

- ◆ **Diary Dates**
- ◆ **Attendance**
- ◆ **Heli-appeal**

### Plymouth CAST Update

As you know St. Mary's is part of the Academy Trust, Plymouth CAST which has 36 schools stretching from Penzance to Bournemouth. The trust is currently piloting a more collaborative way of working through the use of Clusters. One of the obvious Clusters is the four catholic schools in Cornwall—our school, St. Johns in Camborne, St. Mary's in Falmouth and St. Mary's in Bodmin. This way of working will ensure benefits for all as best practice, resources and ideas are shared. We are delighted to tell you that St. Mary's will be co-ordinating the cluster for Cornwall and we will keep you informed of any up-dates as they happen.

### Cornwall Air Ambulance new Heli appeal

The Heli fundraising appeal has been brought to my attention by many of our parents and I feel that it is fitting that we should support such a worthwhile charity while living so close to the sea. They have asked for schools to fundraise on their behalf with a target of £500 to help buy a new helicopter.

On Thursday 14th February we would like the children to come to school wearing red or white (this could just be their hairbands or face paint if you do not have any clothes in this colour), with a suggested donation of £1. We would also like to run a cake sale at break time and after school.

For the adults there will be a Cake Bake Off competition! The cakes will be judged by a local chef and there will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize of a selection of local food vouchers. It will be £2 to enter the bake off and judging will be done on the day. We will then sell the cakes after school. I hope as many of you as possible will help to support the school for such a worthwhile cause. Many thanks

The Spring term has got off to a fantastic start in all classes. As a school we are focussing, not only on English and Maths, but also our 'wider curriculum'. You may have heard in the news recently that this is now a focus for all primary schools. The 'wider curriculum' refers to all of the foundation subjects that the children learn at school such as history, geography, science, art, music, French, PE, PSHEC and RE. At St. Mary's the children learn these subjects through their topic. You will have received a topic web from your class teacher and information about this will be on your class school website page. Your child's homework booklet is also linked to their current topic. Please do ask them about their learning, the teachers always amaze me with the exciting ways they get the children involved.

EYFS are learning about Space and reading 'Aliens Love Underpants'. They were very excited this week when an alien space ship landed in their outdoor area. The children are looking forward to their alien tea party next week.

Year 1 are learning about Heroes, not just famous people but also heroes in our community. They have been enjoying listening to Mrs Orchard playing the trombone while learning about the story Jack the Giant Slayer, who used his horn to frighten away the giant.

Year 2 are learning about Pirates and as I write are having their Pirate Wow day. They are currently completing their treasure hunt around school! Argh!

Year 3 are learning about the Stone Age and reading the story 'Stone Soup' as a stimulus to their learning. Last week they made some delicious, healthy soup.

Year 4 are learning about the Romans and have made their own roman mosaics.

Year 5 are learning about Majestic Monarchs and have a wow day coming up. Last week they had a visit from Penzance Job Centre for a Why Go to Work Workshop. The children really enjoyed talking about their aspirations for the future.

Year 6 are learning about World War 2, a topic that always engrosses and fascinates pupils. Later in the term they will be visiting Porthcurno Telegraph Museum to learn all about Cornwall during the Second World War.

We have also started our Outdoor Learning sessions in KS1, many thanks to Mrs Peters who has taken a lead in this. Please look on our facebook page to see what they have been up to. It has been lovely to see the children learning outdoors, especially when we are so lucky to have such a wonderful space.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Demelza Bolton

Class 1	96.36	3RD
Class 2	95.71	
Class 3	95.52	
Class 4	96.11	
Class 5	90.59	
Class 6	96.55	2ND
Over all school attendance	95.44	

recorded in the children's reading diaries.  
 It is so important that the children read at home as well as at school and develop this important life skill.  
 The tea party will be an ongoing event, so please record any reads in your child's diary and they will be counted by the class TA on a Wednesday.

### Swimming Kit

**Please can all children bring in their swimming kit on a Monday to assist with any changes with swimming times.**

### Certificates

Stars of the week -

7-12-18

14-12-18

R-Mia

Austin

Y1-Marcel

Elouise

Y2-Archie

Dexter

Y3-Amelia

Layla

Y4-Thomas

Neeve

Y5-Neve

Lyra

Y6-Tim

Reuben

English Expert-

Maths Master-

7-12-18

14-12-18

Y1-Jasmine

Thomas

Y2-Harper

Jasmine

Y3-Orianne

Amber

Y4-Leland

Kitto

Y5-Finbar

Megan

### New Tuck shop

New tuck shop coming soon for Fairtrade Fortnight 25th February - 8th March.



