



What a wet and windy week! It hasn't dampened our spirits though but it has highlighted the fact that not all children are coming into school with a coat or correct footwear. Can you please ensure your child has a coat every day and is wearing smart black shoes—not trainers! Also, please ensure that girls tie long hair back. Thank you.

It has come to our attention that some parents are unsure about the safety of some online apps, games and websites. Our staff attended Online Safety training earlier this week—there is always something new and good to know the most up-to-date information and advice. Watch this space for parent information sessions.

You may or may not know about the government's plans regarding funding for schools. Cornwall Association of Primary Heads (CAPH) has composed a letter to explain the plans to all parents, which we have included at the end of this newsletter. Please take a few moments to read and take action if you would like to support funding for schools in Cornwall. Thank you.

Debbie Carmichael, Head of School



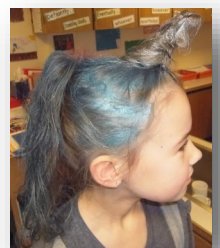
We are pleased to introduce to you our new Reception teacher, Mrs Becky Prior, who will be starting after the half-term. She brings with her many years' experience of working in the Early Years and has already spent time with the Early Years team, getting to know the children.

Rainbows 1 parents are invited to an informal meeting at 3:20pm on Friday, 24th February to meet Mrs Prior over tea and biscuits.

BUG BUSTING DAY!

Thank you to you all for supporting our first Bug Busting Day with such enthusiasm—it was great to see so many whacky hairstyles and we hope it served to remind everyone to check children's hair for those pesky beasties on Tuesday!

Everyone should have brought home a comb to help check your child's hair. If you didn't get one, please call into the school office to get your free comb.



DIARY DATES

Rainbows gingerbread making workshop— 7th February
Rainbows Tea Party— 8th February
Valentine's Disco—10th February
Half Term—13th—17th February
Reception Vision Screening—22nd February
Meet the Teacher in Rainbows 1—24th February at 3.20pm
World Book Day—2nd March (children's charity dress up day, more info to follow)
St Piran's Day—5th March
London Information Evening—8th March at 4pm
British Science Week—13th—17th March
Open Afternoon for our Immersive Curriculum—20th March at 1.30pm (more details to follow)
Red Nose Day—24th March (children's charity dress up day, more details to follow)
Year 5 Residential Trip to London—29th—31st March
End of Spring Term—31st March
Summer Term begins—Tuesday 18th April
Year 6 SATs Week—8th—11th May
Year 3 Residential Trip to Camp Kernow—22nd—23rd May
Year 4 Residential Trip to Porthpean—22nd—24th May
Year 6 Residential Trip to Barton Hall—19th—23rd June

**There will be no Parent/Toddler Group on
1st & 8th February**

BAD WEATHER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of snow or extremely bad weather, we will text out to all parents any closure news. It will also be posted on our website and announced on Radio Cornwall/Pirate FM. If we take the decision to close the school during the school day, you do not need to contact us before collecting your child as this would only overload the telephone lines. Please rest assured we will NOT close the school until all children have been collected.
Many Thanks



VALENTINE'S DISCO



Friday 10th February
Reception, Year 1 & 2—3.30pm—4.15pm
Years 3—6—4.30pm—5.30pm
£1 Entry and £1 Snack Pack to be paid on the door on the day.
Children will not be permitted to take photo's at the disco.

Year 5 Residential to London - March 29th to 31st 2017

We have now finalised the trip to London for our Year 5 children and it looks fantastic!

We have planned to hold parent information meetings on:

- **March 7th at 4 pm at GR for any parents**
- **March 8th at 4 pm at BB for any parents**

Attendance by Class

Little Doves	97.7
Little Fish	94.3
Little Lambs	96.3
Peacocks	96.7
Phoenix	95.0
Pelicans	93.7
Angels	94.8
Faith	96.2
Hope	94.3

Congratulations to Little Doves Class with 97.7% attendance!

Please ensure your child only takes time off for medical reasons.

If your child is unwell and absent from school it is really important to call the office on 01726 64322 by 9am to inform us and avoid any unauthorised absences.

Tesco Uniform Embroidery Service page new link:

<http://www.tesco.com/direct/bishop-bronescombe-cofe-va-school/6254.school>

Dear Parents,

The Cornwall Association of Primary Headteachers has advised that this letter would be sent to all parents explaining to them the very serious financial pressures that schools are facing. The heads and their governing bodies are also writing to their MP; many have already done so. During the last week or two, MPs from across England have been raising their concerns with the Secretary of State and on the floor of the House of Commons – we are urging our MPs to add their voice to the growing concerns being expressed nationally.

The Government is imposing real terms funding cuts on schools by freezing the amount of money that is allocated to schools for each pupil at the same time that inflation, the contributions that schools have to make towards their employees' pensions and National Insurance contributions have risen significantly. This affects all schools and academies alike, both primary and secondary. Whilst the amount of money coming into schools from government has remained static, the amount going out on expenditure due to government imposed changes has risen considerably.

Schools across the country are funded differently, and have been for many years. Generally, schools in rural areas are funded at a lower level than those in cities. This government has been brave enough to try and address these differences and introduce a new National Funding Formula, and the initial details were announced just before Christmas. However, rather than help rural areas such as Cornwall, it is now clear that many schools will actually lose funding; the new formula announced will do nothing to help the majority of schools in Cornwall. Figures from the National Association of Headteachers, National Union of Teachers and the Association of Teachers & Lecturers, using the government's own formula and statistics, show that between now and 2020 there will be an average cut in funding of £339 per pupil in primary schools across the Country. Some Cornish schools have already made staff redundancies over the last three or four years, class sizes have already increased.

It is clear that schools in Cornwall are already struggling with their finances. We do not want children in this county to miss out on being taught a full curriculum in a school which has sufficient teachers and support staff to give children the attention they need to make the best of their education. The current Government was elected on a manifesto that promised to protect school funding. It is clear that this pledge is not being honoured in real financial terms. We are asking our MPs to press the Chancellor to use the Budget to announce increased education spending. We are also asking our MPs to stress the impossible financial situation that Cornwall's schools are facing when meeting with the Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening and her ministers. The Chair of the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee, Graham Brady has asserted that "it is clear that the draft published by the DfE does not rectify the long-standing unfairness of education funding," and many other senior Conservative MPs have already publicly condemned the funding reforms announced.

What can parents do to help and support their school?

The more people that raise their concerns with their MP, the more likelihood there is that changes may be made. The government is currently consulting on their funding reforms, so now is the time for Cornish parents to make their voice heard. You can do two things:

- Sign a national online petition by clicking on this link: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/contact-us> AND
- Email your MP; you can use this link if you wish: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/email-your-mp>

Your local MP will be expecting to hear from you – they know that we are sending this letter to you all!

Debbie Carmichael, Head of School

