



Weekly Benson Bulletin

25th May 2018 No. 30

www.archbishop-benson.comwall.sch.uk



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

PUPIL WELFARE GROUP	
We pride ourselves on being approachable and are happy to discuss any concern with parents, no matter how big or small.	
Mrs Giblett (Headteacher)	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Galler Assistant Headteacher)	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs J Williams and Mrs B Morris	Special Educational Needs Coordinators
Mrs J Truen	Family Support Coordinator
PHASE GROUP LEADERS	
Mr Crocker	Y1-2 Phase Group leader
Mrs Kyte	Y3-4 Phase Group leader
Mr Kitto	Y5-6 Phase Group leader

Available pupil places at Archbishop Benson School Updated 25.05.2018						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
1	1	0	1	0	6	0

Attendance News:

Our whole-school attendance rate for this week was 95.9%

Congratulations to Classes 3K this week who topped the attendance table with 95.9% attendance. Well done!

Message from Mrs Giblett

SRE Programme

In the second half of the Summer term, we will be delivering our whole-school SRE (Sex & Relationships Education) programme. As you will be aware it is a government requirement that governors should have a policy on sex education. As with our delivery of RE & worship, we provide SRE not because we have to, but because we see it as an important part of developing the whole child. We understand that the use of the word "sex" can be a bit alarming for some parents who may feel that their child is "too young to be learning about sex".

Today we will be sending out an explanatory letter to parents about our approach to the teaching of SRE and an information overview on our SRE scheme of work.

We know that the vast majority of you are already aware of, and fully support, our approach to SRE as you have children making their way up through the school and they have experienced the programme year on year. You know that our SRE programme is always taught at age-appropriate levels and is delivered sensitively. However we always like to engage with parents annually, in advance of the SRE session, so that you feel informed and so that you can support your child at home in the way that best suits your family. Sometimes when the children move up into the Juniors some parents become concerned about what content will be shared with the children. This is understandable and we are always happy to discuss and share our teaching and learning materials with them. The SRE letter we are sending out today will outline what you can do if you wish to know more in relation to your child(ren).

Go Active Clubs

Last Friday after school, I took the decision not to authorise a football session run by Go Active to go ahead. As I explained to parents at the time, the school was not happy with the level of adult supervision for that session or by the fact that the adult who was sent for the session last week was new to the school and did not know the children at all. Since then, a number of parents have approached me and have been very helpful in offering some constructive feedback about some general concerns they have had relating to the Go Active clubs. I have been in contact with Go Active managers and I have made it very clear to them both our concerns in relation to safety and safeguarding as well as our expectations within these areas.

We have been assured by Go Active that the issues raised by us have been addressed. We will, of course, be monitoring the situation on a weekly basis and parents can feel free to feedback to us if they have any continuing concerns or if they feel that the provision has improved and that they are feeling happy that their children are safe and are having a good quality enrichment experience.

We have had a long and generally positive relationship with Go Active over the years but there have been a number of occasions when we have been disappointed and concerned with the quality of the service provided. I have made Go Active aware that unless the quality of service is improved and sustained, then we will seek to end our clubs arrangement with them. I just wanted to make the parents of children who are attending any Go Active clubs aware of this.

If this should happen, then we would seek to find alternative providers and it may be that parents will be able to assist us with this. If there is anything you wish to raise with the school in relation to this matter then please email the school on:

Clubs@archbishop-benson.cornwall.sch.uk

and Mr Thomas, our PE and Sports and Clubs Coordinator will ensure that your views or concerns are considered and responded to as best we can

Cornwall School Games Qualifier **QUAD KIDS Year 5/6**

Well done to the children that entered the Quad Kids event at Carn Brea on Wednesday 23rd May. Eight children from years 5 and 6 competed and each had to enter four events: long jump, throwing, sprint and long distance. They really enjoyed these activities, giving 100% effort and the weather was on our side with clear skies and no wind.

We will find out if the year 3/4 and the year 5/6 teams have qualified for the Cornwall School Games Finals, in the next few days.

Also, thank you to all the parents that came to support.

Mrs J Williams (Athletics teacher)





Touch Rugby Peninsula Finals

On Tuesday 22nd May, our touch rugby team went to Redruth Rugby Club for the Peninsula Finals. It was a fantastic day's rugby and the whole team did so well. In our group, we won one and drew one of our three games. Unfortunately, we just lost out on winning the group and qualifying on tries scored. However, this meant that we qualified for the plate competition. We then won our quarter-final and semi-final and were into the plate final! We were up against St Uny and it was a close game. It went to extra time and then to a sudden death try. Tom H then managed to score at the death to win the plate for Benson!

