



St Mary's Catholic School Newsletter

18th January 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all.

Life continues to be busy at St Mary's.

A local builder has undertaken a great deal of work in the early years outdoor area over the Christmas holiday. The area is now more child friendly, for example children are now able to access resources for themselves, which in turn will encourage them to be more independent. We have also got a new covered area which is very helpful when living in Cornwall!

We are also proud to be part of a very new initiative called Bike Ability Balance which started in school last week. Read on to find out more.

Best wishes, Mrs Herbert (Head of School)

Ipads

We are pleased to inform you that the school has now purchased their first set of Ipads.

We have a class set that will be stored in a mobile trolley, this will ensure that all pupils across the school have access to them on a regular basis.

Staff and pupils are very excited with this development and believe that it will, without doubt, further engage pupils in their learning.

We look forward to sharing some of our experiences with you.



Bike Ability Balance

Bike Ability Balance is a new initiative to encourage children in reception and year 1 to take to two wheels. I am pleased to announce that St Mary's is one of the first schools in Cornwall to offer this programme to all pupils in reception and year 1.

There are a series of sessions which involve lots of fun and games using balance bikes (bikes without pedals). Evidence shows that children learn to ride bikes much quicker this way than by using bikes with stabilisers.



FACT!

95 children have signed up to at least one after school club.

Year 2 Parent Consultation

Last term, due to unforeseen circumstances the year 2 parent consultation evenings were postponed.

I am pleased to say that Miss Pascoe will be rearranging these meetings shortly and they will take place before the end of this half term.

Key Dates

- 21st Jan NSPCC assembly with Years 5 and 6
- 4th Feb NSPCC workshops with year 6
- 9th Feb National Internet Safety day
- 10th Feb Ash Wednesday Mass at the church 10.00am
- 12th Feb School closed to pupils— staff training day
- 22nd Feb Pupils return to school for Spring Term 2
- 2nd Mar World Maths Day
- 3rd Mar World Book Day
- 10th Mar Key Stage 2 Reconciliation in the school hall 2.30pm
- 17th Mar Mass- school hall 10.00am
- 24th Mar Last day of Spring term
- 11th Apr First day of Summer term

School Camps!

We are in the process of confirming the final details of school camps for years 3-6. Details and invites will be sent home shortly.



Staff Vacancies

Important Notice

We currently have 3 vacancies for lunchtime supervisors, a temporary maternity cover teaching assistant and a brand new position for a Safeguarding and Pupil Support Worker.

For further information: go to the school website or the school office.

Stars of the week!

Reception: Layla

Year 1: Evie

Year 2: Noah

Year 3: Sian

Year 4: Shania

Year 5: Cameron

Year 6: Chloe



Attendance: aiming for a minimum of 95%

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
92.3%	94.2%	84.4%	89.3%	91.1%	93.9%	93%

