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Weekly Benson Bulletin

16 December 2016 No 14

www.archbishop-benson.cornwall.sch.uk



Message from Mrs Giblett

Ofsted Attendance Grades		
96.5% + High	96.1% - 96.4% Above national average	95.5% - 95.9% In line with national average
94.0% or below Low	90% or below Cause for concern	85% or below Persistent Absence

Our whole-school attendance rate for this week was 95.70%.

Congratulations this week to 4Treilissick who were top of the attendance table with 100% attendance. Well done!

Christmas Wishes

The festive mood has continued unabated this week and got off to a wonderful start with the charming KS1 Christingle Service on Monday evening. The Light Dance to the music of the Nutcracker suite was magical. Since then the school has been awash with Yuletide sights, smells and songs!

At our KS2 Carol Service, we collected £126.72 and at our KS1 Christingle we collected a further £212.00. This money (£338.72) now goes to the Children's Society. Thank you very much for your generous support.

We have come to the end of another incredibly busy and successful term. It is amazing how much staff have packed into just 14 weeks. I know that you will want to join with me in thanking the teaching and support staff for all their hard work and good cheer right up to the very last day. I am very proud and grateful for all that they do. I am also equally grateful to members of staff and helpers who may get a little forgotten at this busy time of year. A big thank you to:

- The office and admin staff who are particularly busy in the last week of term and yet still remain so helpful and friendly.
- Our site supervisors and cleaners who have to cope with keeping the school looking good in the midst of plays, services, festive cooking and seasonal art work (all that glitter!!).
- Our wonderful army of volunteer helpers who have helped us faithfully throughout the term, but to many more who helped out in the past

couple of weeks with cinema trips and class activities.

- Our FABB team who work tirelessly in the background to support the school and to make a real difference to the lives of the children (and staff).

We also want to thank all our parents and carers for your support this term. We do appreciate the many, many ways that you engage with the school. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in 2017 after a well-earned and well-deserved rest for your children, and hopefully you too.

We do appreciate the positive comments many of you shared with us over the past couple of weeks at the various festive celebrations. If anyone would like to send in a written thank-you to the staff or children, then we will make sure to share it with them at one of our whole-school assemblies. They do love to receive letters and cards.

The Big January Games Collection

Just reminding you about The Big January Games Collection.

We know that lots of your children will be getting new toys and games for Christmas. Might you be able to do a bit of a clear-out in the New Year and donate some of the games that they no longer play with to the school. We would really welcome items that promote and encourage pairs or groups to play together e.g. board games, jigsaws, top trump cards, playing cards, colouring books etc. Perhaps you can talk to friends and neighbours and invite them to do the same

We are making a special appeal for Lego. As part of our Thrive programme within the school, we are discovering the wonderfully therapeutic value for many children of having time to play with Lego. We would love to create a set of mobile Lego play boxes to be able to use around the school, so all donations would be very much appreciated.

FABB members and staff will be on hand, soon after we return, to collect your donations and make sure that they go to a good home in wet play boxes for every classroom. Thank you

Wet mornings

We are very fortunate that the number of wet mornings we have had this year has been relatively few but when

they do happen, it does result in a change in our normal dropping off arrangements in the morning. When it is too wet to gather in the playgrounds, children are expected to go directly into their classrooms.

There are staff stationed at both the pedestrian crossing at the front of the school as well as the Infant gates and outside the Y2 classes, who will be able to confirm if wet morning procedures are in place that day.

We understand that for the Junior children it is quite straightforward for them to enter their classrooms either from the playground or the pathway outside their rooms. For our Reception and Year 1 pupils, it involves a longer walk around the outside of the school. We encourage our YR and Y1 parents to walk their children around to the classroom door on wet mornings. On the very odd occasion a child may be dropped at the gate and make their own way around to their classroom. This shouldn't be a problem as the Infant children are used to making their way to and from the playground several times a day. However, we are aware that it might feel different for a child first thing in the morning. Therefore we will be posting staff at points along the route to the YR and Y1 classrooms so that children remain in the line of sight of staff until they reach their classrooms

Mrs H Giblett



VLE Logo

I hope everyone is finding the new School website easy to use and navigate around. I just wanted to point out that the VLE logo (see right) in the top right hand corner on the home page is the login button for the School VLE. The School VLE is used by parents and children to view your child's attendance, access their class page to see what they are doing this term and for the children to access their homework and blogs on different topics.