This marked the end of an excellent rugby season. We won the Truro Primary Schools competition, played at half-time of the Cornish Pirates v London Scottish game and then finished with Tuesday's success in the plate. We were also unbeaten for the whole season- winning 10 and drawing 2 of our twelve games played.

Well done to all of the players and thank you to Mr Thomas, Mrs Glanville and all of our fabulous parents who came to support.



Kitchen News

Wishing you all a lovely Half Term
from the Kitchen team.



Feeding back to parents on our attendance review letters

I just wanted to acknowledge and respond to some parental feedback that we had this week in relation to the attendance review letters we issued this week.

The purpose of the termly attendance review letter is to periodically inform all parents of their child's attendance rate. It is an expectation of Ofsted and the Education Welfare Service that we respond proactively to all pupil attendance that is either low or at risk of becoming low.

The attendance review letters are our way of ensuring that all parents remain aware of their child's attendance rate in relation to national expectations. It is also a means by which we can work more closely with those pupils and families where attendance may be an issue either within a single year or potentially for the duration of the child's time at school.

We strive to ensure that our attendance review letters emphasise the fact that we really do appreciate that a child may be absent from school in the course of the year for a wide variety of reasons ranging from holiday absence or a specific family issue to a one-off illness or accident or perhaps as a result of a more significant childhood medical condition or illness.

We also recognise that sometimes a child's attendance can drop dramatically within a single year because of a combination of issues, often unavoidable.

We wanted to make you aware that **all** parents receive a termly attendance letter based on our review of pupils' attendance rates.

- Where a child's attendance rate is above 95.0% (which is broadly the national average), parents receive what we call in school a Level 1 and this just allows parents to know that their child's attendance rate is in line with or above the national average.
- Where a pupil's attendance rate drops below 95%, we send out a level 2 attendance review letter. This letter will outline if a child's attendance is improving, remaining the same or has declined further since the previous attendance letter

We understand that this letter can be a shock for parents if they have never received one before which is why we try to reassure parents that we recognise and accept all the genuine and understandable reasons why a child's attendance may be low. However, the school also has a duty of care to make sure that every child has their full educational entitlement and sometimes that means that we have to bring that to the attention of parents either collectively or individually.

In the L2 letter we mention that if your child's attendance rate is due to higher than average levels of illness or unauthorised absence, then the school may arrange to meet with you to discuss the situation and how we can work together to improve your child's attendance. This does not mean that we are definitely going to contact you. In most cases, we do not choose to meet with parents as we are already aware of the reasons for the pupil absence and it is not a matter of current concern for us.

We also mention in this letter that any parent can provide us with evidence of medical/GP appointments or a GP/medical report, particularly where their child may suffer from a recurring condition like asthma or an ears/nose/throat issue. This is not meant to be an intimidating statement. Nor are we saying that all parents with attendance below 95% have to provide medical evidence. What we are trying to say to parents is that we are always ready and willing to acknowledge where attendance is affected by a child's health and where we have medical evidence, we can issue our L2 medical letter which recognises that health or medical need. We can ensure that this medical information is recorded on our attendance tracking system. We would recommend that parents do consider providing supportive medical evidence. This does not mean that you will not receive an attendance review letter in the future but it will fall into a different category that recognises your child's health needs.

We understand that the whole notion of attendance review letters can be emotive for some parents and we understand that not all parents will agree with this approach but when we had our recent Ofsted inspection, the lead inspector did review our systems for tracking attendance and commented favourably on them in the inspection report.

We also recognise that in issuing our termly attendance review letters, we don't always get it 100% right. Last week we sent out almost 100 letters. We endeavour to be as factually correct as we possibly can. Where we may have made an error, please don't take offence.

