

# SIR ROBERT GEFERY'S SCHOOL – NEWSLETTER

2 July 2018 – Number 679

## CLUBS:

Clubs finish on **Friday 6 July**.

## THIS WEEK:

Mon 2 Jul Y4: STEM Hub  
Tue 3 Jul Y5: STEM Hub (*packed lunch needed*)  
Saltash.net Y6 taster day  
Class photo orders being collected  
Wed 4 Jul Y6: STEM Hub (*packed lunch needed*)  
Thu 5 Jul House Sports: Rounders  
Fri 6 Jul Maths Masterclass: Saltash  
Team photos (PE Kits needed)  
  
End of year party/disco  
KS1: 5.30-6.30 | KS2: 6.45-8pm

**If consent forms are not received in school prior to school trips, children will not be able to attend.**

## **Menu Change - Thursday 12 July**

1. Crispy Battered Fish with Chips
2. Bean and Pepper Fajita with Chips
3. Jacket Potato

## **Friday 13 July (Speech Day)**

There will be no hot meals on Speech Day – if children are staying all day, they will need to be supplied with a packed lunch.  
KS1 (Reception, Yr 1 and Yr 2) need to return the order slip by this Friday 6 July at the latest to order a lunch from the school kitchen.

## **End of Term Disco – Friday 6 July**

**KS1: 5.30-6.30 | KS2: 6.45-8pm      £1 each**

- Tuck Shop (crisps, drinks & sweets)
- Tattoos

Why not get your dinner on the way home? Eric will be in the school carpark with his burger van.

## **Class Photos**

Class photo orders are being collected from the office tomorrow.

## **Farm Rota**

Please come and put your name on the rota to water the plants and feed the animals. Many families enjoy coming and feeding and spending time on the farm. You are welcome to use the grounds while you are there, Polly loves visitors in the holiday time.

All the instructions are on the whiteboard in the shed and telephone numbers are available if there is a problem. If every family took a turn then it would fill quickly. Will and Phil can meet with you beforehand should this be helpful. They will also provide a sheet of information.

The rota is in the office and will be circulated by email so please let us know the best email address for you.



## **Speech Day – Friday 13 July**

Please come and help us celebrate another year of learning at SRG in the Marquee on Friday from 9am onwards.

Smart school **summer** uniform should be worn:

### Girls

Green summer dresses or white school polo shirts and green skirts with white socks and black shoes. Hair should be tied back.

### Boys

Grey shorts or grey trousers, white polo shirt and grey socks and black shoes.

No jumpers in the marquee as it will be hot.

### **Parking**

The playground will be open, but please consider parking out of the village and walking or park below school and walk through the nature trail.

### **Lunch**

Light refreshments will be served at 12 for adults only.

### **Signing out**

If you need to take your child out of school after the event, they must be signed out – this is a choice for you to make.

This arrangement was started after parent requests, but does not mean that you have to make arrangements, as staff will be running activities during the afternoon.

## **SRG Team Shirts**

If you have any SRG Team shirts or socks (green and yellow) at home or in PE bags, please return as they are school property and are used for a variety of sports. We also need them for the Team Photos on Friday 6 July.

### **Our enriched curriculum includes...**

Very active participation in Sports Competitions and Festivals.

What a sporting year - we are one of only a few schools in Cornwall who have competed in so many events, culminating in 74 children qualifying to take part in the Cornwall Sports Games.

This year our children have competed in:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Netball               | Golf        |
| Orienteering          | Touch Rugby |
| Tag rugby             | Swimming    |
| Hockey                | Netball     |
| Cross country         | Quad kids   |
| Sports Hall Athletics | Athletics   |
| Badminton             | Tennis      |
| Basketball            | Cricket     |
| Dance                 | Daily Mile  |

Having 74 children at The Cornwall School Games is a phenomenal achievement.

We also had children who would have performed well but did not qualify in their events for the finals.

All children in Years 2, 4 and 6 have attended a Sports Festival and played a variety of sports with children from all the Saltash Feeders. A group of children went to the Sportsability Festival.

On top of that, we have held House Events when all KS2 children have represented their houses at different sports.

We are the only school who has entered this number of competitions and events in our area and beyond.

#### Swimming

This year, we had intensive swimming for Year 3 and they swam every day for three weeks. Year 5 swam every day for a week and some children went for booster sessions.

The minibus enabled this to happen.

