



St Mary's Catholic School

Growing together in Knowledge, Faith and Love

Issue 1

14th September 2018

Important Items in this newsletter:

- ♦ Diary Dates
- ♦ Macmillan Coffee Day
- ♦ Attendance
- ♦ School's Out!

End of the school day changes

We are changing where KS2 children are collected at the end of the school day to ensure all the children are safely handed over to parents. EYFS will be collected as normal outside the EYFS gates on the bottom playground. Years 1 and 2, please could parents wait under the shelter and the class teacher will release the children from the classroom door when they see their parents. KS2 children will now be released from the top playground. Please could parents wait at the top end of the playground (by the gate) and the children will line up by the swimming pool in their classes.

Your co-operation with this is greatly appreciated to ensure the safety of our children.

Star of the Week

Our first awards were given out in Celebration Assembly this week. Well done to the following children:

Reception: Marcus
Year 1: Max
Year 2: Domas
Year 3: Dylan
Year 4: Deina
Year 5: Archie
Year 6: Whole Class

PTA meeting

Our next PTA meeting will be on Friday 28th September at 9am. Please come and support your school, we are always looking for new members!



Dear All

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year. I trust that you all had a good break. The children have all settled well back into school life and are quickly back into the routine of life at St Mary's.

I would like to welcome Miss Rae to the team, she is covering Mrs Phillip's maternity leave and will be on the gates every morning to welcome the children to school. Please do introduce yourself to her if you haven't already!

Many thanks to everyone that attended the Meet the Teacher meetings. The teachers were extremely positive about the amount of parental support at the meetings. If for any reason you were unable to attend, the powerpoints from the meetings will be uploaded to your child's class page, or you can collect all the information from your class teacher.

As your child may have told you, our assemblies will be changing slightly this year. Our celebration assembly will now take place on a Monday to welcome the children back to school in celebration of their achievements the previous week. Every Friday we will now have a visitor to the school to talk to the children about projects in the wider community such as Fairtrade. Our first assembly was led by Father Philip bringing the school community back together after our long summer break. We will update you on who is visiting the school in our newsletter and on facebook so please do talk to your child about it. This week, we are welcoming Mrs Mace-Butler BSL, a social worker who works with people who have sensory loss. She will talk to the children about disabilities and the resilience needed to overcome challenges, she will also teach the children some sign language. Next week, Fr John Pinhay Apostleship of the Sea will talk to the children about writing Christmas cards to send to seafarers around the world.

As you are aware, our swimming pool is now open and lessons have started. I would like to thank parents for their continued support in keeping the pool open and your contributions to school swimming lessons.

This year we are delighted that we have been able to offer wrap around care both before and after school at our Breakfast club and School's Out. Please could you contact the school office if you would like to book your child into either club.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns regarding your child at school, my door is always open.
Best wishes
Demelza Bolton
Headteacher

Class Attendance



Each week classes have the opportunity to win attendance prizes, a teddy for KS1 and a trophy for KS2, for the best attendance and least number of recorded lates. The successful classes will appear in the Newsletter.

At St Mary's we believe that success at school starts by being present and punctual if children are to obtain maximum benefit from the many opportunities the school provides. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment. Absences can also affect a child's relationship with other children and his or her ability to form lasting friendships. It can affect a child's confidence to attempt new work and work alongside others.

The schools EWO (Education Welfare Officer) and staff and St Mary's will work with parents to ensure that all pupils achieve maximum possible attendance.

St Mary's target is for at least 97% of our children attend school, the national average is 96.5%.

Parent/Emergency Contact Details

Please can parents/carers ensure that we have up to date contact information for pupils and two contact numbers. When children are feeling unwell at school and parents/carers need to be contacted, it is important we have telephone numbers to hand.

Thank you.

School Dinners

Reminder to the parents in Year 3 that Universal Free School Meals stop at the end of KS1, Year 2. The kitchen offers a variety of hot and cold meals, please see a full menu attached at the end of the newsletter. Cost of a school dinner is £2.30, please ensure that dinner money is in named and sealed envelope. If you feel that you should be in receipt of Free School Meals, then please call at the office for an application form.

Macmillan Coffee Day

We would like to invite the children to wear their own clothes along with a donation, suggested donation of 50p, to go towards MacMillan on **Friday 28th September**. We will also hold a cake sale at playtime, with cakes sold at 20p. Any contributions towards this would be gratefully received.

Clubs this term

Monday– Film Club & Tennis
Tuesday– Choir & Football
Wednesday– Basketball
Thursday– Multi skills
Wednesday Lunchtime– Running Club

School's Out!

St Mary's new After school club

The club will run every night from 3.15pm–6pm.

