



Friday 6th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Covid-19 (Coronavirus) update** We continue to follow current advice regarding this virus and have taken all necessary hygiene steps. Our emergency plan is in place and all staff have been briefed on the importance of handwashing and the latest guidance from Public Health England.

A Department for Education Coronavirus helpline is now available to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Parents, carers and young people may contact the helpline as follows: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk) Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

On Wednesday, the Department of Health and Social Care launched a public information campaign that focuses on the importance of handwashing. Washing hands for 20 seconds is central to prevent and slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-information-campaign-focuses-on-handwashing>

Please continue to support us by keeping to the standard practice of keeping your child at home if they are unwell and informing us immediately. Thank you for your support.

**World Book Day** Yesterday we had a wonderful 'book packed' day celebrating World Book Day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes - thank you for all your efforts in this. Thanks also to our staff who worked hard to provide an exciting, engaging day of activities. Please see our Facebook page and Class dojo stories for lots of wonderful pictures of the day.

Thanks also to those parents and carers who were able to join us for our family story time - I know the children really enjoyed this special time with you.

Today the children will be bringing home their **WBD vouchers**. These can be used to get **£1 off** any book **or** can be used as **complete payment** for a range of special books selected especially for World Book Day.

This year we have also chosen to recognise the children who engaged most fully with the day rather than the best costume. These children will be announced in next week's celebration assembly.



**First Holy Communion** We have 10 children currently preparing for their First Holy Communion with their catechists Fran Morris and Anne Hawcroft. These children will be receiving their First Holy Communion during mass at St. Paul's Church on Saturday 16th May at 5:30pm. This is such a special time for the children and their families and I hope as many people from our school community can be there to support and congratulate them. Please keep them in your prayers.



As you may be aware, Year 4 will take part in the statutory multiplication tables check (MTC) for the first time, in June this year. The purpose of the check is to determine whether pupils can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. To help support our children in

preparing for this, Mrs Barnes has organised a competition across the six CAST primary schools in Plymouth. In the next few weeks the Year 4 children will battle on Times Table Rock Stars to discover who is 'Top of the Rocks!' Please can we ask parents to encourage daily practise of multiplication facts not just on TTRS but also through more 'traditional methods.'

**Reminder: Adult learning** We are delighted to announce that we have been offered free training for parents. We have a range of accredited courses which are provided through an online distance learning platform, which provides flexibility for you to study and upskill. There is normally a fee for these courses, however the fees will be waived if you sign up through the link provided below. The courses being offered are as follows and are all accredited through NCFE CACHE:

- Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health
- Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Behaviour that Challenges
- Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties
- Level 2 Certificate in Information, Advice or Guidance
- Level 2 Award in Support Work in Schools
- Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
- Level 1 Award in Stress Awareness
- Level 1 Award in Mental Health Awareness

Please contact me directly with any questions about this offer.

You may enrol here <https://shop.southdevon.ac.uk/short-courses/online-learning>

**This week we hear more about the learning in Year 1:**

This week in Year 1, we have been learning to count in 5's. We used a song to help us remember and then made amounts using our hands. Miss Strong said we were not allowed to count in 1's. We made amounts to create tests for each other too. Some children also thought that we could also use our feet to help us count in 5's as we have 5 toes.



**Please join us for our whole school liturgy on Monday 9th March at 9:00am in the school hall. Tea and coffee are available in the canteen from 8:45am.**

**Gospel theme next week:**

***Second Sunday of Lent: Listen to Jesus!***



Jesus, teach me how to listen to everything that you have to say. May your words sink into my heart and may I know that you are always with me, surrounding me with your love and protecting me with your strength.

Amen.

**Dates for calendar (newly released dates highlighted in yellow):**

*You are all invited to join us for Monday liturgy, Wednesday Celebration Assembly or Thursday Mass at any time.*

**Mass Dates**

No Mass	Thursday 12th March 2020
3rd Sunday of Lent KS2 Mass	Thursday 19th March 2020
4th Sunday of Lent F, 1 and 2 Liturgy	Thursday 26th March 2020
Parent/teacher consultation evenings	Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th March 2020
School Holy Week liturgies	Week beginning Monday 23rd March
Term finishes (last day of term)	Friday 27th March 2020

**SUMMER TERM 2020**

Summer Term commences on	Tuesday 14th April 2020
Whole School Celebration Assembly (Spring term awards) Wednesday 15th April 2.00-3.00pm	
VE Day Bank Holiday (school closed)	Friday 8th May 2020
Year 6 SATs week	Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May 2020
First Holy Communion (St Paul's Church)	Saturday 16th May - 5:30pm
Year 5 & 6 Bikeability	Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May 2020
Term finishes (last day of term)	Friday 22nd May 2020
Half Term Week (inclusive)	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2020
Non-Pupil Day (school closed to pupils)	Monday 1st June 2020
Term commences on	Tuesday 2nd June 2020
KS1 Phonics screening check	Monday 8th - Friday 12th June 2020
Year 4 Multiplication check	Monday 8th - Friday 12th June 2020
End of year reports/Class Structure 2020/21	Friday 10th July 2020
CAST Year 6 Leavers Mass at The Cathedral	Thursday 9th July 2020 - 2pm-3pm
Year 6 Leavers Day	Tuesday 14th July 2020
Transition days	Thursday 16th & Friday 17th July 2020
Term finishes (last day of term)	Friday 17th July 2020
Non-Pupil Days (school closed to pupils)	Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st July 2020

Best wishes

Mrs Dawn Potterton

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