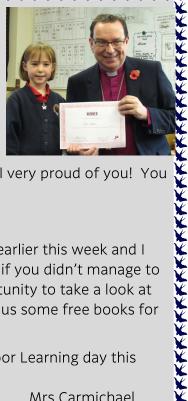
HEAD'S BLOG

A very proud moment this week— we welcomed Bishop Philip to the school so that he could present Beth in Little Fish with a certificate for being the winner of the Bishop's annual Christmas Card competition! Beth's design was selected as the winner out of about 600 entries, which is an amazing achievement. When asked about the inspiration for her design, Beth quite matter-of-factly said, "Well, it's because Jesus is the light of the world!" We were also thrilled that Beth's success has also led to the school being granted a £100 voucher, which we will spend on



some books for our KS1 library. Well done and thank you, Beth; we are all very proud of you! You can read more about this on the Diocese website:

https://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/2019/11/cracking-christmas-card-competition/

🕻 It was great to see so many of you at our Parent Consultation meetings earlier this week and I hope you found these valuable. Please contact your child's class teacher if you didn't manage to \mathbb{Z} make it in this week. I'm glad so many of you managed to use the opportunity to take a look at the Book Fair. Thanks for Mrs Manton for running the sale, which netted us some free books for school too! Bonus!

Fortunately, the weather brightened up enough for us to celebrate Outdoor Learning day this week and the children took full advantage! See the next page for more....

Mrs Carmichael

Christmas shoebox appeal

Many thanks to those of you who donated to the shoebox appeal this year. We were able to give 25 shoeboxes to the 'Link to hope' charity and these shoeboxes will go to people in either the Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania or Moldova, and will make a massive difference to their

Christmases

there. I was touched to see that one of the children in my class had written a prayer this week praying that the shoeboxes would get to these people safely, and that would be my prayer too. Thanks again to everyone. Mrs Horwell @



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

Our Christian values: Compassion, forgiveness, trust, respect, courage and perseverance

PHOTO PAGE









Fun at the Book Fair



Outdoor Learning Day

This week we celebrated Outdoor Learning Day!

Early Years have been exploring mark making using vehicles and shaving foam. We went on an autumn-themed treasure hunt to see what we could find. The children then had a go at doing some observational drawings of their treasures and writing some adjectives to describe them. We have been hunting for sticks in the secret garden, comparing their different sizes and sorting them into the correct size order. Key Stage 1 have been roasting marshmallows on the campfire and talking about fire safety. They have also been making nature crowns and exploring which autumnal colours they can find on our school grounds. Key Stage 2 explored the secret garden, collecting natural items to make arrays to support their multiplication.



ATTENDANCE

The expected average attendance for a child is 96% for the year Our attendance for this week is 95.66%

Our attendance for this school year is 96.32%

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

Classes	%	Lates	Class	%	Lates
Little Doves	97.32%	2	Pelicans	98.57%	3
Little Fish	94.65%	0	Angels	94.64%	4
Little Lambs	94.81%	2	Faith	99.23%	0
Peacocks	96.43%	2	Hope	93.19%	0
Phoenix	95 93%	1			

PSA



We are now into November and it continues to be a pleasure to be meeting new faces and supporting those of you that I have had contact with so far. I am contactable via the office or you can drop me a text on 07903 613074. I can support you with a variety of issues and if I do not have the answer, I will work with you to ensure we put you in touch with the help that you, your family or your child needs.

Our 'Kids Matter' Parenting programme has gotten underway again and it is really encouraging to be meeting parents and carers who are keen to engage and benefit from helpful insights that ultimately promote healthy, positive relationships within families. If you are interested in finding out more about future Kids Matter programme or the Incredible Years Parenting programme, please do get in touch.

A lot of the work I do links families with other support services. Are you informed about the Early Help Hub and the services and support that they can offer? More information can be found at https://www.comwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/early-help/parents/ Please get in touch with me if you'd like some advice.

