



Weekly Benson Bulletin

14 October 2016 No 6

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 97.72%.

Congratulations this week to 4Trelissick who were top of the attendance table with 99.7% attendance. Well done!

Harvest Celebration

I would like to say a BIG thank you to all our families for your generous support with donations of food items for our Harvest Service this year. Our Harvest display of food stuffs in the hall was most impressive and we feel so pleased that we have been able to make a difference to the lives of local people.

We were delighted that so many of you were able to join us for the harvest Service and are grateful that Reverend Mark Dunn-Wilson was able to lead us in our worship. A special thank you to our Year 2 pupils for their lovely performance in the middle of the service – they certainly got our toes tapping and our feet stamping!

Thank you also to all the other children and staff who contributed both to the service on the day but also with the preparations leading up to it

National Heroes Day

This academic year, our SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural development) focus is "Who Do We Think We Are" (WDWTWA). Across the year we will be exploring what it means for each of us to be a citizen of our school, of Cornwall, of Great Britain and of the world. We have taken the occasion of National Heroes Day on Friday, October 21 (also called Trafalgar Day) to explore either our own sense of Britishness and/or how we feel we belong within British society. We will be using known and unknown British heroes to generate discussion and learning about who we think we are and what we might want to be in the future. We hope that our chosen class & personal national heroes will open our minds and hearts to the wealth of diversity surrounding us in terms of gender, race, religion, culture and (dis)ability etc. In the

past few weeks the children in each year group have been exploring their chosen national hero.

Y R	Mums and Dads	Y3	David Attenborough
Y1	Grace Darling	Y4	Admiral Nelson
Y2	Mother Teresa	Y5	Ernest Shackleton
		Y6	Paralympic Athletes

Beautiful displays are now going up in the school hall to celebrate these individuals. Next Friday, year groups will be sharing their chosen hero with the other classes at a special whole-school assembly and the School Council will then select our overall national hero.

We would like all our children (and staff!) to get involved individually in celebrating heroes from all walks of British life, past and present by coming dressed as their own personal national hero. We want to know who inspires you and why.

We are sure that you won't be stuck for ideas but we have discussed national heroes with the children and explain that their chosen hero could be.....

-a sporting hero eg. **Kelly Holmes**
-a 'giving' hero eg. **Mother Teresa**
-a literary hero eg. **JK Rowling**
-a political hero eg. **Winston Churchill**
-an 'inventor' hero eg. **Isambard Kingdom Brunel**
-an 'adventurer' hero eg. **Sir Ranulph Fiennes**
-an "against all odds" hero eg. **Helen Keller**

Good luck and thank you for your support.

Parental Feedback

Once again, I would like to thank all of you who were able to complete the end-of-year parental survey in July. We have been busy collating all the data and are now pleased to be able to share 2 key documents with you. One of the documents is the Comparative Pupil Survey Analysis document which shows an overview of your feedback for the last 3 years. We are really glad that you feel so positive about most aspects of school life. We are particularly pleased with the high percentages for those statements in italics as they were areas that we focused on especially last year. We are grateful to you for indicating those areas where you would like us to do better and we have already incorporated the feedback on bullying & homework into our School Improvement Plan for this year. We will keep you updated & engaged via the newsletter and our Parents Forums.

We are also sending home our You Said, We Did feedback grid which provides you with some detail on how we have responded to feedback from you in 2014 – 2015 and 2015 – 2016. We hope that you find this informative.

Whole-School Approach to Homework

Following on from your feedback on homework, and linked to our school improvement focus on developing basic skills (spelling & handwriting) in writing, we are streamlining and refining our Homework Policy and our approach to spelling and tables (more information on this to follow after half-term). We will be using homework to give children, with parents, an opportunity to practise and consolidate the basic skills of spelling, handwriting & tables. While our approach will be consistent across the school, each class will be able to personalise the pitch of spellings and tables to support individual children to progress towards meeting the new and challenging age-related expectations for their year group.

