



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

Newsletter

What a week! We have had a brilliant week in many ways. Pancake races were great and we have reflected on the reason behind this Shrove Tuesday tradition in our Collective Worship. Lots of children took advantage of St Piran's Day by enjoying a pasty lunch—yum! This was followed by finding out about why St Piran is so important for Cornish people.

I was pleased to see many children starting to bring in donations for our Lent Give It Up challenge in aid of Cornwall Hospice. The challenge runs throughout the Lent period so there is still plenty of time to get involved.

Thursday saw us celebrating World Book Day. There was a great atmosphere around the school with children enjoying many reading and book-related activities. Highlights were definitely our paired reading sessions when older and younger children paired up to read to each other and the open afternoon when 45 parents and grandparents joined children for more reading and creative book activities.

This was followed by our Parent Forum, attended by over 40 of you—the most we've ever had! Discussions took place on a wide variety of topics and it is always useful to us to hear our parents' views and suggestions. Thank you to all that attended but if you were unable to attend, minutes of the meeting follow at the end of this newsletter.

Please note that letters about our forthcoming parent consultation meetings are coming out soon. Bookings are to be made on our online booking system as usual. However, if you need any help with this, please speak to our lovely office staff, who will be glad to help.

Mrs Carmichael

BB Sports News.....

Six brave children represented BB at the area cross country finals on Thursday. Matas, Peter, Poppy, Daniel, Charlie and Jaiden all competed with real enthusiasm and a fantastic sporting spirit! It was an emotional afternoon as it was the culmination of months of hard work from these children. They all raced to the best of their ability and Jaiden managed to get third place and qualify for the Cornwall Games finals in a few weeks' time!

On Wednesday evening our MCSN cross country runners were invited to Poltair school for the league awards evening. We had the privilege of listening to two inspirational Cornish sporting heroes: bronze windsurfing youth Olympian Finn Hawkins and gold rowing Olympic medallist Ed Coode.

A huge congratulations to all the children who participated in this season's cross country fixtures and a special mention to Matas, Jaiden and Charlie for your awards.



A massive congratulations to Oscar and Edward who attended the Peninsula School's Judo Competition at Mullion School this week. Both boys won 2 fights and came away with silver medals. Well done to both of them.



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

The expected average attendance for a child is 96% for the year

Our attendance for this week is 96.63%

Our attendance for this school year is 96.27%

Well done to Doves & Faith class for the attendance stars of the week!

Classes	%	Lates	Class	%	Lates
Little Doves	100%	2	Pelicans	95.19%	4
Little Fish	95.02%	3	Angels	92.83%	4
Little Lambs	94.81%	1	Faith	100%	2
Peacocks	98.52%	7	Hope	93.1%	1
Phoenix	99.62%	0			

2018/19 Spring Term Diary Dates:

Fri 15th Mar—Red Nose Day—see below for details

Tues 19th Mar—Football and netball fixtures away to Lostwithiel

Wed 20th Mar—BBeebies visit to St Austell Fire Station

Thurs 21st Mar—St Austell Cluster Touch Rugby Tournament

Thurs 21st Mar—Y3 Eden Residential meeting @ 3.30pm

Tues 26th Mar—Rainbows 2 trip to St Blazey Church

2nd & 3rd April—Parent Consultation Meetings

Tues 2nd April—Easter Communion—2pm all welcome

Fri 5th April—Last day of Term, there will be no BBkids afternoon sessions

Tues 23rd April—Summer Term begins

Fri 3rd May—Half Price Bookfair

9th & 10th May—Y3 Eden Residential Trip

Mon 20th May—Y6 Skern Lodge meeting @ 3.30pm



WE'RE DOING THE

BBC RADIO CORNWALL

DIG RED NOSE DAY MOVEN GROOVE!



RED NOSE DAY—FRIDAY 15TH MARCH


This year we are doing something a little different in support of Red Nose Day. We are joining BBC Radio Cornwall in getting the day off to an 'awesomely active' start by participating in their 'Move 'n' Groove'. At 8:45am, schools around the county will be dancing together to music played by Radio

Cornwall. We will gather all children on KS2 playground and hopefully get a shout out on the radio in the process! We would love it if you could all children could show their support by dressing in red and donating £1.

BBKIDS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 01726 65471—THIS IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

Pancake Races





Thank you to everyone who donated to World Book Day, we still have donations coming in, so we will let you know exactly how much was raised in next week's newsletter. Well done to everyone who took part, you all looked amazing! Your child should have brought home a World Book Voucher to get £1 off ANY book or to purchase a special World Book Day publication.

Happy reading!



