



St Piran's Post

December 2016 Edition

ISSUE 14

Christmas is coming!



'Nurturing God's gifts with compassion and drive, so that all our children succeed, learn and thrive'



On behalf of the St Piran's Cross Multi-Academy Trust of schools we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas season.

Dear Parents,

Our schools are currently preparing for the Christmas season while continuing their concentration on ensuring our children are making good progress. I am hearing and seeing Christmas music, songs and rehearsals for nativities. Thank you for your support with learning lines and making costumes etc.

This has been a positive term and we continue to be very proud of all of the children in our five schools. This week we will be welcoming lots of you to join us for our annual Christingle Service at Truro Cathedral, not only does this event help us with our preparations for a special visitor at Christmas but show cases much of the wonderful work our schools can do. More details about this later in this newsletter.

This is also the season of coughs, colds and flu like symptoms and I know that our schools have reminded you of how to report absence and the length of time needed away from school when children are poorly. Thank you with your support with these matters.



MAT Christmas Card Design Competition

We are looking for a Christmas Card that the St Piran's Cross MAT can send to its friends, neighbours and other schools. If your child would like to design one for us and enter our Christmas card competition please submit a Christmas design no bigger than A4. There will be some great prizes!

Please bring to your school office for the attention of Mr. Lees by **Wednesday 7th December 2016**
Thank you and good luck!

Parentpay

Thank you to all the parents and children who have embraced the new booking system managed through Parentpay. We have received a lot of positive feedback regarding the system as well as experiencing some initial teething problems which the Trust Administration Team have been working hard to resolve, thank you for your patience. If you are still experiencing any issues or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact your school office or e-mail the central office on enquiries@stpiranscross.co.uk

Cashless will become a reality in schools after the Christmas holidays. This means where possible all payments in to school will be processed through the Parentpay system, this will include trips, swimming, uniform and residentials. There will still be fundraising events such as non-uniform days and bake sales where cash will be requested. In some schools tuck will continue to be a cash system due to the catering contract. If you pay by childcare voucher and have not heard from your school office they will be in contact shortly to explain how this will be managed in January.

If you have lost your log in details please contact the school office and for further support from Parentpay please complete an online submission form available on their website. Parentpay are the processors of the school's data and are not allowed to pass information on to any third party which also includes talking to parents as they cannot identify them. Due to the username being verified they can email parents securely so this is the best way of contacting Parentpay.

Parent support documents are available via https://www.parentpay.com/DOCH/school-support/index.html?page_id=77.html

Thank you again for your continued support.

Remembrance Week

The five schools of St Piran's Cross stopped to remember those who fought and died for our country in all wars since 1914. Below are some of the photos of our commemorative events.



The War Memorial at Veryan

Grampound with Creed laid a wreath



Year 6 at Ladock stood guard at the war memorial

Parent Forums

Thank you to all of our parents that came to our Parent Forums this half term. Some very worthwhile feedback was received. There will be one further Parent Forum next term and it will be at 6pm in all schools so that working parents can also attend. We are hoping that this might encourage more parents to attend. We find these meetings very worthwhile but are currently reviewing them as so few parents are able to attend.

If you have an opinion on our parent forums, please let your Head or I know. Thank you.



Residential Visits for Year 4, 5 and 6

Thank you to the parents who attended our camp information meetings this term and have booked a place for their son or daughter.

The residentials are:

- **Year 3** - one night and two days at Camp Curnow in Truro
- **Year 4** - two nights and three days at Porthpean Residential Camp, St Austell
- **Year 5** - two nights and three days in London, including the Lion King west end show.
- **Year 6** - four nights and five days to Barton Hall, Devon - Outdoor Pursuits and adventure.

There are still a few places left on these trips so if you would like to book a place please contact your school office.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of our schools who will attend these visits as they are extremely demanding and hard work as you are on duty for 24 hours of every day.

Without the staff good will and commitment we would never be able to undertake residential visits. So thank you staff!

Tree climbing at Camp Kernow in 2016, amazing!



Children in Need Day 2016 St Piran's Cross MAT

Thank you for all of your generous donations for Children in Need Day on Friday 18th November. The Trust has raised a significant amount for this charity and your own school will let you know how much your school made.



Bishop Bronescombe - dress for what you want to be when you grow up!

Animal Face Painting at Veryan



World Kindness Day as well!

The pupils at **Grampound Road** celebrated 'World Kindness Day'. During this day they invited members of their community into school and entertained them. It was a very special and enjoyable event.



Truro Cathedral



The MAT Christingle Service in aid of The Children's Society

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils will travel to **Truro Cathedral** on Tuesday **6th December** to join in with our annual Christingle Service. Each school will perform something during the service and we have invited some special guests. Our order of service is below for your interest. We are able to welcome up to 250 parents to this event. We look forward to seeing you if you are able to attend.

Order of Service:

1. Welcome and introductory prayers – Canon Alan Bashforth
2. **The World** – Year 3 and 4 at Bishop Bronescombe



3. Bible reading – Genesis 1 – Rev. Marion Barrett
4. **The World** – Year 5 and 6 at Bishop Bronescombe
5. Christingle Carol – All
6. **The Red Ribbon** – Veryan
7. Prayer of thanks – Veryan
8. **The Four Seasons** – Grampound Road
9. Bible reading – Ecc.3 – Mark Lees
10. **The Children's Society** – Bishop Tim
11. O Little Town of Bethlehem – All
12. **Fruits of Earth** – Grampound with Creed
13. Prayer of thanks – Grampound with Creed
14. **Light of the World** – Ladock
15. Bible reading – Jo Osborne – Diocesan Director of Schools
16. **The Christingle prayer** – Rev. Jules Williams
17. The Christingles will be lit and the following two hymns sung:
 - a. Away in a Manger- All
 - b. Shine Jesus Shine - All
18. Prayers – Rev Andrew Wade
19. **Guardian** – The MAT Anthem – All
20. Final Blessing – Bishop Tim

A collection has been made in our schools for The Children's Society and during the service a collection will be made to support Truro Cathedral who have allowed us to celebrate our Christingle Service here.

Immersive Curriculum

We have been working hard to improve our whole curriculum during this term. The subjects that we focus on less due to the pressures of testing: **art, history, geography, DT, PE, music, science and drama.**

We have decided to introduce the '**immersive curriculum**' from January 2017. We are re-designing our approach to topic work and this will be based on:

- The interests of the children in each class.
- The subject expectations of the national curriculum.
- Opportunities to undertake visits and expeditions away from school and related to the theme.
- Opportunities to bring in speakers and key visitors.
- An amazing conclusion to this topic with a real and authentic outcome.

We hope to invite you into school to join in with an immersive curriculum afternoon early next term.

Dates for diaries:

1st December – **Advent Collective Worship**

4th December – **3 pm – Christmas Fayre at Veryan**

6th December – **10 am – MAT Christingle Service at Truro Cathedral.**

15th December – **Christmas Fayre at Ladock Village Hall**

16th December – **End of the autumn term 2016**

3rd January 2017 – **1st day of the spring term 2017**

Once again, I hope that you all have a lovely run up to Christmas and a wonderful and enjoyable festive break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M.J Lees
Executive Principal