Mr Galler will be sending you a letter clarifying our process for spelling homework across the school. There is a lot more to spelling homework this year including dictation and sentence development (more in the Juniors than Infants), so please do take the time to read this letter. We hope that your child is already immersed in the process and teachers will be happy to discuss this with you at the Autumn parental consultation meetings after half-term. We will welcome all feedback.

We recognise that our new approach to spelling will feel a little different to parents who may have become used to homework sheets coming home but we do want to assure you that if you can support us with the reading, spelling & tables that go home you will see a big development in your child's attainment and progress this year. Together you can work with your child, and their teacher, to ensure that there are, over time, no gaps in their basic skills.

Mrs H Giblett

Autumn Disco - Thursday 20 October

All children are invited to come along and they are usually very popular. For those new to the school we operate a drop off system via the Key Stage 1 entrances. Staff are in the hall to supervise the children throughout the disco while FABB members serve drinks and sell tuck. Unfortunately we are unable to allow parents in the hall. Please complete the disco permission slip that will be sent home next week and bring it with your child on the night with the entrance fee.

School Closed Monday 28 November

Remember that the school will be closed on Monday 28 November for staff training.

School Photos

Orders for school photos must be returned to school by **Monday 17 October** please. Any orders received after that date will be returned to your child and you will need to send them directly to Tempest yourselves. This will incur an extra charge.

Porthpean Camp

The deposit for Porthpean Camp must be paid by Monday 7 November and the date for the final payment is Friday 28 April. A new payment item has been added to

ParentPay which will allow payments in instalments up to the full amount.

Kitchen News

Our school menu is available for you to book online via ParentPay.

We would encourage Reception classes, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 need to keep booking their lunches online on ParentPay.

Logging on to ParentPay

Whilst our school website is under reconstruction, you can log on to ParentPay to book lunches or pay for trips etc by logging on to www.parentpay.com

KS1 School Lunches

This is a reminder that if you have opted for your child to receive the Universal Free School Lunch, they cannot opt to bring in a packed lunch on some days. This is for ordering purposes. Please also remember to book your child's menu choices on ParentPay, otherwise your child will be served the meat option (unless they are vegetarian or have a special diet).

CLUBS

GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Due to a match taking place, there will be no after school Girls' Football Club next Thursday. If your child is playing in the match, they will receive a letter.

CAPOEIRA CLUB

This will continue after half term on Tuesdays after school. The cost is £4 per session payable in advance. Forms are available from the office.

GO ACTIVE CLUBS WILL BE PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS AFTER HALF TERM

Fridays – Football for KS1 - 6 weeks -£20

Wednesdays – Archery & crossbows for KS2 - 6 weeks - £30

Forms available from the school office.

(Multi-sports & Zorbing will finish at half term)

ALL clubs are cancelled on Thursday 1 December to enable the staff to decorate the hall for the Christmas Fair.

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 4 November**
- **Friday 18 November**
- **Friday 2 December**

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.

FABB

A reminder that the FABB AGM is being held on Wednesday 19 October at 7.00pm in the school hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SEN Café

The SEN Café will be held in the Nurture Room on Wednesday 2 November from 9.00am to 10.00am.

Year 6 Applications for Senior Schools

A reminder that applications to Cornwall Council must be made by 31 October.

Maths Tuition

Mrs Roskell-Thomas, recently retired from Archbishop Benson, is available for private maths tuition. Mrs Roskell-Thomas has specialised in teaching Primary Maths for over 20 years and also worked as a Primary Maths Consultant. She has worked with all abilities, but has a particular interest in working with pupils who find maths quite difficult, or may have dyscalculia. For more information, call Mrs Roskell-Thomas on 01637 499664 or 07804 813026.

Young Savers' Club

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY

The Young Savers' Club will be held on Wednesday mornings instead of Tuesdays from Wednesday 19 October starting at 8.30am in the Infants Entrance.

Year 4 Badminton Festival

On Friday 7 October, six Year 4 children went to Richard Lander School for a badminton festival. They had lots of fun playing different games and practising different skills that lead into badminton.



Thank you to Mrs Tangye and Miss Haggis for taking the children to Richard Lander.