BECAUSE BOOKS AREN'T JUST FOR BEDTIME!

Parent Forum—Thursday, 7th March

Mrs Carmichael started by introducing the school's new School Improvement Partner—Karen Holmes. She is employed by the Trust to support us in school development and has been working with our leadership team since the beginning of this term. Mrs Carmichael went on to deliver a short presentation with a reminder of our school priorities; our actions since November 2018 and comments made by external monitoring. This presentation is available to read on our website under: Parents / Useful information.

Discussion then followed around the following:

Christingle / School Chaplain / Religious Education

Concerns were expressed about the content of the Christingle service and Pulse Ministries' visit to the school in December. Mrs Carmichael acknowledged these concerns as articulated in the letter sent out in early February. We confirmed that procedures for visitors making presentations etc within the school had been reviewed, including ensuring content is carefully checked by the leadership team prior to the visit.

Mrs Carmichael also confirmed that the School Chaplain's role is being clarified and defined with support from Diocese personnel.

A request was made for parents to be made aware of the content of future trips to the church. Mrs Carmichael said she would liaise with staff about a planned trip and share content with parents in recognition of recent concerns. However, we would not be able to do this for all trips and visitors in future as it would be difficult to determine where to 'draw the line'. Mrs Carmichael reiterated lessons have been learned and our protocols have been reviewed. We would therefore hope that parents can still trust what we are providing but can, at any time, check with class teachers about forthcoming events if they wish.

One parent expressed her thoughts that Bishop Bronescombe is a Church of England school and that what we share is coming from the Bible. This is something that she supported.

Do we teach other religions, including paganism? - We follow the SACRE curriculum, which includes other world religions. In fact, we celebrated world religion day a few weeks ago. Paganism is not on the syllabus.

Residentials

Why did the Y5 London trip go ahead for those that had paid a deposit? Can they be included next year?

Mrs Carmichael explained that due to fewer numbers wishing to go, the cost would have significantly increased. We can certainly consider including those children next year and will bear this in mind when putting together our offer for next academic year.

Is it standard for younger years (3 and 4) to attend residentials? This is something that we have introduced in recent years and something that has certainly enhanced what we do. We think it is appropriate for year 3 pupils to only stay away for one night.

Rainy day access

When it's raining in the morning can all doors be open earlier?

Staff need time to set up but we will talk to the staff and encourage them to open their doors as soon as they are able to do so when the weather is bad. We are unable to use the hall due to it being used by BBKids breakfast club and Funfit. A canopy will be fitted on Rainbows' patio at the beginning of the summer term so this may help.

Drinking water – some children have noticed a funny taste in their water.

Water coolers are in place throughout the school and are tested regularly. It was pointed out that different areas have different tasting water so might just be what the children are used to. Bottles are regularly washed in the school dishwasher. KS1 children will be allowed to fill their bottles from the sink in KS1 kitchen if they would prefer.

Summer sun

Will any more shade be provided for the summer?

Trees at the bottom of the pitch, the buddy shelters and the ark all provide shade. Children can access indoors for water breaks. Packed lunches will no longer be eaten outside.

Buildings and premises

Is it possible to have latches on the KS1 doors to hold them open? We will have this checked by our site supervisor.

Why are children entering Rainbows classes from the KS1 side of the patio? Parents feel this is awkward. Mrs Carmichael will check, discuss with staff and consider alternatives.

There is a bench impeding access to the KS2 playground. We will get this moved.

School photos

A parent felt that one photo to choose from was not good enough as they usually have more than one photo per child.

We can liaise with our photo providers next time and see what they can do.

Homework

A parent sent in a query by email to request that a sanction be put in place if children do not hand homework in as her child often forgets, causing problems at home.

We currently give rewards to children completing and handing in homework and children are reminded to hand it in. The general consensus of opinion was that the incentives were better than punishment. Children in KS2 are encouraged to complete homework at the lunchtime club if not completed at home.

A parent requested that homework be marked consistently as this is not always the case. Mrs Carmichael would remind teachers to ensure this happens.

Swimming – extra lessons were given to strong swimmers in preparation for a recent gala. Will this happen again?

We have requested this from Polkyth and are awaiting a response. We will chase this up as we would like to offer this as an invite-only after school club.

Punctuality

A suggestion was made by a parent that we could incentivise punctuality by rewarding with extra playtime. A parent commented that lateness was generally down to the parent rather than the child. Mrs Carmichael welcomed the suggestion and would consider it when making future plans.

Fire evacuation

We had an accidental trigger of our fire alarm on Wednesday afternoon. One parent wanted it to be shared that he was very impressed with how quickly we evacuated the whole school.