

A NOTE FROM MRS HEFFER – This week our focus has been on gratitude:

“ Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of **Gratitude**. ”

-- A.A. Milne 

AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE! - This week we have been left amazed and delighted by the Puffins and the Robins following their outstanding Nativity performance of 'Born in a Barn'. The energy and enthusiasm the children showed in their performance was matched by energy and enthusiasm of the staff who have worked so hard with the children to help them prepare for their 3 shows. A big thank you to Mrs Lea, Mr Anderson, Mrs Trembath, Mrs Brooks and Mrs Soar for their commitment to ensuring the children do their best. Every performance was a joy and it was clear that the children felt it too. We are so very proud of you all. Well done to our talented Puffins and Robins. You are all stars!

NEWSPAPER FAME! - So we were not the only ones who felt this year's tree was a major talking point. Indeed, the Falmouth Packet and the West Briton also agreed that our magnificent Christmas Tree was certainly newsworthy. If you haven't already done so, please find the articles in the newspapers celebrating not just the size of our tree but our success in our Year 1 phonics testing last term. Once again, many thanks to the Baileys and also well done to our staff and Year 2 pupils for their 100% success rate last term.

WHAT A TURN OUT! - If you were at the Christmas Fayre last Friday you will probably already have guessed that this was a wonderful success raising over £1000 for the school. A huge thank you to all the support the FOPS team received for running stalls and organising the event. The year 6 children also deserve a big well done for designing such popular and successful child friendly games. It was clear during the evening that these stalls attracted a lot of interest from children of all ages along with the great demand to see SANTA in his beautifully decorated grotto. We are very grateful that SANTA was able to take time out of his very busy schedule to be with us at our Christmas Fayre. He certainly was kept very busy!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR NEVER FAILS TO SUCCEED! - Yet again, another very successful book fair has raised over £500 worth of free books for our school. A huge thank you to the commitment and enthusiasm of our school librarian Mrs Cameron for always making this such a worthwhile event.

HOME LEARNING TIME OUT! – We have decided that there will be no new home-learning activities set this term as we appreciate, from parents' comments, that children are tired and home learning tasks at the end of a very busy term are adding extra pressure with still so much going on in the evenings next week. I'm sure I can already hear the sigh of relief from parents out there! However, you are most welcome to continue with reading each night and if you still wish to tackle any of the remaining home-learning grid tasks, the children will still receive the usual rewards in school.

BEWARE! OUR LOCAL PCSO IS EN ROUTE! - Following some concerns over dangerous parking, the school met with the local PCSO this week to seek some advice on ensuring cars are parked appropriately. We have

requested that unannounced visits to the school be made during the busy times of day to help us monitor parking near the school gates. The school has also recently received a call from a neighbouring property requesting that cars do not block their drive during school drop off and pick up times. We appreciate that parking is difficult at times and parents are often rushing to and from school. However, we also share the concerns of parents who have informed us of parking that could endanger the children and adults arriving and leaving the school premises. We thank you for your support in this matter.

CLUBS! CLUBS! AND MORE CLUBS! – Yesterday, your children will have come home with a rainbow of letters outlining the large number of clubs that will be running in the Spring term. Please could we ask that you try to return these letters to the office before the end of the term to enable the office staff to organise the groups that have places on each of the clubs. Once a place has been allocated to your child we also politely ask that you do not ask to change unless absolutely necessary as this does cause complications and extra work for Mrs Read and Miss Braddon. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

A BEAUTIFUL SERVICE, AS ALWAYS! - It was wonderful to see St Piran's Church full to bursting on Sunday with so many parents and pupils from the school at the Christingle Service. Yet again, the service was beautifully presented for a child friendly audience. Thank you to all those who were able to attend the service and support the local church. The children sang a song to a very appreciative congregation and ended the service by enjoying eating the treats as part of the Christingle orange. We are always very grateful to St Piran's Church for their annual invite to this special celebration.

EDEN HERE WE COME! – As you may remember, it was decided this year not to attend the panto at the Hall for Cornwall partly due to it being such a busy time of year in school with so much going on already and the fact that several parents did mention that they also like to attend the panto as a family. The staff felt that it would be a lovely alternative to take the school to Eden in the Spring term at a time when less is happening in school. We can now confirm that we have secured a whole school booking for Friday, 12th February where the children will enjoy an ice skating session as well as visit the biomes and see the many other delights that Eden holds. We will provide you with the final details closer to the date. An exciting day out for us all to look forward to!

GOOD LUCK KS2! - Next week we see the end of the Autumn term but not before the KS2 children have performed their Christmas Show. We look forward to yet another wonderful performance and wish the children the very best of luck.

TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT! - Yes! It has finally arrived! The Festive Film Night and Pudding Making Workshop! We've mentioned this so often in newsletters and the children are bursting with excitement with the thought of coming to school when it's dark to lie on the floor and watch a favourite film.....what a treat! I have also heard that aprons are being pressed and bowls and spoons are ready and waiting for the hive of pudding making activity that our school hall will house! We look forward to the final fundraising event of the term and hope your puddings will be worthy of your Christmas table! Good luck to one and all!

Have a lovely weekend! It's nearly Christmas!

Clubs - We are pleased to offer the following clubs from January 2016:

KS1 Football - Monday from 11th January to 21st March (10 weeks)

KS2 Basketball - Monday 11th January to 8th February (5 weeks)

KS2 Hockey - Tuesday 12th January to 22nd March (10 weeks)

KS1 and KS2 Gymnastics – Wednesday 13th January to 23rd March (10 weeks)

KS2 Cross Country – Thursday 14th January to 24th March (10 weeks)

KS2 Tag Rugby – 14th January to 11th February (5 weeks)

KS2 Animation – Thursday 14th January to 11th February (5 weeks)

KS2 Art Club – Thursday 14th January to 11th February (5 weeks)

KS2 Fencing - Friday 15th January to 12th February (5 weeks)

Gardening club will recommence in February.

Letters were sent home with children yesterday and confirmation of places will be sent home as soon as possible.

Foundation Stage children (Reception) vision screen will take place on Tuesday 5th January.

Children starting school in September 2016: Please remember to submit your application if you have a child starting school next year. Thank you.

VACANCIES

1) Temporary/Casual Lunchtime Supervisor vacancy: We are looking to recruit a lunchtime supervisor (Monday to Friday 12.00 – 1.00 p.m). Please speak with Mrs Heffer or Mrs Read if you are interested, or telephone / email the school for an application form. No experience necessary as training will be given. We will require the usual staff checks (references, DBS, eligibility to work in the UK (e.g. passport, or birth certificate and N.I. info). The position is available to be filled immediately and pays £7.85 per hour.

2) Clerk to the Governors: Our governing body are looking to appoint a clerk to the governors. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please contact the school office and leave your details. A draft job description is also available if you wish to consider this vacancy. We look forward to hearing from you.

Celebration Assembly. The following children received a Silver certificate in assembly this morning for reaching 100 points: Isla Dark, Ellen King, Joe Barber, Phoebe O'Neill, Mia Preedy, Jake Mackrill, Cara McCandless, Lottie Richards, Kiera Peters, Leah Hennessy and Finn Wootton. Chloe Saayman, Jack Matthews, Morgan Willey, Ted Bailey, Genevieve Pinnick, Isla Cameron and Megan Laval all received a Gold certificate for achieving 150 points. Very well done to you all.

Unfortunately, in last week's newsletter Sophie Woodrow was mentioned as having received a Bronze award, when she in fact received her Silver. Sorry Sophie – well done on reaching 100 points.