



St Catherine's C of E School Spring Newsletter 1- 19.1.18



Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful and joy-filled Christmas. The children have come back full of enthusiasm, calm and ready to learn despite the awful weather we've been having. Please do provide a coat for your child daily, as we do try to get out for at least a short while every day!

School Improvement – Maths

Next week our year 5 parent/pupil Chicken Club starts. You will be able to check out what is going on, in our journey to improve maths and get hens in school, via the school website!

Maths – helping at home:

Remember we have subscribed as a school to two online programmes Mathletics and SUMDOG– both programmes are designed to help children develop their maths skills and pace of working. You should have received your child's log-ins by now (please let your child's class teacher know if this hasn't come home yet). You can access these games via: <https://community.mathletics.com/signin/#/student> and www.sumdog.com

Launceston's Rotary Club Youth Speaks

The Rotary Club are holding their annual Youth Speaks competition at the Launceston Golf Club next week. We have entered a team and so wish them luck in this first heat.

On-line Safety

Please find attached an online safety parents' newsletter. This gives updates on programmes/apps to watch out for, reminders about age restrictions for social media apps etc. Don't forget we have an on-line safety information page on our school website which also provides a form that you can report any concerns or request support or information. In addition, should you have any on-line safety queries, concerns or would like any support with setting up safe Internet use at home, please feel free to make an appointment with Mr Bevan, our IT and Computing lead.



Collective Worship

This term we are focusing on exploring and understanding our school vision which is summed up: *At St Catherine's Church of England School, we strive to educate our children to realise their aspirations and to contribute positively to society guided by our Christian principles.* We link this closely to the Church of England's vision for education which is to 'educate for wisdom, hope, community and dignity'. In our school we try to focus on how we behave, how this might impact on others and how to make the right choices. As school leaders we use this to help us make decisions for the good of the children, school and community.

Nursery age range

We are delighted that the DFE have approved our application to change our nursery age range so that pupils may begin in the nursery from 2 years old. Once the legal paperwork has gone through we will put this in place to start after the Easter holidays.

School safeguarding

We are always continually updating and reviewing our school safeguarding procedures to ensure best practice in school for all our pupils and staff. With this in mind we have asked that any children arriving in the morning for Breakfast Club can only be admitted via the front door by the Breakfast club staff so that they can be registered correctly as present. The first time that a child accesses either Breakfast Club or after school club, parents will be asked to complete a contact and medical/allergy form. Finally, please remember to book on-line via school money before attending- a school i-pad will be used at reception to ask you to complete the booking before entry to the club if not pre-booked.

Year 5/6 Residential and alternative

A reminder that for those children in year 5 and 6 who have chosen the residential option this year, the deadline for the £50 deposit is 31.1.18 to secure a place on the trip. This leaves approximately £25 per month payment required depending on final costs. We will confirm the final price and send out an itinerary as soon as our bookings are confirmed. We are currently planning the alternative and will let you know arrangements for that as soon as it is confirmed. There is no need to pay a deposit for the alternative choice yet.

SATS dates

A reminder that this year's year 6 SATs will take place in the week beginning 14th May. Year 2 SATs will take place throughout May and June and Year 1 phonics screening will be in June.

Shakespeare Project

We are very lucky to have been offered the opportunity to be involved in an exciting project working alongside three other local primary schools, Launceston College, Hall for Cornwall and the Royal Shakespeare Company to learn and perform "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare. The final production will be on Friday 29th June 2018, the venue is to be confirmed. We will be able to have a maximum of thirty pupils from Years Two to Six. Rehearsals will take place after school on a Monday from 3:15pm—4:15pm starting after half term. A separate letter will be sent to sign up for this.

Governor Appointment

We are welcoming Claire Fishleigh as a new foundation governor this term. We will be adding her bio to the school website so you can find out more about her.

Attendance

In-line with government expectations and other schools nationally, we are continuing to work hard on improving attendance in the school as it has such an impact on children's learning and progress. Following advice from our Educational Welfare Officer, who monitors attendance in the school, we will not authorise term time holidays unless in exceptional circumstances. Our whole school target is 95% - this includes lateness which is marked as unauthorised after 9.20am. The last week's attendance percentages are:

Reception	99.3%
Year 1	97.7%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	94.5%
Year 4	98.5%
Year 5	95.3%
Year 6	99.3%

Whole School Attendance

97.5%



A reminder that absence for reasons other than the child's illness or medical appointment do go down as unauthorised.

Values in Action and Child of the Week Awards

Reception: Tabby	Reception: Bill
Class 1: Roseanna	Class 1: Freddie H
Class 2: Cerys	Class 2: Anna
Class 3: Jennifer	Class 3: Jamie
Class 4: Ryan	Class 4: Luke
Class 5: Alfie	Class 5: Grace
Class 6: Connor B	Class 6: Donna

Dates for the Diary

17.1.18 Full Governors' Meeting	9.2.18 Break for Half term
Wk beg 8.1.18 for 4 weeks Bikability	19.2.18 Back to school
Wk beg 15.1.18 Clubs start	14.3.18 Full Governors' Meeting
16.1.18 Shakespeare Project starts	Wk beg 19.3.18 Parents' Evenings
17.1.18 Football Match	23.3.18 Friends' Discos
23.1.18 Yr3/4 Multi-skills Tournament	29.3.18 KS2 Easter Service St Mary's (tbc)
23.1.18 Youth Speaks Competition	29.3.18 Break for Easter (No school Fri 30.3.18)
25.1.18 Yr 5 Pupil/Parent Chicken Club starts	16.4.18 Back to School

Links for further info

Don't forget, you can access information about the school via our website:

<http://www.stcatherinescofe.co.uk/index.php> and twitter: [@StCathsAndaras](https://twitter.com/StCathsAndaras) and Facebook: [@stcatherinesandaras](https://www.facebook.com/stcatherinesandaras)

Parent View

As a parent of a child in our school you can complete an online survey for our school at any time via Ofsted Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Louise Hussey

Head of School