I have again been reviewing patterns of attendance and absence.

Things are improving as we move along the term! We now currently have a reduction in the number of pupils recorded with less than 90% attendance so far. However, in line with Government expectations, it is our school policy to aim for 96% attendance for all of our pupils. Please be reminded of our RAG system which is designed to alert you to the fact that your child's attendance is falling below expectations.

GREEN band—96% to 93%

AMBER band - 93% to 90%

RED band (persistent absentee) - Below 90% - as per DJE definition

Quite a few pupils seem to be falling ill and taking time off to recover and we must reiterate that pupils should only be kept home in exceptional circumstances. As a school we are committed to promoting resilience and urge parents to encourage their children into school, along with some Calpol if necessary. There are lots of helpful tips at https://www.calpol.co.uk/illnesses-symptoms Very often, once here with their friends and distracted by the tasks of the day, we notice that children can frequently 'bounce back'. They may of course require a little more rest and TLC on returning home but importantly they will not have missed out on their learning opportunities.

I very much want to support families with any issues you may be having in relation to attendance or punctuality, whether this be related to illnesses, worries or any other barriers.

I am due to meet with our Education Welfare Officer to review any concerns we have so far this academic year and it certainly makes this process far easier if families are forthcoming in requesting support.

PSA

Other important news:

St Austell Family Hub has the next OASIS Face to Face support group running on 25th Nov and 9th Dec from 10-12. They are a friendly, free support group trained to provide emotional support and sign posting to parents and carers of children with any additional need and are a great source of support if you have any early concerns about your child's needs.

St Austell Family Hub has a drop in session to meet with a Family worker on 13th Nov and 11th Dec between 12.30- 2.30. If you are having any issues in the family home and feel you have run out of ideas about how to tackle the latest challenges, why not pop along and see if they can offer you some ideas?

Perhaps you are attempting to manage some challenging behaviours from your children and feel you could benefit from some specific advice? St Dennis Family Hub is holding the next drop in support group on the 20th Nov from 12.30-2.30.

There is no need to book. If you are feeling too nervous to attend alone, drop me a message and we can see if I can go along with you for some support.

PSA CONTACT DETAILS—01726 64322 or 07903 613074
Working days Monday 08:30—16:30, Wednesday 08:30—16:30 and Thursdays 08:30—13:30

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2019/20 Autumn Term Diary Dates:

Tues 12th November—Year 2 Parents Maths meeting @ 3.20pm Wed 13th November—Odd Socks Day (National Anti-bullying Week) Thurs 14th November—Year 1 Parents Maths meeting @ 3.20pm

Fri 15th November — Children in Need dress up—Wacky dress up day! £1 donation

Tues 26th November—Years R—6 Immunisations w/c 9th December—Christmas plays

Fri 13th December—Christmas Jumper Day

Wed 18th December—Christmas Lunch

Fri 20th December—Last day of Autumn Term (school finishes at 3.15pm / no after-school provision)

<u>Christmas Play Dates:</u>

Nursery & Reception—Monday 9th December

KS1-Tuesday 10th December

LKS2-Wednesday 11th December

UKS2-Thursday 12th December

Performances at 10am & 2.30pm—information on tickets will be sent out next week.

SECRET SANTA

Friends of BB are delighted to be organising Secret Santa again this year. We know the children love it. For those who don't know, Friends of BB come into school and have a sale of small items suitable for the children to give as gifts to adults in their life. These items are carefully selected by the child then they have them gift wrapped by BB Friends Elves. Please could you donate a small gift for a man and a woman, Friends of BB will be collecting the gifts at the Ark on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th November between 8.30 and 9am. (Sorry, but we cannot accept alcoholic products, or fictional/autobiographical books as we cannot sell them to the children - recipe/cook books are ok. Thank you)

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY cont......

