

SIR ROBERT GEFFERY'S SCHOOL – NEWSLETTER

29 January 2018 – Number 661

CLUBS:

THIS WEEK:

Mon 29 Jan Stem Hub Visit (Yr 5)
Tue 30 Jan Yrs 2 & 4 – Zero Gravity
Able Writers – Bishop Cornish
Yr 6: 'Little Shop of Horrors' at
Saltash.net
Wed 31 Jan Sportsability Festival
Yr 1: Apple Store visit
Thu 1 Feb Yr 4: Apple Store visit
Fri 2 Feb Maths Masterclass
Yr 4: STEM Hub visit
League Run

Forms have been sent home for all of these trips, please ensure you have completed and returned them as we're having to chase a lot of parents for forms.

Parental Consultations

Tuesday 6 February and Thursday 8 February

To book your slots, you will need to go online:

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk

Enter event code number

Appointment with **KS1 Teacher – s2wax**
(Including Reception Class)

Appointment with **KS2 Teacher – xmkvs**

☕ Tea and Coffee will be available to purchase
at Parents Evenings.

Bike and scooter storage

We have made a bike and scooter park at the back of the school in an area covered by CCTV. We have additional bike racks and a new scooter park. We hope that when children use their bikes or scooters this area will be useful. There are pegs for helmets to hang during the day. It may not be safe for all to use this form of transport, but for those who can, we hope this will be well used.

Bikeability training will be held for Years 5 and 6 in the summer term as normal and we will book sessions for Years 3 and 4 again.

Science and Technology

We have two science and technology weeks this week and next. Children will be focussing on science through all areas of the curriculum. Science hub and Apple shop visits have been arranged during this time. We hope by raising the profile in this way, we are encouraging the next generations of scientists and programmers.

Safety and Gates

We have gates in key areas for reasons. Please make sure that all gates are kept closed for the children's safety. The gates up to the main entrance must be kept shut at all times. I would also like the gate to the playground shut at 3pm and until 10am in the morning. This is because cars are moving and not all children are looking or with an adult in this space. Signs have been ordered and will be displayed.

Internet Safety

Once again, we have dealt with issues in school that have arisen because children have accessed and used inappropriate YouTube clips and played games that were not age appropriate.

It is distressing to vigilant parents if their children are introduced to things that they have filtered in their own homes. YouTube has a child friendly part and I would recommend that you look at the parental restrictions settings on your broadband provider.

We have to record access to inappropriate sites as a potential child protection issue, as all parents need to be supervising and working with their children in this area. We will always contact parents if we are aware of any issues. At school, our filtering does not allow YouTube. Please make sure you know what children are using and that it is age appropriate.

Group chats on messenger have also been discussed and inappropriate and bullying comments have been reported to us.

Hopefully lessons have been learned, but please do look at what your child is accessing and participating in. During these discussions, some have admitted that they have YouTube sites and play video games with strangers. Please monitor to keep them safe.

Home Learning Clarification

Mathletics

We actively encourage the use of Mathletics and encourage children to gain a certificate. Some activities for the cohort are very straight forward (e.g. shape, capacity, etc.) whereas others are more difficult, e.g. some time-elapse. Some children will whizz through certain aspects. To achieve a certificate requires 1000 points. Are you ready for a test quickly gives you points and some children soon learn this is a way to gain a certificate. This is fine when time is short. Also, working through courses gives gold bars, but can take more time. Teachers can track length of time on activities so children who have worked for 30 minutes on Mathletics in Years 1-3 and still do not have a certificate will fulfil the task. Another week, they may have more time and want to achieve more points, etc.

Accelerated Reader

The development of reading is a key skill and the more children read, the wider range of skills and experience they will have to use in their writing as well. AR suggests books and also keeps track of children's understanding of the texts read. We know that children who participate in this make good progress. Quizzes can be accessed at school or home. We do guide all children to read for 20 minutes a day at home and longer if they are busy on different days.

Home Learning Menu

This relates to the topic and includes a range of activities. We try to put practical activities and some research based ones. The children complete at their own level. They can come to homework club to do some if preferred. In school, they will be discussing and learning about similar things.

This term, telling the time is on the sheet as we find that because we always keep an eye on the clock as parents, children do not have enough practise.

