



NEWSLETTER

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST

Friday 16th September 2022

Bank Holiday Monday

Just to confirm that the school will be closed on Monday due to the Queen's Funeral. The school will re-open on Tuesday 20th September.

Home Learning

Each class has some form of home learning, dependent on the age and stage of the pupils. Children in each class will receive home learning this week. Class teachers have outlined what the expectations are for their class, in line with our school's Home Learning Policy.

Following the RE curriculum outlines which were sent home last week, curriculum outlines for the other subjects will be sent home next week for each class.

Clubs

We have had a good number of pupils sign up for the various clubs this week. There is currently a waiting list for Art Club and KS2 Sports, so those pupils will be first on the list for after half term / Christmas.

Uniform

We have a lot of second hand uniform available in school, all of which is available for a 30p donation. This is situated outside Mitzi's office, so parents / carers are welcome to purchase items before school.

FOSMs AGM

The Friends of St Mary's (FOSMs) group are our school's Parent Teacher Association. The group is run by a small committee but all parents / carers / extended family are welcome to attend meetings and / or offer help for the various events organized by FOSMs.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in school on Friday 7th October at 3 o'clock. More information will be sent nearer the time.

Pupil Progress Meetings

This term we have arranged Pupil Progress meetings for parents / carers to meet with their child's class teacher on the following dates: Wednesday 5th October and Tuesday 11th October. A separate letter will be sent home so that individual appointments can be arranged.

Trips

As a school, we are very aware of the financial hardships that have resulted from the increased cost of living recently. We will try to limit the amount of money that parents / carers are being asked for each term to help with this. It has been decided this year that class trips which have a cost to them will be limited and we will try to give as much notice to parents / carers as possible so that they can budget accordingly. For this reason we have also decided to make the Year 5/6 residential trip a bi-annual event, as the cost of transport and activities have significantly increased again this year. This means that the next residential trip will be next academic year.

Attendance

In line with the government's most recent White Paper on education which focusses on ensuring good attendance for all children, St Mary's are again working closely with Devon's Education Welfare Officers this year. Parents / carers will receive a separate letter next week about holidays and avoidable absences in term time which has been produced by Devon Local Authority who have asked schools to send this out.

If you have any questions about attendance please contact Miss Slack or our Education Welfare Officer, Ruth Mills (01392 383000).

Prayer Focus

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/trustworthy?pid=MTA101634&p=2&v=68.9>

This week's word is TRUSTWORTHY. The Gospel (St Luke Chapter 16: verses 1-13) for this week reminds us that we all have 'free will' to make our own choices. Sometimes we might make a wrong decision, but we can trust that God is always with us to help us to start again. We can also show God and others that we are trustworthy by making the most of our gifts, to make the world a better place.

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus
Help us to use our gifts well - to be your
trustworthy sons and daughters who always
put you first in our lives.
Amen

Harvest Mass

We shall be having a Harvest Mass in school on Thursday 13th October in school. Fr Dominic will be saying Mass for the school. If you would like to attend, please let the school office know, as space in the hall is limited.



Just a reminder that you are welcome to collect apples from the orchard after school.

Prefects

Congratulations to the following children who have been appointed Prefects this year. They have been allocated the following roles in school:

- **Mental health ambassadors:** Winnie, Isabel
- **Librarians:** Sebastian, Poppy
- **Fair trade:** Amelie, Abi
- **Tuckshop:** Riley W
(*Olivia to help when needed*)
- **Environmentalists:** Riley AJ, Fliss
- **Digital Leaders:** Toby B, Neo
- **Peer Mediators:** Jessica H, Becky
- **Classroom monitors:** Olivia, Theo C

Congratulations!

Each Friday, the school comes together to celebrate the achievements of the children over the past week. "Building Learning Power" (BLP) Certificates are awarded to children who have demonstrated good learning behaviours and "Witness of the Week" (WOW) certificates for demonstrating Gospel values in daily life. Well done to the following children who were awarded certificates today:



Tottiford
Meldon
Venford
Avon
Fernworthy
Burrator

BLP
April
Archie R
Nathaniel
Ngaio
Lilly
Riley AJ
Poppy*

WOW
Harry V
Leon
Elwyn
Rosie
Eva
Riley W
Jessica H*



Other Achievements

New Choristers – Scarlett, Hazel, Bertie, Maria
Music Certificate – Evangeline

* Awarded last week but dropped off last week's newsletter, apologies to the ladies involved