#### Music

As a school, not only do we provide a very wide range of sports, we also prioritise music and I am really pleased and excited about Mr Hambly developing this further next year. We are starting drum and percussion lessons and he will be leading whole class sessions for all KS2 children this year. We hope to add KS1 sessions later in the year as well.

Music supports creativity and expression but also links with maths and science.

We have peripatetic lessons in: guitar, flute, clarinet, piano, violin, singing, clarinet, saxophone and brass.

Our choirs, orchestra and brass do well in many performances each year.

Several pupils auditioned for the Cornwall Schools Training choir and some also were selected to join the Cornwall Schools choir – this is due to Mrs Suckling's musical nurturing and talent.

Our children are lucky to have the range of experiences. If you are keen for your child to take part, do speak to the office. If you are in receipt of certain benefits, lessons are free for your child. We also have some scholarships that are awarded to offer some additional opportunities. We really promote music and would like to extend this further next year.

#### Art

We are very blessed to have some amazingly talented artists amongst our staff. They are full of good ideas and make them work to inspire and motivate the children. The Poppy Wave is underway - look in the Bible Garden the next time you are in and don't forget you can make one on Wednesday 11 July in school. This will be part of our Remembrance 2018. We will have it lit and open to visitors when we perform our World War One play at Christmas.

However, this is not the only project that has been completed. The canvasses that brighten the walls are produced and all children have sketch and art books where they develop their skills and they have also created mosaics.

#### Dance and Drama

We still commit time to plays and performance because we feel that this develops children's self-confidence. Some schools have reduced the children's opportunity for this, but even with SATS, Year 6 lead the Christmas Play and then produce a final Leaver's Musical.

KS1 work on a separate musical, with Year 2 taking a lead. Learning many songs certainly aids memory acquisition and I cannot believe how quickly they do this.

We have a Stage Club that is open to children after school at a small cost, but we also often have free drama clubs as we have this year, led by Caitlin.

We work with different dance experts and Alex Robinson has been back in school over the past few weeks and is booked for some dance blocks and theme weeks next year. This year, Miss Hodges has worked with classes to produce outstanding creative pieces including the one for the Cornwall Youth Games. Of course, the children have also had opportunity to go to the theatre and watch plays and the pantomime.

### Farm and Grounds and Learning Outside

The farm is buzzing with children at lunchtimes and on enrichment days. The guinea pigs, sheep and lambs, piglets and Polly have been relishing the attention recently. The children learn about animal care and take responsibility for the residents on the farm. Will, Jo and Phil share their expertise each lunchtime. It is good to see how children relate to the animals. However, learning outside the classroom happens most days. The EYFS curriculum is 50% outside and Mrs Hawkings and her team have worked hard this year to develop this area even more. Our many visitors comment upon the range of activities and areas available for outside learning near The Qube. Mr Crudge teaches Outdoor Learning weekly and he will be doing this next year once again. Maths sessions for many classes involve outdoor sessions. Whenever possible, we use the space to support curriculum delivery.

### Theme Weeks

Every year, we have weeks for Science, Health, Safety and Fitness, Humanities, RE and the Arts.

### Visits and trips

KS1 have been to Newquay Zoo and Antony House.  
KS2 children have all been to Mount Edgcumbe and Pentillie.  
Years 1, 3, 4, and 5 have been to the Apple Shop for ICT.  
Years 4, 5 and 6 have been to the Stem Hub twice to extend science.  
Year 5 to Hays Farm as part of a joint learning day with St Dominic and St Mellion.  
We have had a KS1 and Year 3/4 learning days using outside.  
All of KS2 had a residential experience at Bath and went to the science museum at Bristol.  
Year 5 went to Barton Hall and Year 6 went to London for a week.

Visits to Saltash.net for theme days, extension maths, humanities and language and sport.

I have probably forgotten a few but as you can see, learning has certainly taken place outside the classroom this year. Much of this has happened due to the minibus reducing the need for coaches.

### Clubs

Most visitors cannot believe the range of clubs that we offer every week and the numbers of children who attend. Many parents are very appreciative of the opportunity to drop their children to school at 8am without any cost. This can occur because we understand the needs of working parents and also the need to access technology for all. Supported homework, reading club and ICT are daily every school day. Lunchtime activities are vast, with a sports apprentice, coaches, ICT, playpod, art, farm and PGL as well as free play. After school, the extensive clubs offer results in high level of attendees. The willingness and enthusiasm of the staff enable this and we also supplement now with additional coaches. The children are often spoiled for choice!

