

Dear Parents,

Half term already in 1 week – how quickly this term has flown by! We will return to school on the 19th February.

School Improvement – Parent survey

Please find attached our annual parent satisfaction survey. Last year's really helped us put in some changes to improve our school. Please do take the time to complete the survey and return to your child's class teacher as your opinions are really valued and will enable us to move forward positively as a school – thank you as always for your support.

Maths – helping at home

In school, we have mathematical vocabulary lists that help with the technical language we use in maths within our national curriculum. If you'd like a copy let your child's teacher know. These will also be available to pick up at next half term's parents' evenings.

New teacher

This week we have appointed a new year 6 teacher who will take over from Mrs Currah after the Easter holidays. We look forward to welcoming Miss Leanne Whelan who joins us from Stoke Damerel Primary in Plymouth.

Launceston's Rotary Club Youth Speaks

Well done to our Youth Speaks Team – Charlotte, George and Maddie who have got through to the final after competing last week in Launceston.

Sporting Achievements

A great big well done to our football team who played in a tournament at St Joseph's last week – winning every match. Also well done to our year 3s and 4s who attended a multi-skills festival at Launceston college last week – great effort and commitment demonstrated. Our yr5s and 6s who completed their Bikability course last week also deserve a big well done. What we are so proud of is each of the pupils involved in these events represented their school so well, worked hard together as a team and showed great resilience and commitment to all they were doing – Fabulous!

Chicken Club

Chicken Club last Thursday saw the Chicken Club vote for the breed of hen they'd like to keep here at St Catherine's: this week they will be sprucing up the houses, putting up the fencing, preparing their food & perches ready for our hens to arrive!

The winning breed was Silver Laced Wyandottes (top right in photo) so we have some very fancy hens arriving in the next few weeks! All year 5 families welcome to drop in & out as suits them: expect cake, hot chocolate, chat about hens & to get muddy. Wellies recommended!



Collective Worship

This week we have been focusing on aspiration in our classes as part of our collective worship programme learning about our school values and vision. Each class has focused on what their own aspirations are and what aspirations they have for others – their family, their friends, their school.

Nursery

Our nursery children are joining in for the start of our Friday celebration assembly to receive a certificate celebrating their achievements in nursery that week. Children who are not in on a Friday afternoon will be presented their certificate at another point during the week.

Year 5/6 Residential and alternative

A list will go out next week after deposits have been collated with pupils in the residential group and pupils in the school activities group for June this year. Thank you for the deposits received so far.

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

As part of our link with Launceston College and the Royal Shakespeare company, Children who have signed up to the project have been fortunate enough to be invited to watch a First Encounters "Julius Caesar" at Launceston College on Friday 9th February. A separate letter with the details of this has been sent out.

Year 3 Trip

A letter has gone out this week for a Class 3 trip for next Thursday. The children will have a great day out and we're pleased to say will also be improving our environment through their beach cleaning activities – well done Year 3!

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	93.7%
Year 1	94.7%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	88.3%
Year 4	93.4%
Year 5	92.5%
Year 6	97.6%

Whole School Attendance

93.7%



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

Nursery: Amelia and Oscar

Reception: Ollie and George

Class 1: Skye and Jack

Class 2: Connor and Honey

Class 3: Darcey and Sascha

Class 4: Mollie, Alistair and Sarah

Class 5: Brooklyn and Sophie

Class 6: Abel and Anna S

Nursery: Jacqueline and Riley

Reception: Jack and Jamie

Class 1: Feb and Taran

Class 2: Kubus and Tommy

Class 3: Joe and Phoebe

Class 4: Karol and Cerys

Class 5: Ben and Dexter

Class 6: Bradley and Anna C

Dates for the Diary

8.2.18 Class 3 Trip

9.2.18 First Encounters Shakespeare Trip

9.2.18 Break for Half term

19.2.18 Back to school

14.3.18 Full Governors' Meeting

Wk beg 19.3.18 Parents' Evenings

23.3.18 Friends' Discos

29.3.18 KS2 Easter Service St Mary's (tbc)

29.3.18 Break for Easter (No school Fri 30.3.18)

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 Kussey

Head of School

