

Dear Parents,

### School Improvement

Last week, we were visited by our two academy improvement officers to support us in monitoring progress towards our school improvement priorities. During the visit they looked at books, watched lessons, carried out learning walks and spoke to pupils and staff in a similar way to an Ofsted. We have now received the report and are very pleased with how positive it is. The school is improving in its provision for pupils and outcomes for pupils' learning in all areas. Our targets are to continue to do this and in particular to ensure marking focuses on spelling, handwriting and punctuation so that pupils can correct basic errors to meet their age group expectations.

### Curriculum enrichment

After half term, we will be adding to our curriculum enrichment activities with rugby lessons from the Cornish Pirates, badminton coaching and a visiting artist as well as trips, well-being days, St Piran's parade and more.

### Collective Worship

This week the children learnt all about Candlemas – they even had to do some maths in collective worship working out the length of time between Christian celebrations and special days. In Open the Book the children heard the story 'A time to build'. This encouraged the children to think about giving people a second chance.

### Safeguarding

The government have recently released guidance for parents about children's screen and technology use. The advice can be seen in the photo and click on the link for the full report.

<https://safeguardingschools.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=efe032677d94ceba51dd39a7f&id=7f55213242&e=32e782cea9>



### 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	89.5%
Year 1	93.5%
Year 2	93.5%
Year 3	93.8%
Year 4	92.7%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	93.4%

**Whole School Attendance**  
**93.2%**

The EWO has visited this week to support families in improving attendance. Please let us know if we can support or advise in any way to help keep all our pupils' attendance high.

### Michael Morpurgo Month

One of our whole school improvement priorities is developing and extending vocabulary. As part of Michael Morpurgo month, there is a competition which asks pupils to record any new words that they come across in any of the Michael Morpurgo books they are reading. Please encourage your child to keep a record (can be with adult support as needed), of any vocabulary that they encounter and hand to Miss Davy.

### **STEM Engineering Project**

The whole school are all signed up to be part of an engineering project - 'If you were an engineer what would you do?' To kick start the project, we took part in an online event with a Mechatronic Engineer from Gaist Solutions, Jenny Roberts, who told us live via the internet: "I *am* an Engineer – this is what I do!" The children thoroughly enjoyed the session – especially being able to ask the engineer questions about her exciting job.

### **Holiday Science Challenge - Let it rain**

If you wish to take part in this term's science challenge, then you will need to brush up on your knowledge of the water cycle. Your challenge is to produce a poster, PowerPoint or a 3D model of the water cycle. We would love to hear some key facts about this process with a focus on how temperature affects the rate of evaporation. This challenge is optional – a certificate will be awarded for the most inventive and creative designs from each year group and key stage. We are looking forward to seeing your creations. All challenge entries should be brought into school by Friday 1st March so they can be put on display. Good luck!



### **World Book Day**

World book day is on Thursday 7th March 2019. The theme this year is "Let's share a story". As well as some of the class based activities, we are hoping that pupils will share their favourite stories with one another.

If the children wish to come dressed up as a book character they may do so – however, this is not compulsory. Our aim, and the aim of World Book Day, is to develop a life-long love of books and reading which is proven to improve children's overall academic performance. We are happy to let the children decide what they would like to wear on this day. <https://www.worldbookday.com/> Please also see the letter to parents on the School Dojo page about the World Book Day activities.

### **Shakespeare Project 2019**

This year we will be performing Romeo and Juliet as part of our link with The Royal Shakespeare Company, Launceston College and other cluster schools involved. If your child would like to be a part of this, please message Ms Davy via Dojo. This will be run as an after school club on a Friday from 3:15 - 4:15 pm, starting on Friday 1st March (the first Friday back after half term). This opportunity is open to pupils from Year 2 - Year 6. Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Ms Davy, Miss Bruce or Mrs Roberts. Thank you.

### **After School Clubs**

Monday and Wednesday sports clubs will resume after we return in the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> February. There will be some changes to activities provided which Miss Rowe will share on Class Dojo once providers have confirmed.

### **SATS Parents Evenings**

Mrs Roberts will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 6 pupils on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March in Year 6 at 3.15pm. Miss Davy will hold a meeting for parents of year 2 pupils at 3.15pm, in year 2 on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. These meetings are to go through the statutory assessments that these children will take in May this year. It will be a chance to share the expectations and process for the tests and for you to ask any questions or share any concerns.

### **Values in Action**

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

- Reception: Kian - responsibility
- Class 1: Harper – responsible and thoughtful
- Class 2: Lewis – kind, caring – all values
- Class 3: Lina – thoughtful, mature, good decisions
- Class 4: Rennimae - thankful
- Class 5: Cerys – generosity
- Class 6: Eran – courage and responsibility

### **Good Learner**

*These are our star learners this week:-*

- Reception: Martha – passion and positive attitude to learning
- Class 1: Benia – reflective and curious
- Class 2: Annija – positive attitude/ working hard
- Class 3: Kubus – resourceful learner
- Class 4: Ethan K – independent learner/great progress
- Class 5: - Aaron – excellent home learning
- Class 6: Millie P – resilience and positive attitude

### **Dates for the Diary**

Fridays – Year 5 Swimming	Easter Service – St Mary’s – last week of term – date to be confirmed
Tuesdays – Year 5/6 Recorders	End of term Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April
Tuesdays – yr4 Kernow House visits	Start of summer term: Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
Thursdays Yr 6 SATS focus groups 3.15-4.15	May – Year 2 SATS
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February – break for half term	KS2 SATs week 13-16 <sup>th</sup> May
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February – back to school	May 27 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> Half term Week
4 <sup>th</sup> March Yr6 SATS Parents’ Meeting	Wk beg 10 <sup>th</sup> June Yr1 Phonics Screening
5 <sup>th</sup> March – Yr2 St Piran’s Day Parade	3 <sup>rd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> July yr6 Residential
6 <sup>th</sup> March Yr2 SATS Parents’ Meeting	15 <sup>th</sup> /16 <sup>th</sup> July Yr 6 Transition Days Launceston College
7 <sup>th</sup> March – Youth Council/World Book Day	24 <sup>th</sup> July end of term
14 <sup>th</sup> March Breathe Outdoors Workshop – yr4	
Wk Beg 18 <sup>th</sup> March – dates to be confirmed – Parents’ evenings	
20 <sup>th</sup> March Pupil Health and Well-being MOT	
28 <sup>th</sup> March Full governors 5pm	

**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/>

**Have a lovely half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.**

**Yours sincerely,**

*Mrs Louise Hussey*

**Executive Head**

### **After-School Childcare Provision**

I have received a number of queries about the school providing after-school child care provision (An after-school version of Breakfast Club). We trialled this last year but found we lost a significant amount of money due to lack of uptake. I am prepared to run another trial under a slightly different model but would like to ascertain parent opinion about times, costs and likely uptake. If you would be interested in this, please could you complete the slip (Sent home on Tuesday and return after half-term. Many thanks.

I would be interested in after school child care **Yes/No**

My preferences would be:

Times: 3.15-4.15pm Or \_\_\_\_\_

Costs: £2.00 per child Or \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative

suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_