Boys' Football

On Monday 10 October, our A, B and C football teams went to Mount Hawke to play in some football matches. Our A team were unlucky to lose 2-0 and our B and C teams both drew 0-0 in closely fought matches.



Our B team



Our C team

Thank you to all the parents who helped take the children to Mount Hawke.

Girls' Football Festival

On Friday 30 September, ten of our Year 6 girls went to Penair School to take part in a girls' football festival. They had lots of fun taking part in lots of different activities to improve their football skills.



Well done to all of the players and a big thank you to Mr Sims and Mrs Fleet for taking the girls.

Truro Bonfire & Fireworks Display Tremorvah Playing Field - Friday 4 November 2016

Tremorvah Playing Fields Group, in association with Truro City Council, are holding their annual bonfire and fireworks display on Friday 4 November from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. The event is kindly sponsored by local solicitors Stephens Scown and will raise money for Cornwall Air Ambulance and Penhaligon's Friends.

Gates open at 5.00pm with the fire lit at 5.45pm and fireworks set off at 6.45pm. Hot food and refreshments will be on sale and there will be stalls selling snacks, glow-sticks and sparklers.

Adults £3, Children over 4, £1 and under 4's free. Any child bringing along a guy will have free entry – judging will be by Truro's Mayor, Councillor Rob Nolan at 5.30pm.

Tremorvah Fields are on Bodmin Road, opposite Archbishop Benson School, Truro. Time 5.00pm – 7.00pm.

Cornwall MacMillan Christmas Fair

The Eden Project are hosting the Cornwall MacMillan Christmas Fair again this year. The Preview and Shopping Evening is being held on Wednesday 16 November from 5.00pm – 9.30pm. Tickets are £25 including supper and wine. The Day Fair is being held on Thursday 17 November from 10.00am – 4.00pm. Tickets are £15 including a light lunch and wine.

Tickets are available online from: www.cornwallmacmillanchristmasfair.co.uk.

FREE admission to the Eden Project for those attending the Fair.

Homemade Craft & Produce Christmas Market Truro Methodist Church – Saturday 5 November

Are you a keen crafter or amateur cook? Would you like the opportunity to sell some of your Christmas crafts or produce in Truro city centre?

Truro Methodist Church will be holding a Homemade Craft and Produce Christmas Market in the Sanctuary from 9.30am until 12.30pm on Saturday 5 November. Pitches can be booked for £5 per half table or £10 for a whole, large table. Please note that they only want to have tables selling homemade craft and produce. All profits from sales are yours. If you would like to book a table contact pastoral@truromethodist.org.uk as soon as possible.

Feelgood Theatre Company

A Halloween Theatre Workshop is being held by the Feelgood Theatre Company at the Piran Theatre at Truro High School. It will run daily from Monday 24 October to Wednesday 26 October from 10.00am to 3.00pm and is for children aged from 5 – 12. The cost for 3 days is £89.

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 19 October – Junk modelling



Dates for Your Diary

October

Wed 19/10 FABB AGM – 7.00pm
Thu 20/10 Autumn school disco
KS1 – 5.45pm – 6.45pm
KS2 – 7.00pm – 8.15pm
Fri 21/10 Non-uniform day – come dressed as a British National Hero
Fri 21/10 Break up for Half Term
Mon 31/10 Children return to school

November

Tue 1/11 Autumn music recital – afternoon – time to be advised
Wed 2/11 SEN Café – Nurture Room 9.00am – 10.00am
Fri 11/11 3W class assembly – 9.00am – parents welcome to attend
Tue 22/11 KS2 Cross Country 1.15pm. Parents are welcome to come and watch.
Fri 25/11 4MT class assembly – 9.00am – parents welcome to attend
Mon 28/11 **School closed for staff training day.**

December

Fri 2/12 6FT class assembly – 9.00am – parents welcome to attend
Fri 2/12 Christmas Fair

Term Dates for School Year 2016 /2017

Fri 21/10 Break up for half term
Mon 31/10 Children return to school

Fri 16/12 Break up for Christmas

2017
Tue 3/1 Children return to school for Spring Term

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