All activities on this term's sheet are accessible at a variety of levels. A fact file for Year 3 would be simpler than for Year 6. If you have more than one child, they can support each other with the activities.

Spellodrome

Practising the words and then playing word detective quickly gives the points and again supports the children acquiring the skills and knowledge of the words.

Home Learning Exhibition

As stated before, since this is a short term, the Home Learning Exhibition it will be on Thursday 22 March to give as much time as possible to gain the points. I know many have been really enthused by the menu and we look forward to sharing the things brought to school. I know circuits have certainly proved popular in the past and so many have been talking about inventions and famous scientists.

Tesco Bags of Help

We (SRG School and Farm) are bidding for funding from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative. We are one of three groups that have been shortlisted – but we need to gain the most votes to be awarded the funding. Voting is NOW OPEN at the Callington Tesco store, and will remain open throughout January and February. Customers cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop. Please help and tell your family and friends. The Bags of Help initiative is supported by money raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores, which sees grants of up to £4,000, up to £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects.

Kindness Elves Ideas...

Be a secret kindness agent and do something for someone else today without them even noticing!

Cake Sale

Thank you for your donations of delicious cakes last Thursday – we raised £69.49 for Hillside School in Uganda.

Whole School Word Count

As a school, this year to date, we have read:

42, 483, 288 words.



Solar Meter Reading this week: 61,795 kW



AWARDS

Accelerated Reader	Luke C Maddie T
Be the best you can	Connor P
Demonstrating Values	Millie W Dulcie N Lily C
Dinner Hall	Finley S
Effort	Poppy H
Enthusiasm	William D
Excellence	Alice R
Friendship	Ruby D
Good Learning	Alice P
Good Manners	Rose C
Great Progress	Katie D
Great Progress in Science	Abbie C
Growth Mindset	Daisy I
Helpfulness	Eddie T
Home Learner	Sam H
Kindness	Evie P
Literacy	William B
Maths Owl	Tamika K
Maths Progress	Edie C
Maths Superstars	Ruby C Jasper K
Netball: Player of Week	Katie D
Phonics	Fleur B
Positive Attitude	Isaac B Johan C
Progress	Finley S Rosie S Owen G
Reader of the Week	Matthew S
Reading Star	Euan L Edward P
Resilience	Lucas C Millie J Lucy PJ
Responsibility	Megan D
Role Model	Toby H
School Grounds	Leila C
Science Progress	Oskar D
Spelling Bee	Bea T
Supporting Others	Seren W
Thinking	Katie C
Writer of the Week	Zac J
Piano Award	Lucy P
Singing Award	Owen G

PLEASE, please bring your awards back by the Tuesday following the Awards Assembly on the Friday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

NEXT WEEK:

Mon 5 Feb	Yr 3: Apple Store visit
	Tue 6 Feb Parents Evening
	Hi-5 Netball Match
Wed 7 Feb	Caradon Primary Games
Thu 8 Feb	Yr 6: Stem Hub Visit
	Parents Evening
<i>12-16 Feb</i>	<i>Half Term</i>
Fri 23 Feb	Maths Challenge Competition
Thu 22 Feb	Home Learning Exhibition
Wed 28 Feb	Yr 5: Apple Store Visit
Mon 5 Mar	Class Photos
Fri 16 Mar	Landrake Run
Fri 23 Mar	2.30pm Easter Fair
	3.30pm Easter Hunt

The DrumZone is coming to SRG in September!

Peripatetic drum lessons for all ages. Lessons will focus on the dreams and desires that each individual student has. Planning will ensure their goals are achieved through tailored tuition, positive use of lesson time and a strong bond between teacher and learner.

Lessons will take place on an electronic drum kit! This is exactly the same set up as a normal acoustic drum kit; however, you have control of the volume (and can have some fun with the sounds too!).

The learning:

KS1 – Snare Drum teaching with an emphasis on technique, rhythm and notation. Full drum kit can also be taught.

KS2 – Drum kit and snare drum (for those continuing from KS1) – rhythms, grooves, fills and notation.

Please let the office know if you would be interested, so that planning can begin.

FOUND:

A set of car keys – they've been in the office for over a week now.

If you've lost a set, please come in to the office!