

ST MARYCHURCH C.E. PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Our Christian values:

Joy

Kindness

Love

Peace

'Doing our very best and caring for each other'

GOOD NEWS & NEWSLETTER JULY 2010

6th July 2010

Dear Parents/Carers,

If you lose a newsletter you can always find the latest edition on our website
www.st-marychurch-primary.org.uk

1. ABSENCE DUE TO MEDICAL APPOINTMENT

From September all medical appointments during the school day will need to be requested in advance and you will need to show proof such as an appointment card, hospital letter etc. for authorisation.

This will put us in line with other schools.

2. FAREWELL

We are very sorry to be saying farewell to Miss Amber Davies at the end of term. She is leaving us to go on a very exciting adventure travelling across the world. We wish her every happiness. She has given this school excellent service, highlighted by her part in our very successful visit by Ofsted in March.

3. WELCOME

In September we welcome Miss Rebecca Maunder to our teaching staff. She will team teach in our Reception Class with Mrs. Williams and all our Reception children.

4. CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

We will welcome back two teachers with different names. Miss Davis will become Mrs Walker and Miss Harries will become Mrs Lawrence. We wish them every happiness in their future married lives.

Class Name	Year Group	Teacher/s
Nursery	N1/2	Mrs Walker
RMW	Reception	Mrs Williams, Miss Maunder
1LM	Year 1	Mrs March, Mrs Lockett
1SH	Year 1/2	Mrs Hetherington
1RL	Year 2	Mr Long
2BC	Year 3/4	Mrs Bond, Miss Cornish
2TL	Year 3/4	Mrs Lawrence
2CH	Year 5/6	Mr Hallett
2AG	Year 5/6	Mrs German, Mrs Bond (on a Wednesday)

5. BREAKFAST CLUB

There are places for children at the club in September. Fees will unfortunately need to rise to £2.50 a day from the start of next term. Also, in line with other providers, there will be no refunds for missed sessions unless the leaders are informed in advance.

6. NURSERY

Places are still available in our Nursery for next year. Numbers build up during the year and it certainly has this year as there are 45 registered children at present!

Please contact the school office as soon as possible if you are interested in taking up a place.

The nursery will re-open for current pupils on 6th September.

7. SCHOOL MEALS

We are advised by Eden Foodservice that school meals will be priced at £2.00 per meal from September.

8. ATTENDANCE

I attach information about action on poor attendees. This is a process happening Bay wide. Penalty notices will be given to those parents whose children's attendance is well below the expected level and not improving. The agreed minimum attendance level is 93%.

9. GOOD WISHES

Go to all our Year 6 leavers. They have been a good and responsible group, who have made good progress with their learning. We wish them every happiness in their new schools and where their futures take them.

10. PARENTS WORKING GROUP

I have been very grateful for the enthusiasm of the parents group who have met regularly with Mrs Bond. Various issues have been discussed. Homework has been much discussed; other aspects have been our Christian Values in practice and spreading information to all parents about what's going on. I have given a flavour in this newsletter, but they have suggested other ways of spreading exciting developments.

11. CURRICULUM

Now it is clear that the revised National Curriculum did not pass through Parliament before the General Election, we have been busy checking our planning for the teaching of the National Curriculum 2000. We are developing new topics and new themes.

Team leaders for planning in 2010/2011 are:

Mrs March Early Years

Mrs Bond Juniors

The Senior Leadership Team continues as: Mr Mantell, Mrs Bond, Mr Long
Mr Long is taking an enhanced role for Personalised Learning. This will include:

Special Educational Needs

Gifted and Talented Children

Individual strategies e.g. 1:1 tuition

Learning Support Assistants

Yours sincerely,


Philip Mantell

Headteacher



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July 2010

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: School Attendance

The Local Authority has brought to the attention of every school in Torbay, the powers in the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 to tackle poor school attendance. These came into force from the 27th February 2004 and include Penalty Notices, which mean that for pupils with unauthorised absence from school (i.e. any absences that the school has not given permission for) their parents/carers may be subject to a prompt fine of either £50 or £100.