The club will be split into 3 sessions:

3.15–4.30 £3.25

4.30–6pm £3.75

3.15–6pm £7

As the club will be self sufficient, not part of the school's budget, payment for sessions must be upfront. We understand that cancellation of a place may at times be unavoidable due to illness etc, however, you must inform the school at the beginning of the school day or payment will still be required, this is due to staffing costs. Please see the school office for a registration form if you would like to book a place.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast club is open every day

Monday- Friday from 8 am, £2.50

Running Club

Running club will take place on Wednesday lunchtimes. Please could you ensure your child has suitable clothing, such as shorts or tracksuit, trainers and a spare pair of socks, in school on this day as the field may be wet. They will have their lunch after the club.

Tennis Assembly and Taster Session

We were delighted to welcome Ian Vidgen, Head Coach from Penzance Tennis Club and his friend Darth Vader to our school assembly this week. KS2 children were fortunate to have a 30 minute taster session prior to St Mary's launching their after school club at Penzance Tennis Club. The response from children was overwhelming, but we only have space for 16 children. We are sorry if your child didn't gain a space this term but we may be able to run the club again in the Summer Term. For those children who were successful, a reminder to all parents to collect them from Penzance Tennis Club on Monday at 4.15pm.



HARVEST FESTIVAL LUNCH

Thursday 20th September

Harvest Chicken Casserole with Herb Dumplings
Spicy Root Vegetable and Lentil Casserole
Creamy Mashed Potato
Broccoli and Sweetcorn
Toffee Apple Crumble with Custard

The word 'harvest' comes from the Old English word harvest meaning 'autumn', the season for gathering the food of the land.

Chartwells

MINI SOCCER CENTRE

Saturday Mornings at Mounts Bay FDC



FIRST SESSION FREE | £3 PER SESSION

Soccer Tots

4 - 6yrs
10:30am - 11:30am

Soccer Pros

7 - 13yrs
10am - 11:30am

Venue - Mounts Bay Academy, Penzance, TR18 3JT

Come and have some fun, all players welcome from any school or club

Register online or turn up on the day

www.mbfdc.co.uk

Contact

Kevin Lawrence - Head of Football Development
01736 352323 ext-2
klawrence@mountsbay.org



Dates for your Diary

SEPTEMBER

Mon 24th	8.45am	Coffee Morning
Thurs 27st	10:00 am	New Beginnings Mass - in church. Parents welcome Years 1 -6
Fri 28th	9am	PTA Meeting—all welcome!
Fri 28th		McMillan cake sale and own clothes day

OCTOBER

Wed 3rd		Tempest Individual photos
Thurs 4th	9.30am	Open Day
Fri 5th	9.30am	Open Day
Fri 12th	8.45am	Governor Meeting
Mon 15th	9am	Yr 1 Parent Workshop
Tues 16th	9am	Yr 2 Parent Workshop
Wed 17th	9am	Yr 4, 5 and 6 Parent Workshop
Thurs 18th	9:30 am	Harvest Mass - in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6
Fri 19th	9am	Yr 3 Parent Workshop
Monday 22nd - Friday 26th		Half Term
Monday 29th		INSET DAY - school is closed to children
Tuesday 30th		Children back to school

NOVEMBER

Thurs 1st	10:00 am	All Saints Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6
Tues 6th	3.30—6pm	Parents' evening
Thurs 8th	3.30-6pm	Parents' evening

DECEMBER

Weds 6th	2:15 pm	Advent Reconciliation Service - in school
Mon 17th	TBC	KS1 Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance
Tues 18th	2pm	Years 3/4 Christmas performance
Tues 18th	6pm	Years 5/6 Christmas performance
Wed 19th	TBC	KS1 Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance
Wed 19th	2pm	Reception and Nursery Christmas performance
Thurs 20th	10:00 am	Advent Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Year 1-6
Thurs 20th	3.15pm	Last day of school
Friday 21st- Friday 4th		Christmas Holidays

JANUARY

Monday 7th		INSET DAY - school is closed
Tuesday 8th		Children back to school
Thurs 10th	10:00 am	Epiphany Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6
Thurs 31st	9:30 am	Candlemas Mass—in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

FEBRUARY

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd		Half Term
Monday 25th		INSET DAY - school is closed
Tuesday 26th		Children back to school

MARCH

Wed 6th	10:00 am	Ash Wednesday Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6
Thurs 28th	2:15 pm	Lenten Reconciliation Service - in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

APRIL

Thurs 4th	9:30 am	Passiontide Mass - in school. Parents welcome. Years 1-6
Monday 8th - Monday 22nd		Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23rd		Children back to school
Thurs 25th	10.00 am	Easter Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years 1-6

MAY

Thurs 23th	9:30 am	Mass of Our Lady - in school. Parents welcome. Years Reception—Year 6
Monday 27th - Friday 31st		Half Term

JUNE

Monday 3rd		INSET DAY - school is closed
Tuesday 4th		Children back to school
Thurs 20th	10:00 am	English Saints Mass - in church. Parents welcome. Years Reception—Year 6

JULY

Thurs 25th	9:30 am	Leavers' Mass - end of school year. Parents welcome. Years Reception—Year 6
Thursday 25th		Last day of school
Friday 26th		Start of Summer Holidays