### **Reflections**

I am pleased that the governing body support my desire to make sure that children benefit from a very broad and balanced curriculum. Some schools now focus only on the basic skills. We feel that children gain in self-esteem by developing strengths and that they should enjoy their primary years and have experiences that they can further develop later in life. However, we do also make sure that maths and English lessons are taught well and the children are prepared for external assessments. Every minute counts and no minute can be relived. Our staff work at pace and plan so that we fit the curriculum into the school week even though visits are planned.

### KS2 Structure next term

As Mr Hambly is with us for music for two afternoons, we will be rotating subjects for two days: Monday and Tuesday. Each class Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will have music, ICT, PE and outdoor learning.

On Thursday and Friday, they will have a four week rotation, spending two afternoons in the same week on science with Mrs Cunningham, two days on humanities with Mr Crudge, two days with Mr Arundell learning French and PHSME.

This means that the children will have a very balanced curriculum and will produce a quality piece of work being taught by subject experts.

### **Landrake Carnival – Saturday 14 July**

This year the carnival has the theme of ‘Under the Sea’.

The village procession starts at 12.15 at Barton Close. Please arrive by 11.30am.

Landrake School Field: 12 – 5pm

- Live Music
- Tea and Cakes
- 20+ stalls
- Tombola
- Face Painting
- Tug of War
- Dog Show (2-4pm)
- Bouncy Castle
- National Marine Aquarium Stand

All proceeds to help fund the village defibrillator.

### **Book Amnesty**

Please have a good look around and return any (accelerated reader or not) school books before the end of term. It would be good to be organised for the new school year in September.

### **Staffing News**

We welcomed three new baby boys this term to join Charlie Clark in our extended school family. Debbie’s daughter Hayley, who some of you will remember from her sessions with us, has made Debbie a Granny by having Noah.

Becky Blunt (on the same day) had a little boy named Boaz and last week Mr Miller had a little boy called Max.

We have met Charlie and hear he is doing well and growing quickly. We look forward to meeting and having a cuddle with the others shortly.

More on their way... Mr Gibbens and Kath are expecting their next baby in the summer and my younger daughter and her husband are excited about their first baby’s arrival due in September.

### **Fond farewells**

We are so pleased that we are offering apprenticeships because it is amazing to see young adults join us and grow and develop in their roles during their time at SRG.

With this in mind, Ellie May will be finishing her second year and is going on to complete a foundation degree for teaching next year. The good news is that she will be doing a placement with us during this.

Hannah in Year 2 is also going to start her foundation degree and will be coming back for a weekly placement.

Caitlin has secured a placement for her next year working with an SEN child at a school in Plymouth.

Tegen is about to successfully finish her course and is off to Australia in September.

They have all played a very important part in life at SRG but we are proud to have supported them in their lifelong learning journeys. They are all very talented individuals who have demonstrated great skills and shared their talents to support our pupils during their time. Although we will miss them and appreciate their work, we know they are ready to continue successfully in their next step.

### **Other updates**

We are hoping to have some new apprentices joining us in September and will update you with names in the next few weeks.

However, I can confirm that Lee and Amie will be staying with us in September. Amie will be moving into Year 2 with that class and Lee is going to extend his experience in the classroom as well as supporting some PE and clubs.

### **Current Year Two**

A reminder that once they are in Year 3 from September, this class will no longer be in receipt of universal free school meals. If they have school dinners, they are payable on ParentPay at £2.30 per meal, or be supplied with a packed lunch.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

Book bag – named Joseph O.

### **Cake Sale – Thursday 12 July**

My Name is Rosie and I am in Year 6. I am asking for your support to help a charity called Desperate Greekies. My granny and I have adopted a dog called Monty from Greece, through Desperate Greekies. He's had a very sad few months, as his mummy and daddy died and he was put into a shelter in Greece, with only the bed sheet of his dead owner, and this really upset him. So he was driven over to England through Europe with 20 other dogs and a blind cat. All have been adopted in England.

It costs £11 for a bag of dog food and they need 40 bags a week to feed all the dogs in just one shelter, most of the time they are fed on stale bread. They try their hardest to help them but have no money.

I would like to hold a cake sale on Thursday 12 July to raise as much money as I can to feed the other dogs in the shelter in Greece. Could you please help me by providing cakes or even a small donation? Each cake will be 20p. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this.