Penalty Notices will be used as a deterrent to prevent a pattern of unauthorised absence developing. They will be issued simply by post to a pupil's home after possibly just one warning and cases of absence without acceptable cause will also include pupils caught on truancy sweeps, unauthorised holidays in school term time and persistent late attendance after the Register has closed.

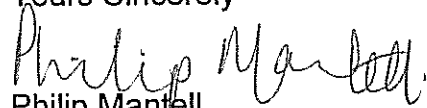
At St Marychurch C of E (VA) Primary & Nursery School we consider that regular attendance is so important and that these legal powers are so significant, that we are now bringing this to the attention of every parent/carer with a child in this school. It means that any parent/carer of a pupil with a level of unauthorised absence may now have a potential liability in the form of a Penalty Notice issued by the Local Authority.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence record from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you take action without delay to secure their regular attendance.

Support and guidance on attendance is always available and if you have any questions about this or if you need any help to achieve an improvement, please contact us to discuss the situation.

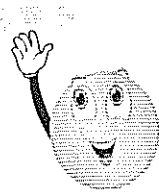
Advice and support can also be made available to you through the Attendance Improvement Service by contacting your local office: Torquay West Cluster Team, Barton Primary School, Barton Hill Road, Torquay, TQ2 8JA. 01803 208104

Yours Sincerely


Philip Mantell
Head Teacher



GOOD NEWS!



SUMMER FAIR

This was a great success - up to the point we all left for the England Football match. I am very pleased to tell you that we made a profit of over £800. This was an improvement on last year. Many thanks to everyone who helped and came along, and especially to the School Friends' Association for all their hard work.

We would like to thank the many local businesses who contributed to the fete and prizes for the raffle.

SPORTS

Football - Well done to all the boys and girls who took part in the Herald Express World Cup Football tournament. They were a credit to the school.

I must mention a special message we received from the sponsors. They were especially impressed by the encouragement and organisation of Mr. Hallett. This is well deserved as he does so much, most of it in his own time, to plan, organise and coach sports, especially football.

Athletics - We sent a Year 3/4 team to a school athletics event at St Cuthbert Mayne School at the end of June. They performed very well.

Rounders - We also sent a Y 3/4 Rounders team to a schools' competition recently. Our teams gained second and third places.

Cricket - On Friday, 9th July our cricket team will take part in a Kwick Cricket tournament held at Torquay Cricket Club. We are linked to this club by the 'Chance 2 Shine' scheme. We are one of a few Torquay schools to be part of this project and are very pleased to be so.

Netball Club - Well done to the upper junior children who've played netball in the schools' league this season. They have been very good representatives for our school. Also, thanks to Miss Davies and Mrs Woodroffe for organising matches and teams.

OTHER RECENT EVENTS

Year 5/6 visit to the Exeter Mosque and the Synagogue - We had excellent reports about the children's behaviour and thirst for learning at these places of worship.

Year 5 'Big Sing Liturgy Thing' event at St Cuthbert Mayne - Torbay Church Schools' Trust sponsored all aspects of this event, held at St Cuthbert Mayne recently. There were over 400 children from all Torbay's Church Schools at this event.

YEAR 6 PRODUCTION OF JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT.

This is being performed next Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Friday afternoon. Produced by Mrs German and Miss Davies, it has involved a huge amount of planning and rehearsal. We wish all the performers every success.

ARTSMARK

We were very pleased to receive the certificate of this achievement for our work in Art, Music and associated areas.

LATE GOOD NEWS!

We are very pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Healthy Schools Plus Award by Torbay Childrens' Services and Torbay Department of Public Health for our work in Sex and Relationship Education for our older children. We are one of seven local schools to have achieved this award this term.