FAIRTRADE

### Hockey

Well done to St Mary's hockey team. They played three games yesterday against local schools. They won 2 out of 3 games. Many thanks to Anika Kearey-Marr.



Introducing **Swim Start**: brand-new **baby and toddler swimming classes** at St Mary's Catholic School pool, Peverell Road Penzance.

Delivered by a fully qualified instructor with specialist training and over a decade of professional teaching experience

Tuesday mornings (10-10.30am/10.30-11am) dates to coincide with term times (commencing as soon as possible)

Exciting events also planned, such as free underwater photography portrait sessions

£8.50/half hour group lesson (booked in advance termly)

If interested please contact **Hannah May**: [info@hmay.co.uk](mailto:info@hmay.co.uk) / 07813 298 182



Swim-Start-Cornwall

## Your local **link into learning**



**Family  
learning**

Develop your career, learn a new skill, keep fit and active or simply have fun with an adult education course near you.

Why not try:

### **Keeping Up With Your Child's Literacy**

**A 6-week course for parents and carers –  
helping you to help your child!**

Being held at:

**St Mary's RC School, Peverell Road,  
Penzance**

On: **Tuesdays 1:15pm – 3:15pm**

Starting: **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Please speak with someone in the school office if you are interested in joining or contact the Family Learning tutor for more information:

We recognise that the decision to close a school in the event of an emergency (e.g. snow, flooding, no water or heating) significantly impacts upon you, as parents / carers. This guide outlines the agreed procedure which all schools are asked to follow and offers advice to parents / carers on the key things to consider, both before and after the decision to close has been made.

## Guidance given to schools

Guidance and procedures are sent to all schools on an annual basis, usually at the start of the autumn term. To prevent the possibility of fraudulent school closures, schools are required to follow a verification process before providing school closure information. Schools are then asked to:

Undertake a risk assessment, using common sense to determine whether it is feasible for children and staff to remain in the school; and if not, what subsequent risks could arise by sending them home. Before school hours start, schools are also asked to assess if the roads are safe for children to travel to school.

Seek approval from the Governing Board (usually the decision of the Chair of Governors will suffice) to authorise the decision to close.

Notify Cornwall Council and the three local radio stations (BBC Radio Cornwall, Heart FM and Pirate FM). Providing the school follow the agreed procedure, each of the radio stations have all agreed to broadcast details of all school closures.

We will publish a list of current school closures on the Cornwall Council website at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolclosures) and on our social media channels.

## Know your school's procedure

Although schools are asked to follow this procedure, schools should have their own plan of action to be followed in the event of a closure. This should include details of how parents will be notified (e.g. via radio, text message, social media, etc). It is essential that schools communicate their plan to all parents as early as possible, and equally that all parents familiarise themselves with the agreed plan.

## Who to contact

If the decision is made to close, you will be notified by the school's agreed notification procedure. Should you need to contact the school directly, please be aware that the line(s) may be busy or unavailable when a large number of parents are calling at the same time.

## Useful websites

Cornwall Snow Advice  
[www.cornwall.gov.uk/snow](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/snow)

Met Office  
[www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

Environment Agency  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

Devon & Cornwall Police  
[www.devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk)

If you would like this information in another format please contact:

**Cornwall Council, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro TR1 3AY**  
Email: [equality@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:equality@cornwall.gov.uk) Telephone: 0300 1234 100



■ **JANUARY**

■ Thurs 31st 9:30 am Candlemas Mass—in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

■ **FEBRUARY**

■ Friday 1st

NSPCC Day Number day, own clothes to be worn

■ Monday 11th

Class 3 trip to Truro Museum

■ Thursday 14th

Heli appeal, fundraiser day for Cornwall air ambulance

■ Monday 18th - Friday 22nd

Half Term

■ Monday 25th

INSET DAY - school is closed

■ Tuesday 26th

Children back to school

■ **MARCH**

■ Wed 6th 10:00 am

Ash Wednesday Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

■ Thurs 28th 2:15 pm

Lenten Reconciliation Service - in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

■ **APRIL**

■ Thurs 4th 9:30 am

Passiontide Mass - in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

■ Monday 8th - Monday 22nd

Easter Holidays

■ Tuesday 23rd

Children back to school

■ Thurs 25th 10.00 am

Easter Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

■ **MAY**

■ Thurs 23th 9:30 am

Mass of Our Lady - in school. Parents welcome. Years Reception—Year 6

■ Monday 27th - Friday 31st

Half Term

■ **JUNE**

■ Monday 3rd

INSET DAY - school is closed

■ Tuesday 4th

Children back to school

■ Thurs 20th 10:00 am

English Saints Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years Reception—Year 6