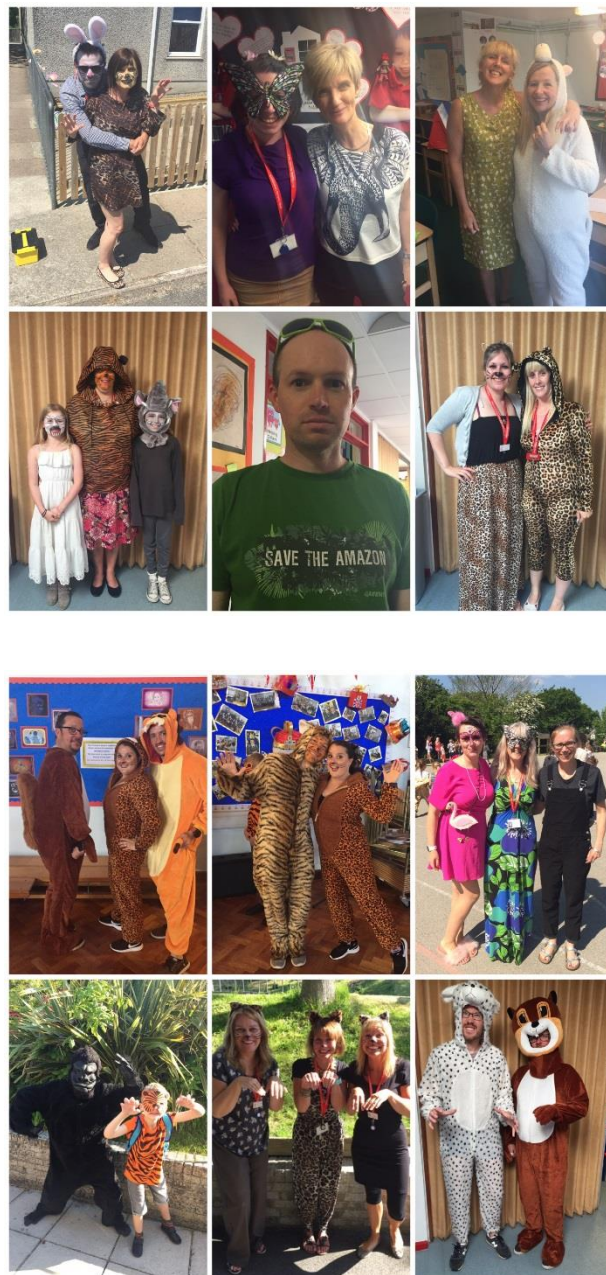
If you contact us, we will endeavour to check our details and ensure any letter is appropriately amended.

Mr Galler and I are always on hand to speak to parents about their child's attendance. Parents can contact us at any time if you want us to be aware of any factor that could or will affect your child's attendance.

Please do not feel that you have to wait to receive an attendance review letter in order to discuss your child's attendance with us. We can do that at any time.

Wild Wednesday

We thought you may like to see some of our lovely staff and children, taking part in this week's Wild Wednesday?





Staff v Children Netball Matches

Last Friday, the staff were challenged to play two netball matches against our successful Year 6 A and B netball teams. It was a lovely, fun afternoon. The staff didn't really all know the rules but managed to edge the games mainly due to their massive height advantage! It finished with a water fight, which the children did manage to win!

The games were followed by a fantastic end of season presentation. It was a fabulous end to the season! Thank you to all of the players who took part, to Mrs Olds and Mrs Hirst for organising and refereeing and to all of the parents for coming to support.



Thank you!

Thank you to the parents of YR for coming to our feast afternoon yesterday and for helping with the cooking this week. The children enjoyed preparing and sampling the different variety of foods.

The Reception team

SPLAT Day!

At Penair School for Y5 students

Monday 25th June

Parents please drop pupils to Penair at 8.15am with a snack and a drink. Lunch will be provided.

Transport back to school will be provided by Penair School at 1pm.

FABB School Summer Fair

This year's summer fair is Saturday 16th June, 11am to 1pm. There will be lots of exciting stalls with games, BBQ and refreshments.

Please look out for raffle tickets being sent home w/c 21st May. We have some wonderful prizes which include afternoon tea at Alverton Manor and Fowey Hall Hotel, Treasure Trail, tickets to Newquay Zoo, Tennis lesson, wildlife activity for 2 at Feadon Farm and much more.

Please return sold tickets and monies to the school office by the 8th June. We would also appreciate any unsold tickets to be returned the same way as these can then be resold on the day. Thank you.

FABB non uniform day

Friday 8th June is non-school uniform day! Please bring in donations for the summer fair in lieu of wearing no school uniform. FABB will be on hand to receive your donations that morning under the covered area outside the year 2 classrooms. We require individual wrapped packets of sweets and chocolate bars and alcohol for the bucket of booze.

Art Competition



Open to Y3 – Y6 pupils. All entrants can use their imagination to decide on the most useful thing they could invent for the Year 2050. These could be all sorts of ideas from the environmentally brilliant to the downright wacky and wonderful!

