



Fr Christopher Delaney

As many of you will remember, Father Christopher was School Chaplain at St Mary's for many years. Sadly, Father Christopher died last weekend. I know that he will be missed by many people here and, also, in Cardiff where he served as a priest for a very long time before returning to Buckfast.

Buckfastleigh Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in donations for the Foodbank. Just a reminder that we are asking for donations of food and other non-food items over the next few weeks (until May half term). We have 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

Tag Rugby Festival

As detailed in last week's Diary Dates, next Friday, 20th May, we are holding a Tag Rugby Festival in school in conjunction with Exeter Chiefs.

On that day, please could all of the children in Venford, Avon, Fernworthy and Burrator classes wear their PE kits and also make sure that they bring in hats and sun cream.

Any children in Avon and Burrator, who haven't returned their consent letter for Exeter Chiefs to use their images, will be bringing home another letter today.

Bishop Mark

Bishop Mark, who is currently the Bishop of Plymouth Diocese, has recently been appointed to the role of Archbishop of Cardiff and Bishop of Menevia. To thank Bishop Mark for his work in the Diocese, each school has been asked to contribute to a book of thanksgiving being organised by the Academy. Some of our older children will be helping to prepare St Mary's contribution.

Easter Eggs

As mentioned in our newsletter before Easter, the Post Offices in Ashburton and Buckfast ran an Easter activity where they were giving away free Easter Eggs that had been kindly donated. There were a number of eggs left over, so these have been offered to families in the school. There are sufficient eggs for one Easter Egg per family, which should come home with your child today.

School Uniform

It is the time of year when school jumpers and cardigans tend to be mislaid as the children cast them aside when they get warm and forget to collect them up again. Please could you ensure that items of uniform are clearly named in case they go missing. Also a reminder that there are some items of uniform available from our second hand rail (30p donation per item). If anyone has any uniform they would like to donate, please feel free to send this into school.

Safeguarding

Tackling Child Abuse

The government has produced some resources to help tackle child abuse. The website provides information about the signs of abuse and what to do if you are worried about a child.

<https://tacklechildabuse.campaign.gov.uk/>

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/love?pid=MTA101634&v=59.18>

This week's word is 'love'. This Sunday's Gospel tells the story of the Last Supper, which was the last meal Jesus had with his disciples before he died. Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment - that they must love one another as Jesus loved them. Whenever we love and care for others, we can be sure that God is with us. He wants all of us to experience the life-giving happiness that comes from following his new commandment - to love one another as he loves us.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for being our loving friend. Help us to always love you and to keep growing in love for one another.

Amen

Class photo orders

Please could any photo orders be returned to school no later than Monday 23rd May so that they can be sent off to Tempest before half term. Alternatively, orders can be sent direct to Tempest as per the instructions on the order form.

Diary Dates

Friday 20th May - Sports tournament run by Exeter Chiefs.

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)

Thursday 23rd June - Year 5 Day at SDCC (tbc)

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
Thursday 14th July - Choristers End of Term Concert, 5pm, Abbey Church

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:

5th - 12th May 2022

Meldon	96.53%
Venford	98.95%
Avon	90.63%
Fernworthy	90.00%
Burrator	99.29%
Whole school	
This week	95.30%
Year to date	93.97%



Congratulations!

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

	BLP	WOW
Meldon	Aisha	Frieda
Venford	Rosie	Archie V
Avon	Ted	Harrison G
Fernworthy	Jenson	Mariska
Burrator	Floss	Winnie



Other awards

Dance Competition Trophies - Libby
Chorister Bronze Award - Ned, Conrad, Honey