks

If you are including grapes and baby tomatoes in your child's snack or packed lunch, please could you make sure they are cut in half. This is because full grapes and small tomatoes can be a choking hazard.

Safeguarding

Going out alone (advice taken from NSPCC)

What ifs?

Talk to your child early on about scenarios they might face and how to stay safe. Ask them what they'd do and how they feel about them. Doing this will give you both peace of mind. For example, what if their phone battery dies (if they have one) or they get hurt?

There are a few basic things your child should know before they can go out alone:

- Their full name
- Their address
- Two trusted adults' phone numbers (include the home number, if you have one)
- How to cross roads safely

Ask yourself questions like:

- How far from home can they go?
- How long can they stay out?
- Who can they go out with or meet?
- When is their agreed home time?
- What activities are ok for them to do?

Trial run

If you think they might be ready, but still aren't sure, why not do a trial run? Let them take the lead when you're out together. Only correct them if they do something that puts them at risk.

Pandering to pressure

Pester power is strong, we know. Your child might insist that they'll be ok on their own, giving all sorts of reasons why they're ready to be alone. But if you're not sure, if there's a niggly of doubt, don't block it out. Trust your instincts. You need to be sure they'll be safe when you're not around.

More information is available on:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/2614/home-or-out-alone-guide.pdf>

Prayer Focus

The school 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/life?pid=MTA101634&v=58.17>

This week the word is 'life'. This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday', reminding us of the fact that Jesus is, if we listen to him, a guide in our lives in the right direction and he will care for us.

How can we follow Jesus the Good Shepherd this week and make life better for others at home, at school and in our community?

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

You are the Good Shepherd who knows us by name and guides us through life. Please help us to follow you always.

Amen

Look Wild event

Dartmoor National Park are running an event this weekend at Haytor, on Saturday, and Yarner Wood, on Sunday. Look Wild is a project to map and monitor wildlife in National Parks using the iNaturalist App – further information is available from the poster being sent out electronically with this letter.



Congratulations!

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

Meldon
Venford
Avon
Fernworthy
Burrator

BLP
Freddie
Hazel
Charlie T
Bridie
Madeleine

WOW
Layla
Harrison M
Ella
Peter
Priya



Diary Dates

Monday 9th May – KS2 SATS Week

Friday 20th May – Sports tournament run by Exeter Chiefs. Please could all children in Venford, Avon, Fernworthy, Burrator wear PE kits to school on this day.

Wednesday 25th May – Wellbeing Festival at Buckfast Abbey for Fernworthy and Burrator. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and would like a packed lunch on this day, please let the School Office know as soon as possible.

Monday 30th May – Half Term starts

Tuesday 7th June – Pupils return

Wednesday 8th June – KS2 swimming sessions start (letter to follow)

Sunday 26th June – First Holy Communion

Friday 1st July at 9.15am – Year 6 Leavers' Mass (parents / carers of Year 6 pupils are welcome to attend)

Monday 4th July – Burrator Activities Week and Residential trip starts

Thursday 7th July (AM) – Sports Day for Reception and KS1. Please note: there is no Sports Day for the Nursery children.

Monday 11th July – Bikeability (cycling) course for Burrator pupils (letter to follow)

Tuesday 12th July – Pupil progress meetings for parents / carers

Wednesday 13th July – Pupil progress meetings for parents / carers

Thursday 14th July (AM) – Sports Day for KS2

Tuesday 19th July (AM) – Reserve Sports Day

Thursday 21st July – Last day of term

Monday 5th September – Term starts

Attendance

The following are the attendance figures for last week:

29th April – 5th May 2022

Meldon	93.72%
Venford	92.11%
Avon	99.22%
Fernworthy	98.56%
Burrator	99.55%
Whole school	
This week	96.74%
Year to date	93.93%