



**Educate Protect Love Serve**

**Newsletter**

**No. 5**

**Dec 2023**

Please share this Newsletter with your child. All newsletters can be found on our website: <http://www.st-marys-bod.cornwall.sch.uk>



End of Autumn term update

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy end of the term it has been; we have completed many Nativities, sang hymns and songs; created costumes; painted backdrops, decorated trees, planned parties and ate a Christmas Dinner; attended Christmas Fair's! It has been amazing and the children have all risen to the challenge and done their very best. Our children are so lovely, all of the teachers are so very proud of them all.

We return to school on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January for a couple of days. This is followed by a training day on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024. There is a further date for the two-day training on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

The training days are for Read, Write, Inc and it is part of our whole school focus on the teaching of phonics and developing early reading. There may be a few changes to come but we hope to update you with them as and when. We will also send out a help booklet to parents along with clips on ways to teach the sounds with the children, blend and how-to Fred talk!

At St Mary's, we have always gone over and above for all children in our care, particularly those with additional needs. This has been recognised by the SEN service team at County and because of this we are always recommended by professionals within education. As our school also has a large group of pupils who need pastoral care we are also being recommended as a school of choice for pupils who are within the care system.

This is partly due to the large pastoral team supporting pupils, but it is also down to our children and our parents who show love, care and support for all children we have in our care. St Mary's is a truly special school for that reason.

As SEND provision changes over time and practice continues to evolve, St Mary's too must move with the times and therefore our improvement focus revolves on the adaptation of the curriculum that enables pupils to achieve their very best irrespective of their need or ability. The new Plymouth CAST Special Educational Needs Pathways document clearly shows the work that we do and how we can support all of our pupils irrespective of their need.

[SEND information St Mary's School website](#)

We continue to offer places in our Nursery for children aged 3 and above. Please call to talk to Mrs Andrews in the school office or Facebook Mrs Henderson through the Nursery Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysnurserybodmin/>

Parents of children starting school in the Reception class in September 2024, please make sure that you apply by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January to get a place. Please follow the link; <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/apply-to-start-school-or-transfer-to-junior-secondary-or-ks4-school-in-september-2024/>

All that remains for me to say is have a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year! Thank you so much for all of your support this term, all the teachers appreciate the enormous support you show us. To work in partnership to give your child/children the very best start is an honour and a privilege and we love watching them grow and become the very best they can be.

Best wishes,

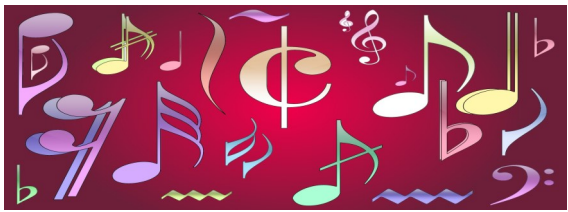
Mrs McDonald, Mr Holmes and the whole team at St Mary's



**Headteacher's special mention to:** The kitchen staff for a lovely Christmas lunch last week



Wow! A huge thank you to all of you who have supported the Friends of School with their Christmas Fair which raised just over a £1000!



Some of our pupils taking part in the Trigg Orchestra Concert



So proud of our school choir taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Petroc's Church.

They did the school and our community proud, well done!

A big shout out to Mrs Callaghan who has been leading the choir over the last few months. It was absolutely fantastic!



Pupils enjoying Christmas Dinner





Building  
stronger  
families

## Need help over Christmas

Support for Families over the Holidays For some families the holiday period can be a difficult time, from juggling childcare to coping with the cost-of-living crisis and searching for affordable ways to celebrate the festive period. Family Action are here to support families through the school holidays and all year long.

Please share details of our FamilyLine, a free helpline that offers emotional support and practical guidance via telephone, text, email and live chat for all family members over the age of 18. Families can access the service Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm by phone: 0808 802 6666, Text message: 07537 404 282 or Email: [familyline@family-action.org.uk](mailto:familyline@family-action.org.uk) To find out more visit

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/familyline>

### DIARY DATES

End of Term	19 December 2023
Spring Term starts	4 January 2024
Inset Day	8 January 2024
Half Term	12-16 February 2024
Inset Day	19 February 2024
End of Term	28 March 2024
Summer Term starts	15 April 2024
May Bank Holiday	6 May 2024
Summer Half Term	27-31 May 2024
Inset Day/End of Term	24 July 2024

#### INSET DAY CHANGE REMINDER

Monday 8 January 2024 will now be an inset day.

## REMINDER

### Procedure for late arrivals

If your child arrives after 8.55am, please report to the School Office where you will be asked to sign them in to the late book

### Breakfast Club Booking Procedure Reminder

- Login to Parentpay
- Click make a booking under the pupil's name
- Change make bookings for: ensure this is set to Breakfast
  - Week commencing: select week
  - Click make or view a booking
- Scroll down the page and click the date required
  - Click confirm bookings
- Follow procedure to pay in basket.

### KS2 (Years 3-6) Lunch Booking



### Procedure Reminder

- Login to Parentpay
- Click make a booking under the pupil's name
- Change make bookings for: ensure this is set to lunchtime
  - Week commencing: select week
  - Click make or view a booking
- Scroll down the page and click the date required
  - Click confirm bookings
- Follow procedure to pay in basket.