



## St Catherine's C of E School Autumn Newsletter 3- 19.10.18



**Dear Parents,**

### **School Improvement**

We hope you have been able to complete our traffic light whole school challenge questionnaire. Thank you for those already received. We will keep collecting them until November so please bring any further replies in to class.

### **Curriculum Information**

New half termly curriculum maps will be available after half term.

### **Collective Worship**

We have been thinking about thankfulness and harvest in this week's collective worship and in particular about being thankful that we have enough to eat and clean water to drink, and about those who might not be as lucky. Year 6s acted out a scene to demonstrate this to the school.

### **School Admissions Applications**

Letters have been sent home to year 5 pupils to remind parents that applications for secondary school places are now open and need to be made before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. Applications are open for reception class places, these need to be made before 15th January 2019. More information can be found at: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/apply-to-start-school-or-transfer-to-junior-secondary-or-ks4-school-in-september-2019/>

### **Half term Activities**

Plymouth Argyle have a range of activities available for children over the half term. For more information see the letter on our website letters page or visit their website on [www.argylecommunitytrust.co.uk](http://www.argylecommunitytrust.co.uk)

### **Parent helpers**

Parents and grandparents: If you are interested in volunteering in school, please do call in and let us know. We are looking for people to help in class but we are also looking to get our children gardening and planting bulbs and vegetables. You may have other interests and skills you'd like to share and that would be much appreciated in school – we'd love to hear from you!

### **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 online 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 communication and links to support your child's learning progress. Find out more at <https://www.classdojo.com/> and call in to see the teacher if you need help with this.

### **System changes**

Over the half term we will be having a new telephone system installed which should hopefully be up and running as we return to school. The system will have a new answering service with a range of options that should make it easier for you to report absences, leave messages etc. We are also hoping to have all our school dinner money and menu choices added to School Money by the end of term so we can be a completely cashless school. We'll let you know as soon as this is up and running. Please do see the office staff if you have any queries or concerns about using School Money, they are happy to support you with this process.

### **Parking**

The police station next to the school have agreed to allow parents to park in their over-flow car park between **8.30** and **9** and **3** and **3.30** to help ease congestion and improve safety for our pupils.

## **Attendance**

In-line with government statutory requirements and other schools nationally, we are continuing to work hard on improving attendance in the school as it has such an impact on children's learning and progress. Our whole school target is to be greater than 95% - this includes lateness which is marked as unauthorised after 9.20am. **Any child who drops below 90% flags up as a concern – in real terms this equates to almost a month off school which has a huge impact on their learning. Please do see me if you have any concerns over your child's attendance.** The last week's attendance percentages are:

Reception	91%	<b>Whole School Attendance</b> <b>94.5%</b>
Year 1	99.3%	
Year 2	93.8%	
Year 3	96.7%	
Year 4	92.1%	
Year 5	95.3%	
Year 6	92.9%	

*A reminder that absence for reasons other than the child's illness or medical appointment do go down as unauthorised.*

**A reminder please, that if your child is late (after the front gates are closed at 9am), they must sign in via the school office so we can be sure they are registered as being in school, many thanks for your support with this.**

## **Values in Action Awards**

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

Reception: Lillie K – always using her manners/Tuscan – courage

Class 1: Bill and Malachi – trust and responsibility/Louis – trust, respect and friendship

Class 2: Kalina – shining example of all values/Joshua – friendship and thoughtfulness

Class 3: Libby – courage/Lola – Friendship

Class 4: Darcey and Amelia– compassion and responsibility/Grace – kind, compassionate and respectful

Class 5: Noah – Helpful and supportive/ Ellie – positive and resilient

Class 6: Emily – compassionate, kind and helpful/Millie - courage

## **Good Learner Awards**

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

Reception: Porsche and Antonia – trying hard/ Piotr – resilient learner

Class 1: Julia – Persevering and improving/Amina – responsible and resilient

Class 2: Roseanna – all learning powers always/Skye – enthusiastic and mature learner

Class 3: Lina – role modelling learning powers/Megan – resilient learner

Class 4: Ethan W – independence and great results/Courtney – responsible

Class 5: Melissa – independent home learning/Jayden – positive attitude/independence

Class 6: Eran – responsible and mature attitude/Jacob – hard work to achieve good results

## **Dates for the Diary**

Half Term 22-26<sup>th</sup> October

Yr1 Hearing Screening 27<sup>th</sup> November

Tempest Photography Day 9<sup>th</sup> November

Wk Beginning 12<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evenings

Christmas Craft Day 14<sup>th</sup> December

KS1 Christmas Performance – Central Methodist –  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 5-6 pm

KS2 Christmas Performance – St Mary's Church –  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 5-6 pm

Last day of term Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 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/>

**Yours sincerely,**

***Mrs Louise Hussey* Executive Head**