If you have misplaced your login details, please contact the office or Mr Banks who will be able to reset your password and supply your Username.

Thank you

Mr A Banks

Music Lessons

All music lessons start the **first week** back next term.

FABB

Thank you to all staff, parents and friends for all your help during the year. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Our next FABB meeting will be on 9 January at 7.00pm in school. This is a school INSET day but we are still going to meet in the evening. Everyone is welcome to come along! You don't need to commit to helping out at a particular event, we just want your ideas. Come along and enjoy a slice of cake and support the school and all our children. We look forward to seeing you on the 9th.

Lost Property

All uniform/coats/lunchboxes, etc which have been left in the KS2 playground are placed in red bins outside in the sheltered area where the school uniform shop is located. Lost property from the Years 2, 3 and 4 area is placed in a container

under the sheltered area outside the Year 2 classrooms. Lost property for Reception and Year 1 classes is kept in the inside work area. Please ensure that all items are clearly marked with your child's name. The best way is to use the woven name labels on clothing as these are easily identifiable. Names written in biro on labels tend to fade and can be difficult to decipher. Please check that your child is wearing their own uniform, as we have some jumpers that have been lost and probably swapped with another child's by mistake.

Kitchen News

The current menu will continue until the Spring half term.



CLUBS

The new club list will be sent out in the first week of the Spring term.

Application forms for Go-Active gymnastics, Go-Active football, Capoeira, Yoga and Laura-Beth Dance are available now from the school office. Payment is required for these clubs.

Clubs run by outside agencies which you pay for will start week commencing 10 January.

Other clubs will start week commencing 17 January.

County Team Table Tennis Competition

On Wednesday 14 December, we took three teams to the Cornwall Under 11s team table tennis competition at Penryn College.

It was a fantastic afternoon's table tennis and all of our practice was rewarded with great success! Our B team reached the county final with a great 6-2 win against Bosvigo A in the semi-final. After defeating Bosvigo B 7-1, our C team then had a tough semi-final against our A team. Our A team won this to set up an all Archbishop Benson Final.

Some excellent table tennis was played in the final but, in the end, the A team were just too strong and won the game and the County championships with an 8-0 victory. This meant that we were County champions for the second year running! Our A team now go to Plymouth on Sunday 15 January for the South West England finals.

Well done to all the players and a huge thank you to Mrs Glanville for driving us to Penryn in the minibus.



Our A team and County Champions: Alfie, Sam, Daniel and Ruan.



Our B team: Max, Noah, Cadan and Perran



Our C team: Jalal, Luke, Lewis and Oliver

County Cup Boys Football Match v Mount Hawke

Archbishop Benson 4-3 Mount Hawke

On Monday 12 December, we went to Mount Hawke to play a football County Cup match. It was one of the most exciting matches of the season and one of our best attacking and team performances. Every player fought hard for the team to earn a good victory. We created countless chances and scored some excellent goals.

We started extremely well and took a 3-0 lead. Mount Hawke came back into the game well in an exciting second half but we scored another goal to secure a 4-3 victory. Our goals were scored by Perran, Freddie (2) and a great individual strike by Lewis. Noah made some great saves in our goal.

Well done to: Noah, Dan, Sam, Jake, Lewis, Perran, Oliver and Freddie and a huge thank you to all of the parents who helped take the boys to Mount Hawke.

Christmas Lights Spectacular – raising money for CLIC Sargent.

Try and make time to go and see the wonderful display of Christmas lights of our very own Miss Kemp from RR and her partner Mark. They are raising money for CLIC Sargent this year by once again festooning their house with a Christmas light spectacular. Mark and Tracey are inviting donations either via the collecting tins which will be scattered around the outside of the house or by visiting their Just Giving Page (www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mark-verran). Lots of hours and work have gone into creating this wonderful light show, so please help them raise as much money as possible.

The lights will be switched on each day between 5.30pm – 6.00pm until 9.30pm approximately. Weekends will be earlier.

Address: Behenna Drive, Malabar, Truro TR1 3RB



Uniform Shop

The school uniform shop will be held from 3.15pm onwards and can be accessed via the Junior (KS2) playground through the door between 6J and 5C.

These are the dates for our Uniform Shop:

- **Friday 6 January**

- **Friday 20 January**

We do hold a reasonable level of uniform stock in school but this can get sold quickly at the Uniform Shops. Ordering online will ensure you get what you want.

