



St Catherine's C of E School Autumn Newsletter 4- 8.11.18



Dear Parents,

School Improvement

Our school priorities moving forward in to the new year's school improvement plan include:

- Raising standards in children's writing including cross-curricular writing
- Developing the curriculum to include life skills and contextual learning
- Improving community links and global learning.

The full school improvement plan will be available on the website by the end of the month.

Curriculum Information

New half termly curriculum maps are available on class pages of the school website.

Collective Worship

This week we have been thinking about remembrance in collective worship. Year 1 and 2 have created their very own Poppy display using their design and technology skills to produce the beautiful display outside of school.

Class Dojo

By now you should have received a letter from your child's class on how to sign up to Class Dojo. This is an interactive on line app that allows direct communication between you and the class teacher enabling the sharing of the great things your children are doing at home and in school. It also supports a messaging service to enable you to let us know anything that we need to know or vice versa. We hope to get everyone signed up as it has already had a great impact on that really important home-school communications and links to support your child's learning progress. Find out more at <https://www.classdojo.com/> and pop in to see the teacher if you need help with this. We have now set up a Dojo Whole school story to follow as well.

School nursery

A reminder that our nursery takes children from 2 years old. We are also setting up Class Dojo for this class. Please pop in and see Mrs Bishop if you are interested in a place at nursery.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' meetings will be held next week in all classes.

Days are as follows:

Reception: Monday and Tuesday

Year 1: Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 2: Monday

Year 3: Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 4: Wednesday and Thursday

Year 5: Monday and Tuesday

Year 6: Tuesday and Thursday

Sign-up sheets are displayed in class, alternatively message the school through Class Dojo to request an appointment. If you can't make these evenings please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative time.

Youth Council

Our school council year 6 members have begun their Youth Council meetings with the Mayor of Launceston, Margaret Young, where they have a chance to discuss and input ideas about things that concern them in the local community.

Children in Need

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 16th November for a donation in support of children in Need.

Anti-bullying Week

All classes will be taking part in anti-bullying awareness activities and learning next week as it is national Anti-bullying week. You can find out more about this year's theme 'Choose Respect' here:

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2018-choose-respect>

After-school clubs

Due to a low take up this term in our after-school clubs –the following clubs are now open to these year groups:

Dance Club - Mondays - Years 3-6

Multi-Sports - Wednesdays - Years 1-3

Handball/Basketball - Wednesdays- Years 3-6

Please let your child's teacher know if you want to join or send us a message on Class Dojo.

Christmas Performances

We have now been able to confirm availability with the town churches and so can confirm our Christmas performances this year.

KS2 will perform on **Monday 17th** December at **St Mary's Church** from **6pm**.

Reception and KS1 will perform on **Tuesday 18th** at **Central Methodist Church** from **5pm**.

Information about rehearsals will be sent out nearer the time.

Holiday Challenge

We have had an amazing response to this half term's holiday science challenge. The entries will be judged tomorrow (Friday 9th) and you are welcome to pop in and see the fabulous habitats in the school hall after school on Friday.

Attendance

The national government target for pupils' attendance is 96%. Our educational welfare officer questions us about any pupil's attendance that is falling below this. We understand and appreciate illness happens but unfortunately this means we cannot authorise other absences unless for extenuating circumstances. There is very clear research showing that low attendance has a negative impact on children's progress. If you are struggling with this, we are have a number of ways we can support you so please do pop in and see us. As a result of this statutory requirements 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:

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|-----------|-------|--|
| Reception | 90.3% | Whole School Attendance 91.3% |
| Year 1 | 82.8% | |
| Year 2 | 92.4% | |
| Year 3 | 92.7% | |
| Year 4 | 91.4% | |
| Year 5 | 98.7% | |
| Year 6 | 90.4% | |

A reminder please, it is a statutory requirement to inform the school if your child is off school. If we are unable to ascertain a reason for a child's absence we have to record them as an unauthorised absence.

Values in Action Awards

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

Reception: Esme – forgiveness/Louis – courage

Class 1: Amina –helpful and responsible/Malachi – respect, responsibility and friendship

Class 2: All of yr2 – School and community values/Freddie H – Role models all values

Class 3: Connor –maturity and responsibility/Daniel – Fantastic attitude, perseverance and resilience

Class 4: Millie B– Respectful/Grace – kind, compassionate and respectful

Class 5: / Luka– generous and helpful

Class 6: Jasmine T –An amazing role model/Grace – compassionate, kind and thoughtful

Good Learner Awards

These are our star learners this week demonstrating our learning powers:-

Reception: Theo – Reflection/Moly – always wanting to improve

Class 1: Phoebe – Resilient and responsible/Gerard – responsible

Class 2: Bella – Fantastic learning attitude/Freya – responsibility and focus

Class 3: Aarushee – Perseverance and challenge/Frankie – responsibility

Class 4: Oliver – Resilience and problem solving/Milli T – resilient, positive, challenged

Class 5: /Chloe – trying her best

Class 6: Ruby –Courage /Shanelle –resilience

Dates for the Diary

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| Tempest Photography Day 9 th November | Christmas Craft Day 14 th December |
| Holiday Challenge Presentation and viewing 9 th November | KS2 Christmas Performance – St Mary's – Monday 17 th December 6 pm |
| Wk Beginning 12 th November – Parents' Evenings | KS1 Christmas Performance –Central Methodist – |
| Friday 23 rd November Yr5 Ancient Greek Day | Tuesday 18 th December 5pm |
| Yr1 Hearing Screening 27 th November | Last day of term Thursday 20 th December |

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 Hussey
Executive Head