



BBeebies trip out.....On Tuesday afternoon, BBeebies went to visit St Austell Community Fire Station. The firefighters told us all about their roles and the special clothing they have to wear to protect themselves and keep them safe. We got to sit in a fire engine and even had a go at using a fire hose to spray water!



Parent Forum

Thank you to the several parents that attended our termly Parent Forum on Monday evening. A wide-ranging discussion took place that covered the following areas:

The future of St Piran's Cross MAT.

Mr Lees thanked parents for their kind words about his work and his retirement from teaching in August. He confirmed that the MAT Board are currently advertising for a replacement Executive Principal and interviews are planned for **23rd February 2017**. The Trust are also considering merging with a bigger MAT as we are considered to be too small by the DfE. Any merger would be consulted upon.

Communication with Parents. Mr Lees asked parents what they thought of the school establishing a Facebook page to further engage parents. There were mixed feelings about this, with some parents in favour and some worried about how it might be used. One parent talked positively about the **'Dojo'** pilot project that Mr Deadman's class are trialling. This allows for feedback on the child's day from teachers as well as an easy and effective method of communication between teachers and parents. Mrs Carmichael said she would discuss with the rest of the teachers with a view to possibly rolling out across the school in the near future. Concerns were also expressed about the late notification of special events and dressing-up days. Mrs Carmichael said that she would remind staff to give parents fair notice of these in future.

School website. There were some concerns expressed about how difficult aspects of the school's new website are. Parents find it impossible to download photos of their own children and the presentation of the website on mobile phones is not great. Mr Lees said that they would feedback these concerns to the website designers.

Spelling Karate. Parents all agreed that they liked the positive spelling karate approach, recognising that this encouraged their children to learn their spellings. However, two concerns were expressed about this approach: some teachers do not give enough spellings to enable the child to build up toward a black belt and staff do not always keep on top of who has achieved which level. Mrs Carmichael said that she would check on these concerns.

The immersive curriculum. A discussion was held about the new approach to the curriculum. Children and staff are generally positive about this approach. Parents will have the opportunity to come and observe this new approach later in the term.

Charging for trips and events. Parents asked if the word **'voluntary'** could be dropped from the request for money for trip and visits. Mr Lees stated that we had to say this but hoped parents would pay for these special events. Most of these events are subsidised, we do make a loss on many of them. The support of parents is greatly valued.

Volunteer drivers. A parent asked for clarification on volunteer car drivers. Mr Lees and Mrs Carmichael said the trust's policy was that all drivers who carry children including staff must have filled in a volunteer's drivers form, have a DBS check and have the correct car insurance. This is why we try use our two new trust minibuses whenever we can.

DIARY DATES

Second Hand uniform sale—24th January at 3.15pm

BBeebies visit to the library—30th January

National Bug Busting Day—31st January (non uniform)

Year 2 SATs meeting—2nd February at 3.30pm

Valentine's Disco—10th February (see below for more info)

Half Term—13th—17th February

World Book Day—2nd March (children's charity dress up day, more info to follow)

St Piran's Day—5th March

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 beings—Tuesday 19th 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 London—19th—23rd June

Parent & Toddler group is on Wednesday's at 1.45pm in our school hall. All welcome.

Rainbows went to Tesco on Thursday to take part in their 'Farm to Fork' trail. We focused on 'ginger' throughout the trip which linked with our topic of 'Food' and our new story 'The Gingerbread Man'. The children were given a tour of the working bakery and watched how the machinery make bread dough. We all had a go at making our very own bread gingerbread man - the dough was really soft and the children loved kneading it to create gingerbread men. Our bread went into the big ovens to be cooked.

We also went to the dairy counter. We all tasted cheddar cheese which was really yummy. Claire-Louise, the leader of the 'Farm to Fork' trail also found us some cheese with ginger in. We had mixed opinions on the taste of that one!

At the end of the morning we went to the loading bays where the big lorries come in. Claire-Louise spoke to us about what produce comes in and where they have come from.

Miss Steele and Miss Jane would like to thank all the parents that helped on the trip, Claire-Louise from the 'Farm to Fork' trail and all of Rainbows children for their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the day - the children really were a credit to our school!



Attendance by Class

**Congratulations to Faith Class with
98.3% attendance!**

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Little Doves | 90.3 |
| Little Fish | 98.0 |
| Little Lambs | 94.0 |
| Peacocks | 93.0 |
| Phoenix | 98.0 |
| Pelicans | 94.3 |
| Angels | 95.5 |
| Faith | 98.3 |
| Hope | 96.0 |

Please ensure your child only takes time off for medical reasons. If your child is unwell and absent from school please call 01726 64322 by 9am to inform us.

VALENTINES DISCO

BBFriends are hosting a Valentine's Disco on
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 are not permitted to take
photos at the disco)

BB Friends would like to thank Kier Construction for their extremely generous donation of a brand new shed. We now have space to store things for all our fundraising events for the children.

Now that we have the storage space, if you have any unwanted Xmas gifts please email bbfriends@btinternet.com and we will arrange to collect them from you at school and we can use them for this year's secret Santa. Many thanks for all your support.



Kim Robertson

PSA

A warm welcome to Kim Robertson who joined us this week as PSA. You can expect to see Mrs Robertson in school on:

Monday- 8.30-1.30 Tuesday- 8.30-5.00
Wednesday 1.30-5.00 Thursday 1.30-5.00
Friday 8.30-1.30

The weekly drop in sessions remains as Monday from 8.30 am

If you wish to meet Kim, please pop in and say hello!

ParentPay

Do you need some pointers or advice on how to use the system? Would you like to take part in a short, practical workshop which takes you through the basics of the system?

If so... please register your interest with us by calling in at reception or contacting Mrs Kay- 64322/ secretary@stpilianscross.co.uk



PE kits PE sessions can occur on different days of the week. Please can we ask that PE kits are brought into school for Monday morning and are kept in school

for the whole week to allow for this. Thank you .

BBFriends are holding a second hand uniform sale in the Ark on

**USED UNIFORM
SALE**

**Tuesday 24th
January at 3.15pm.**



Baby & Children's Nearly New Sale!

Date: Saturday 4th March 2017 at 10am—1.30pm

Venue: St Newlyn East Village Hall, TR8 5LE

In support of Wadebridge Christian Centre for a missionary visit to the Ebenezer Grace Children's home, Ethiopia 2017. www.esmafrica.org/

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

