



St Catherine's C of E School Spring Newsletter 2- 1.2.19



Dear Parents,

School Improvement

The focus over the last two weeks has been on in-school staff training on securing good end of Key Stage assessment results. We looked at how much of the Key Stage 2 grammar and maths tests are made up of learning from other year groups (90%) and therefore the importance of good curriculum coverage in all year groups. Our focus will be on sessions of daily practice of key skills and prior learning to help pupils retain and apply their learning.

Curriculum enrichment

We had a fantastic afternoon on Friday due to the visit from the wonderful Cornish Caretakers who did a history workshop with year 5 followed by a whole school performance bringing alive Cornish history for the children. Thank you Mrs Brewer for organising this for us!

Continuing in school, we have our Tuesday music lessons which the children are thoroughly enjoying. Yoga, swimming, bike-ability and balance bikes have also been happening weekly. We also have to say how proud we are of our year 4 children who have been visiting Kernow House – they have been amazing in the way they are representing the school and working thoughtfully and respectfully with the residents there.

Collective Worship

This week the children have been thinking about 'Can we change?' We have heard bible stories about St Paul and a wonderful retelling of Daniel and Lions from Open the book – some of our reception made brilliant lions during the performance! Mother Alison also visited and shared the story of how she became a vicar. These stories have helped us reflect on making the right decisions about our own behaviour and our impact on others throughout each school day.

Safeguarding

In school, we are constantly striving to improve our safeguarding of pupils. This term we have been reviewing emergency procedures. This includes fire drills. We rehearse these every half term and at different times of the days. This term we will do an early morning drill, between 8.45 and 9, in order to ensure pupils know what to do during this transitional period of the day. For parents dropping off at this time, we ask that if you have not got to the classroom when the bell goes, you return with your child to the school gates and wait for the all clear. Once the child has gone into class, please do not return to the building – the children will be signed in and then follow the school's fire drill procedure.

We also now have a Lockdown procedure – this is for when we want to keep the children inside. An example might be: a dog on the playground or a fire nearby with a large amount of smoke. If we need to run this procedure we will keep parents informed when the all clear is given via our text and dojo system. Please bear in mind we will not admit access to parents or families to the school during this procedure.

Another aspect of our safeguarding is to ensure our children know how to keep themselves safe. Last term we took part in anti-bullying lessons. This term each class will focus on keeping safe online. The classes that have had their lessons so far have surprised us by talking about being friends with, and talking to, strangers online particularly through the game Fortnite. We have lots of sources available to support and advise about these issues. A great place to start for children and parents is: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Finally a reminder about morning safety – some of the children are climbing on the banks outside of school whilst waiting in the morning. Please remind them not to do this – especially as it becomes slippery and muddy at this time of the year and we now have our bulbs coming up.

Chinese New Year Menu

There will be a special menu from Chartwells on Tuesday 5th February in celebration of Chinese New Year. The children will be able to choose from Chinese chicken noodles or sweet and sour Quorn and sticky banana pudding.

Parent Contacts

A reminder please to ensure that we have up to date contact numbers for you, should we need to contact you about your child during the school day. With so many having to be sent home this week poorly, we have noticed the difficulty we have had with numbers not working or 2nd and 3rd contacts not provided. Many thanks for your support with this.

Attendance

The national government target for pupils' attendance is 96%. We will send a reminder letter home to parents when their child's attendance is flagging up as below national expectations. The last week's attendance percentages are:

Reception	91.6%
Year 1	93.6%
Year 2	93.9%
Year 3	94.2%
Year 4	92.7%
Year 5	95.8%
Year 6	94%

Whole School Attendance
93.7%

Values in Action

These wonderful pupils have been spotted demonstrating our school values throughout the week:-

Reception: Esme – compassion
Joshua – responsibility
Class 1: Jessica – friendship
Louis – all our school values
Class 2: Millie-Rose – confidence
Brogan – forgiveness
Class 3: Molly – compassion/kindness
Filip – respect and thoughtfulness
Class 4: Jhah Jhah – understanding and compassion
Ryan – kindness and compassion
Class 5: Abbi – generosity
Abbi and Evalyn – advocacy
Class 6: Brooklyn – great choices – respectful, kind and honest
Everyone in the football game for kindness and compassion

Good Learner

These are our star learners this week:-

Reception: Gracie – resilience
Lincoln - independence
Class 1: Konrad – self-discipline and focus
Hannah – great progress due to trying hard
Class 2: Feb – respectful and responsible
Joshua – reflective and responsible
Class 3: Jacob M – challenge and positive attitude
Amelia – responsibility
Class 4: Rennimae – resourcefulness
Ronnie – positive attitude
Class 5: J.V. –great learning home and school
Charlotte and Ellie – home learning
Class 6: Magda – home learning, responsibility
Dexter - determination

Dates for the Diary

Fridays – Year 5 Swimming	14 th March Breathe Outdoors Workshop – yr4
Tuesdays – whole school music specialist lessons	Wk Beg 18 th March – dates to be confirmed – Parents' evenings
Tuesdays – yr4 Kernow House visits	20 th March Pupil Health and Well-being MOT
Wednesday 16 th Jan Bike-ability – yr5 4 weeks	28 th March Full governors 5pm
Thursdays Yr 6 SATS focus groups 3.15-4.15	Easter Service – St Mary's – last week of term – date to be confirmed
Wednesday 13 th February Attendance Clinic	End of term Friday 5 th April
Friday 15 th February Year3 and 4 Bike-ability	Start of summer term: Tuesday 23 rd April
Friday 15 th February – break for half term	SATs week 13-16 th May
Monday 25 th February – back to school	
7 th March – Youth Council	

Links for further info Don't forget, you can access information about the school via our website: <http://www.stcatherinescofe.co.uk/index.php> and Facebook: @stcatherinesandaras

Parent View: As a parent of a child in our school you can complete an online survey for our school at any time via Ofsted Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

We also share class information via Class DoJo <https://teach.classdojo.com/>

Yours sincerely, Mrs Louise Kussey Executive Head