Fantastic prizes on offer and those who take part will be invited to join Truro High School for Girls for a morning of art activities on Saturday 30 June including photography and textiles. Parents and Teachers will also be invited to join us for a big exhibition to celebrate the fantastic designs received.

Entry Forms available from the School Office.

Closing date for entries: 15 June 2018

A TENNIS TASTER FOR KIDS

6 coaching sessions, a racket & ball set, and a personalised t-shirt – all for £25!

Available for kids aged 4-11 who are new to tennis.

Don't miss out on the fun and sign up now!
tennisforkids.co.uk

Search postcode: TR2 0



Truro Methodist Church family would love to welcome you to..

Squelch



Meet at St Clements on Tuesday June 12th – action begins at 6pm!

Wear suitable clothing for an hour of outdoor activities, followed by a short simple act of worship before a BBQ supper!

All based on the epic story of Moses...



Babies, bushes, plagues, water, fire, tents, clay, catapults, bugs, food, stones, scarecrow.....they all come into it!!!

No charge, just a donation.

All children must be accompanied by an adult
Parking help on hand!!

Any queries, especially about weather uncertainty on the day phone Janet 07800586016

Truro Community Library after School Club

Garden Art!

Free After School Club for the Summer Term

Let our gorgeous garden inspire you!

At Truro Community Library

Tuesdays after 3.45-4.45





Duchy College competition

We would also like to invite any child under 12 yrs to take part in Duchy College's competition 'Garden on a plate' to mark their 25th anniversary! To celebrate Duchy College Rosewarne's 25th anniversary, we are organising a 'Garden on a plate' competition to be judged at the Open Day (24th June).

Design a garden from your imagination, incorporating an element to celebrate our 25th anniversary, using any materials you would like presenting it on a plate no bigger than 12 inches in diameter.

The competition will have two categories for the under-7s and the 7 to 12-year-olds. Happy creating and let your inner garden designer shine!

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/.../design-a-miniature-gar...>

Class Assemblies

Please see below updated changes to some of the Class Assemblies.

Dates for class assemblies	
Time for class assemblies - 2.30pm	
Class RR and RP graduation service	Friday, July 13th
Class 3W	Friday, July 6th
Class 5MS	Friday, June 29th
Class 6T	Friday, June 22nd

Extra-Curricular Clubs

If you have any enquiries with the online booking system please contact Mr. Banks via email at:

support@archbishop-benson.cornwall.sch.uk

Extra-Curricular Clubs Email Address

We have a new email address for any emergency or urgent queries regarding school clubs. Please feel free to email Mr. Mark Thomas on this email address:

Clubs@archbishop-benson.cornwall.sch.uk

We will try and respond to enquiries as soon as we can.

Blues Club

We are open every day for Breakfast and After School. We run from the St Paul's Children Centre which is on the school site. Our team of qualified staff will ensure that your child is cared for in a safe and stimulating environment. Healthy breakfast and snacks are provided every session. If you would like to find out more about what we do please pop in and meet Esther and the team any day.

Our staff are fully qualified and DBS checked. Blues Club is rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

You can also phone us on 01637 877073 to find out more information, or email us at info@firststepscornwall.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.

Bosvigo Wraparound

Summer Half Term Holiday Club

We are pleased to announce that we are opening as usual during May Half Term from Tuesday 29th May until Friday 1st June. We are open from 7.45am until 6pm for just £23.50 a day. Please remember that children will need a packed lunch, sun cream, waterproof coat and wellies may be advisable.

Please contact Mrs Austin on:

wraparound@bosvigo.cornwall.sch.uk

if you require further information or visit the Bosvigo School Website. For families who have booked before, you can log in and book on the school gateway.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Frid
shut	Redannick Park visit	Summer Bake Off	Clay modelling	Redannick Park
Bank Hol	DVD and Ice-cream factory		Truro Rock painting	Arts and crafts

Dates for Your Diary 2018

June

Fri 8th Non-Uniform day
Sat 16th Summer Fair
Wed 20th Sports Day
Thurs 21st Reserve Sports Day
Fri 22nd Class 6T assembly to parents
Fri 29th Class 5MS assembly to parents

July

Fri 6th Class 3W assembly to parents
Fri 13th Class RP and RR Graduation to parents
Wed 18th Whole school production, 6.30pm
Thurs 19th Whole school production, 6.30pm
Mon 23rd FABB Disco

Term Dates for 2018

June

Mon 4th Children return to school

July

Tue 24th Break up for end of term

