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Newsletter
No. 4
Dec 2015

Attendance Update

Whole school attendance: 92.7%

For period 26th Nov – 17th Dec Class with best attendance: **Year 2 = 94.3%**
Class with lowest attendance: **Year R = 90.7%**

Attendance

As you will be aware, attendance is key at St. Mary's. We work tirelessly with our families to try and make sure our children are in school 100% of the time so that they can access the full curriculum on offer to them and make at least good progress. This year, we have introduced attendance awards in our weekly celebration assemblies. We will continue to present all those with 100% attendance this term with a certificate in our closing assembly. In addition, every child with a certificate will be entered into a prize draw. This term, the prize will be a £30 cinema voucher for Wadebridge Cinema. This prize draw will be repeated at the end of every term. At the end of the school year, all children with 100% attendance for the whole school year will be included in a grand prize draw! We appreciate that children do have one off unavoidable illnesses which can lower their attendance marginally. For this reason, all children with 98% or above for the year will be recognised in some way also.

Please be assured these attendance awards are only one way of celebrating and recognising achievement in school. We will continue to celebrate our golden citizens, the least golden time losses and individual class rewards throughout the year.

Breakfast Club

On Friday 5th February, our lunchtime team will be on training. For this reason, there will be **no Breakfast Club** facility. In addition, there will be no tuck available at break time. If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will be provided with a school packed lunch.

Family Learning Challenges

In response to parental satisfaction surveys carried out in November, teachers have been preparing optional family learning challenges for the children to complete at home throughout the spring term. This is not homework and there will be no expectation for children to have completed the tasks. However, a celebration of games, challenges and work completed at home will be included for children who have completed a challenge throughout the term.

Golden Time!

Our 'Least Golden Time Losses' winners for this half term are YEAR 2!!!
Well done Year 2 - keep up the great work!



KS2 Play 'A Christmas Carol' DVDs are on sale at £3.00 each. Please order your copy from the School Office.

Maths Makes Sense

As part of our commitment to raising standards for our children at St. Mary's, both teachers and teaching assistants will be completing training in 'Maths Makes Sense' on the 4th and 5th January. Maths Makes Sense is an exciting and new approach to teaching the mathematics curriculum. Mrs Drzymala, our maths leader, will be holding information sessions for parents at 9:00am on the 20th January and 2:30pm on 21st January. The same information will be given at both meetings - please choose one to attend. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

After School Clubs

Will start again week commencing Monday 11th January. If your child would like to change club, please ask him/her to see the teacher running the club.

Church Christmas services and masses

Christmas Eve Carol service 24th Dec 5:30pm

Christmas Eve Mass 24th Dec 6:00pm

Christmas Day Mass 25th Dec 10:30am

*****ALL ARE WELCOME!*****

Staffing Update

We say goodbye to Mr Rowles and Miss Carthew who leave us at the end of this term. We wish them both all the very best for the future.

We welcome Mr Giles Head as Year 5 Class Teacher from Spring 2016.

Our Talents!

We know our children are extremely talented for many different reasons! We are asking children to bring in a photograph of themselves showing their talents in the first week back after Christmas. This is for a whole school display celebration.

Fairtrade Group

Our handmade cards were a fantastic success and raised £100 for charity to help refugee families this Christmas.

Fundraising

Scholastic Book Fair made £187.50 in books

Children in Need - £555 for Superheros Day

Poppy Appeal - £236.95 (second highest donation from an organisation in Bodmin!!)

Save the children & other charities - £162.00 for Christmas Jumper Day.

Thank you to you all for your support and generosity to these invaluable causes.

Nursery Children

Was your child born between 1st Sept 2011 and 31st Aug 2012? If so, you will need to apply to **Cornwall Council** for a place in Reception Class - your child **will not** automatically get a place in St Mary's Reception. Visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions for applications and more information.

Friends of School - (FOS)

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success and made over £1350 which will be spent on extra resources in school to enhance your children's learning.

Bingo

A Family Bingo evening is planned for Friday 22nd January at 5pm - more info to follow.

Dates for your diary:

End of Autumn Term: Fri 18th Dec, 2pm finish

Inset Days: Mon 4th & Tues 5th January. **School closed for children**

Start of Spring term: Weds 6th January 2016

Private Music Lessons start w/c Mon 11th January.

Mass Dates: In School at 2.40pm – all welcome!

Weds 13th January – Year 1, Epithany

Weds 27th January – Year 3, Candlemass

Weds 10th February – Year 4, Ash Wednesday

Weds 2nd March – Year 2, Lent

Weds 16th March - Penitential



Special Headteacher's Mention for Florence Osborne Saunders who welcomed parents into the school so beautifully for the KS2 Christmas Play. Thank you Flo! **Mrs McGovern, Acting Headteacher**