



St Catherine's C of E School Spring Newsletter 1- 18.1.19



**Dear Parents,
Happy New Year and welcome back!**

School Improvement

Teachers received training on our INSET day at the start of term in a programme called 'Trauma-informed schools'. This was about schools being able to support pupil emotional health and well-being. The training is based on scientific research and all staff have received basic training whilst our Parent Support advisors have received the full 10 day training. We hope this will allow us to help all pupils to be able to be happy in school and ready to access and maximise their learning opportunities.

The second half of our training was looking at the importance of vocabulary development. Look out for vocabulary mats for each class topic – these will be shared via dojo. We have been trying out word of the week also and all our pupils now have access to spelling shed.

Curriculum Enrichment

Music Lessons -We began our music specialist lessons this Tuesday. The children had lessons linked to their current topics and had great fun with singing and composition activities.

Residential Home Project- Year 4 began their visits to Kernow House this week. The children who went this week, were brilliant and made ice creams and sang to the residents they met. The second group will go next week.

Bike-ability -Year 5 have begun their cycling proficiency classes this week. Year 3 and 4 will have a Bike-ability day later in the term.

Balance Bikes –A group of Year 1 children will have balance bike sessions for the next three weeks.

Swimming – year 5 will attend swimming every Friday afternoon this term.

Forest School – Year 1 will be having forest school sessions every Wednesday afternoon.

Theatre workshop – year 5 will have a theatre workshop on Friday 25th January.

Badminton Event – Some of our year 4 pupils will be attending a badminton skills festival next Tuesday.

Yoga – On Tuesdays from next week, Nursery and Reception will be starting Yoga sessions.

Holiday Challenge

We have extended our holiday challenge until the end of next week – if your child still wants to submit an entry the remit was: The council are looking to build a new library within 2 years and are looking for children to contribute innovative and creative ideas to bring the library alive and into the 21st Century. The children can include in their designs what the library might look like, what additional rooms might be available for new technologies, what activities and events might be included in the library schedule and ideas to attract clients. Designs and ideas can come in to school in any format the children choose.

The second challenge is again to submit ideas for development of the local area, this time Priory Park which the council are looking to renovate. The children can design a new play area in any way they wish. They may want to consider local issues like parking, ideas for all age groups etc.

All ideas will be shared with the Mayor but the school will choose a winning entry from each class again.

We hope we receive as many wonderful entries as we did for the animal habitats!

Staff news

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Claire Garland to our team, starting on 1st February as our new lunchtime supervisor.

Collective Worship

This term we will be exploring the ideas of new beginnings, new thinking, what is important, relationships, behaviour and what is worth learning. Several of the children have been active participants regularly contributing their thoughts and evaluations already this term.

St Piran's Day

Class 2 will be taking part in this year's St Piran's Day parade in Launceston on the 5th March. Further details will be sent out nearer the time. Chartwells (our school caterers) will also be holding a St Piran's Day theme menu.

School Communications

Over the last two years, the school has trialled a range of methods to communicate well with parents any information coming out – this includes paper and e-mail newsletters, paper notes, text, Facebook, Twitter, the school website and now Class Dojo. By far, the most successful has been Class dojo which allows whole school communication, class communication and messaging between home and teacher as well as the ability to share pupils' fab learning in school and from home.

Due to this, we will now use this as the main form of communication. We will continue with a newsletter which will be published on Dojo and the website and letters will be sent home as a paper copy when a permission slip is required. Information and letters will of course go on the website too.

The school office will continue to use texts to communicate information that they need to share.

Class Dojo can be accessed both by the app which can be downloaded onto any devices or by logging on via the class dojo website: <https://www.classdojo.com/>. We are now getting close to 100% sign up as a school. If you need help signing up, please do pop in to see your child's class teacher who can set you up and show you how it works.

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	98.1%
Year 1	90.8%
Year 2	95.8%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	95.7%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	97%

Whole School Attendance
96.65%

Our attendance Clinic will be held on Wednesday 13th February in the morning. If you'd like to attend this to get advice and support for attendance from our Educational Welfare Officer, please let the school office know or your class teacher via Dojo.

Values in Action

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

Reception: Lydia – helping others
Class 1: Tian - responsibility
Class 2: Oliver – all school values always
Class 3: Harry – fantastic role model
Class 4: Daria – respect and helpfulness
Class 5: Harvey – thinking of others
Class 6: Ben – kind, fair and respectful

Good Learner

These are our star learners this week:-

Reception: Samantha – desire to learn
Class 1: Archie – all learning powers
Class 2: Freddie B – focused and reflective
Class 3: Maria – 100% in all learning
Class 4: Kacie-Joe – responsibility
Class 5: Mollie – excellent home learning
Class 6: Jake – responsibility

Dates for the Diary

Fridays – Year 5 Swimming
Tuesdays – whole school music specialist lessons
Tuesdays – yr4 Kernow House visits
Wednesday 16th Bike-ability – yr5 4 weeks
Thursdays Reception Balance Bikes 3 weeks
Thursdays Yr 6 SATS focus groups 3.15-4.15
17th January -Youth Council
25th January – Yr 5 Theatre group workshop
Friday 15th February Year 3/4 Bike-ability
7th March – Youth Council

14th March Breathe Outdoors Workshop – yr4
Wk Beg 18th March – dates to be confirmed – Parents' evenings
20th March Pupil Health and Well-being MOT
28th March Full governors 5pm
Easter Service – St Mary's – last week of term – date to be confirmed
End of term Friday 5th April
Start of summer term: Tuesday 23rd April
SATs week 13-16th May

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