Porthpean Residential Camp

The date for the final payment for the Year 4 Porthpean Camp is Friday 28 April. A new payment item has been added to ParentPay which will allow payments in instalments up to the full amount.

Young Savers' Club

The Young Savers' Club is held on Wednesday mornings from 8.30am in the Infants Entrance. The next one will be Wednesday 11 January 2017.

Parentalk – The Primary Years

The Primary Years from Care for the Family is a DVD-based course for parents of children aged 4 to 11 years. It provides common sense, jargon-free information and ideas to help you engage with your children and boost your relationship. The course is about helping Mums and Dads do the best job they can at bringing up their children. See the poster at the end of the newsletter for dates and times of the course. For more information, you can speak to Emma Potter, a Year 1 parent, at school.

Christmas Services at St George's & St John's, Truro

Sunday 18 December: Advent 4

St George's

Christingle workshop at 3.30pm in the hall followed by Christingle service in Church. Bring an orange for each child – we provide everything else! Then Carol singing to the old folk at Tregolls Manor after the Christingle.

Saturday 24 December: Christmas Eve

St George's

4.00pm Family Blessing of the Crib Service with carols

9.30pm "Midnight" Solemn Mass of the Nativity. The First Mass of Christmas followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Sunday 25 December: Christmas Day

St John's

10.30am "Together in Worship" Benefice Family Eucharist with carols for Christmas morning.

Truro Methodist Church

Saturday 24 December

Truro Nativity at 2.45pm - Meet on the Truro Methodist Church forecourt at 2.45pm to follow Joseph and Mary as they walk the streets of the city, looking for a place to stay.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion at 11.15am – a traditional service of Holy Communion.

Sunday 25 December

Christmas Celebration Service at 10.00am – all are welcome to come and join a short service of worship and celebration. The wearing of Christmas jumpers, socks and onesies is actively encouraged!

Tresillian Chapel

Saturday 24 December

Family Christingle Service at 6.00pm – a Christingle service in the village chapel at Tresillian.

Truro Baptist Church – Christmas Encounter

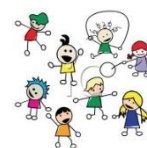
Sunday 18 December

- 4.00pm – Christmas Activities
Craft, story and music followed by a picnic tea.
- 5.30pm – Community carols around the Christmas tree followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

For more information, call 01872 241984 or visit the website at www.trurobaptist.co.uk

Stay and Play

Truro Nursery School, in partnership with Archbishop Benson School, offer a Stay and Play session on Thursdays in St Paul's Children's Centre from 9.00am – 10.30am. Play and early learning sessions for families following the early years foundation stage curriculum for ages 0 – 5 years. Cost is £2.00 per family (up to 2 children). First session is free to new families.



Next session: Thursday 5 January 2017 – Come along and join in the fun.

Dates for Your Diary

2017

January

Tue 3/1	Children return to school for the start of the Spring term
Mon 9/1	School closed for staff training day. FABB meeting in the staff room – 7.00pm. All welcome to attend.
Fri 20/1	FABB Quiz night

February

Thur 9/2	Valentine's Disco
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March

Fri 24/3	Mother's Day Coffee Morning
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June

Sat 24/6	Summer Fair
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July

Tue 25/7 Leaver's Reception & Summer Disco

Term Dates for School Year 2016 /2017

2016 -2017 Term Dates

Tue 3/1 Start of Spring Term

Mon 9/1 **School closed for staff training day.**

Fri 10/2 Break up for half term

Mon 20/2 Children return to school

Fri 31/3 Break up for Easter

Tue 18/4 Children return to school for Summer Term

Mon 1/5 Bank Holiday – school closed

Fri 26/5 Break up for half term

Mon 5/6 Children return to school

Wed 26/7 **Break up for Summer Holidays**



A great course that covers
essential topics for parents of
children in the primary years

**For further details,
speak to Emma Potter
(Y1 parent).**

Parentalk

THE PRIMARY YEARS

SUNDAYS 8TH JANUARY - 12TH FEBRUARY

10.30am - 12.00pm

Grace Church Truro, Fal Building,
Truro College, Chyvelah Vale, TR1 3XX

Childcare provided

www.gracetruro.org

www.careforthefamily.org.uk