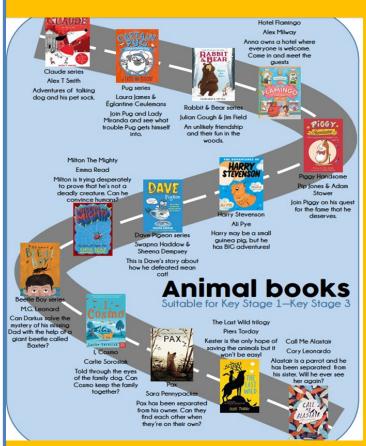
We will be taking part in anti-bullying week this year and the theme is 'change starts with us.' The whole school will be focusing on this on Wednesday 13th November and we will be having an odd socks day. We encourage everyone to wear odd socks. It's a chance for the children to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way by asking pupils to wear odd socks to school. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it couldn't be simpler!

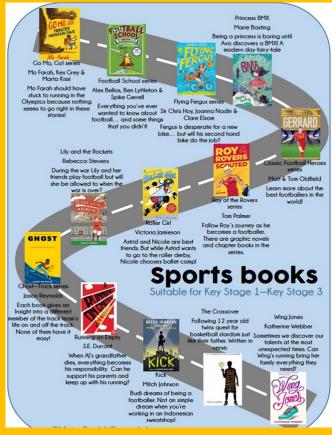


READING

Following a request from the Parent's Forum, we will be happy to make suggestions for suitable books for Christmas gifts on the newsletter or alternatively send a message via class dojo to your class teacher, if you have a specific request. I thought it might be useful to give some suggestions in themes – this week is animal themed stories or sports-themed stories. The posters below, provide some examples on the themes, starting from easiest to read to hardest – up to the first bend in the road, the books are more suited to KS1, after the first bend in the road, the books are more suitable for lower key stage 2 and after the second bend in the road they are suitable for upper KS2. Please bear in the mind the last book is suitable for KS₃ so may contains themes that are not appropriate for primary school children. If the book is too tricky for independent reading, you could always read to your child. Remember that you might be able to read an extract of the book on lovereading4kids.com before you buy it







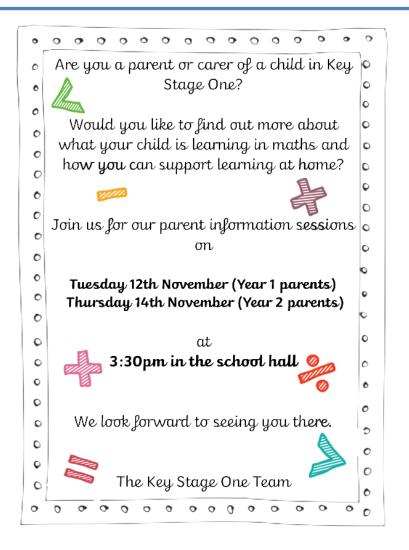
SCHOOL NOTICES PAGE

The newsletter is always available on our website and we also send it via email and Class Dojo. Please advise our office staff if you are not receiving the newsletter in the preferred way. We do not share the newsletter on social media platforms so that we abide by individual parental consent and we ask that parents do not share on Facebook, Instagram etc, even in private groups. Many Thanks.

BB School Parliament

On Monday at break time we will be selling Match Attax for 50p per pack. In the first instance, we will only be able to sell 1 pack per child. If there are more packs at the end of break, we will share them out fairly between the classrooms but will still cost 50p. The proceeds will go to our School Parliament fundraising initiatives.





School Admissions

If your child is due to start school in September 2020, detailed information about the admissions process is available online or on request from the School Admissions Team.

Please ensure you name more than one preference. It will not mean less chance of securing a place at your preferred school. Please note that if you do not apply on time your preferred school/s may already be full.

If you need support with your application process, please contact the office or contact the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

Deadline dates:

Application for starting school—15th January 2020

Please apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



01726 850362 - www.wheal-martyn.com - St Austell PL26 8XG







