



## Queen's Jubilee Celebration

### Non-uniform day – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

To mark the Jubilee, the children can come into school dressed in red, white and blue on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June (the day we return after half term). Devon Norse, who supply our school lunches, are arranging a special 'Jubilee' lunch that day:

Great British fish  
(gluten free or dairy free available)

or

Golden nuggets  
Served with chips and peas

or

Jacket potato with cheese  
followed by

Pip ice lolly, yoghurt or fruit

We will decorate the hall for the occasion with Union Jack bunting which has been made by pupils who have attended Art Club after school this term.

## FOSMs Summer Fair

FOSMs are planning a Summer Fair for this year, which will be held on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July** from 2pm onwards on the school field. Further details about the day will be shared after half term but they would like donations for bric-a-brac / tombola and also they would like parents to collect small plastic pots with lids like hummus pots.

## Music Lessons

There are a number of peripatetic music teachers who visit St Mary's each week during the school day. We are hoping to invite a violin teacher to come into school from September, if there is sufficient interest from parents / carers. More information is being sent out with this newsletter via email.

If you would be interested in your child having violin lessons in school, please let Mrs Kerswell or Mitzi know by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June so that we can determine if there is sufficient interest.

## Buckfastleigh Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for Buckfastleigh Food Bank. One of their volunteer staff will be visiting St Mary's after the half term to collect the donations.

## School Nursing Team

A letter from the School Nursing Team is being sent out electronically with this newsletter. Please see below details of how you can contact the team and a website link with further information:

South and West Devon (Teignbridge, South Hams and Tavistock area)

[southernphnhub@devon.gov.uk](mailto:southernphnhub@devon.gov.uk)

T: 0333 234 1901

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/health/public-health-nursing-useful-links>

## Local events

LEAF Open Farm – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

Bowden Farm TQ11 0JG

Booking essential via [farmsunday.org](http://farmsunday.org)

## Safeguarding

### NSPCC Positive Parenting

Given how challenging it can be to balance all the demands parents and carers have to cope with, the NSPCC have put together some tips to help. All children need boundaries and discipline, and their guide helps you develop what works for you and your child. They have advice on:-

- Understanding your child's needs
- Setting boundaries
- Rewards and discipline
- Keeping your cool
- Building positive relationships
- Help and support

You can access the full leaflet on:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/1195/positive-parenting.pdf>

## Prayer Focus

The school subscribes to a weekly booklet called "The Wednesday Word" that can be accessed on our website or via the following link which covers the next three weeks:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=61.20>

This week's chosen word is 'helper'. In this week's Gospel reading (St John 17: 20-26), Jesus prays that the disciples will work together and support each other when they need to. How could you be helpful to others this week at home or in the local community?

Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for your love and care. Please help us to see the needs of others, and give us a growing desire to help them.

Amen

## Attendance

Here are the latest attendance figures:

20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Meldon	<b>94.24%</b>
Venford	<b>99.00%</b>
Avon	<b>88.13%</b>
Fernworthy	<b>89.62%</b>
Burrator	<b>93.57%</b>
<b>Whole school</b>	
<b>This week</b>	<b>93.05%</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>93.92%</b>



## Congratulations!

Well done to the following children who were awarded certificates in today's Achievement Assembly:

	<b>BLP</b>	<b>WOW</b>
Meldon	<b>Aisha</b>	<b>Edward</b>
Venford	<b>Harrison M</b>	<b>Rosie</b>
Avon	<b>Clara</b>	<b>Isla</b>
Fernworthy	<b>Rumer</b>	<b>Rebecca</b>
Burrator	<b>Jessica H</b>	<b>Grayson</b>

### Other awards

Kayaking Award – Riley W  
Chorister Bronze Award - Madeleine



## Reading

### Why is reading so important?

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, there's evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

### What difference could I make as a parent?

The short answer is: a lot! Parents are by far the most important educators in a child's life and it's never too young for a child to start, even if you're only reading with your child for a few minutes a day.

Before they're born, babies learn to recognise voices. Reading to your baby from the time they're born helps them to grow accustomed to the patterns of speech and language, expands their vocabulary and over time, their understanding of words.

### Building vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out print. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a rich and wide vocabulary. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It's important for them to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child doesn't understand every word, they'll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

As children start to learn to read at school, you can play an important role in helping to keep them interested in books, finding out what interests them and helping them to find books that will be engaging and fun for them. Give time to helping them practise reading the books they will bring home from school.

*Taken from Pearson's "Enjoy Reading: a guide to reading at home"*

<https://www.pearson.com/content/dam/one-dot-com/one-dot-com/uk/documents/Learner/Primary/Primary%20parents/Enjoy-Reading-Guide.pdf>