This is Monty in Greece



One of the kennels at the Shelter

### **KS2 Residential**

KS2 (Yrs 3-6) will be going on a two-day, one-night residential near Shaugh Bridge in September. They will be staying at the Spirit of Discovery. The cost for this residential will be £35 each.

They will be going for a walk on Dartmoor, learning about the stone circles and other outdoor activities.

Yr 6: Mon 24 – Tue 25 September

Yr 5: Tue 25 – Wed 26 September

Yr 4: Wed 26 – Thu 27 September

Yr 3: Thu 27 – Fri 28 September

This is now available for payment on ParentPay.

### **Eco News**

Last Tuesday, the Eco Committee launched 'Walk to School' day which was re-named 'Happy Shoesday'. Teachers and students headed off to meet and form the two walking buses, one in the village square and one at Highertown. It was great to see so many parents and children supporting this initiative which resulted in 80 children travelling to school on these two buses! The Eco Committee are now looking at how this might be implemented on a more regular basis. The sandwich wrappers were very popular at the summer fair. Thank you to all of our eco volunteers who manned the stall and demonstrated the wrappers. Most wrappers were sold, however there are still some available in the office for £4 each. It is an investment in the long run; just think how much cling film and plastic we will keep out of landfill sites! Thank you for supporting our ideas. The Eco Committee and Mrs Cunningham.

### **Messy Church**

Landrake Messy Church Summer Party

Saturday 7 July at Landrake Chapel

From 4–6 pm.

We hope you can join us for fun, games and fantastic food.

Children, please don't forget to bring your adult with you!

### Sports fun in the hot sun!

This week has been an incredibly busy but ultimately exciting week of sport at SRG. On Wednesday evening, we took 37 competitors to take part in the Area Sports at Liskeard Comprehensive School. We were thrilled with the performances of all 37 team members and we came away with a credible 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish over all. Highlights were wins for Ruby and Jasmin in the 600 and 150 metres, a storming win for the Year 6 girls circular relay with Ruby, Jasmin, Lauryn and Apryl, second place finishes for Apryl and the Year 5 boys shuttle relay team featuring Owen, Harry, Sarel, Jamie, Archie and Johan and third place finishes for Millie in the Vortex throw, Oskar and Shiloh in the 60 metres, Ruby in the 65 metres and the Year 3 & 4 shuttle relay team of Joel, Jack, Oskar, Tom, Ruby, Merryn, Shiloh and Poppy. The team all 'pulled' together to support our incredible tug of war team who made it a win for three years in a row, when they destroyed each of the 5 teams they pulled against winning every pull 2-0. Well done to Isaac, Hannah, Katie, Owen, Meredith, Ollie, Jack and Megan. They were a joy to take out and Mrs Cunningham, Mrs Curtis and I shouted and cheered ourselves hoarse!

On Friday, we took a huge team of 74 competitors to the Cornwall Youth Games and we all had a day to remember. We had teams taking part in the golf, tag rugby, daily mile, hockey, badminton, dance, basketball, swimming and quadkids athletics finals. It was a long hot day in the sun but the children competed with determination, skill and respect.

We were honoured to be part of the opening ceremony singing Mr Hambly's winning song in front of a crowd of over 3000 spectators and participants. We then disappeared to all corners of the Penryn College campus to take part in our various events, only returning late in the afternoon to share tales of our adventures. All teams from SRG displayed the values of the games when competing and we had a very enjoyable and successful day out. The result of the day came from our Year 4 Quadkids team of Tom, Ed, Hayden, Joel, Alice, Ava, Merryn and Ruby who took home the gold medal. My thanks go to all the children for taking part with such enthusiasm and to all the staff who worked hard in the run up to the event and on the day itself. I was very proud to be part of such an incredible team of pupils and staff.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

#### NEXT WEEK:

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Mon 9 July | Y6: HMS Raleigh<br>G&T History at Saltash.net                               |
| Wed 11 Jul | Poppies for Parents   |
| Thu 12 Jul | G&T Sports at Saltash.net<br>Y5: Maths Theme Day – Saltash.net<br>Cake Sale |
| Fri 13 Jul | Speech Day  |
| Sat 14 Jul | Landrake Carnival   |
| 16-20 Jul  | Booster Swimming Lessons (AM)   |
| Fri 20 Jul | 1.15pm Leavers Assembly<br>Last day of school                               |
| Mon 23 Jul | New Y6/7 parents eve – Saltash  |

#### NEXT SCHOOL YEAR:

|            |                             |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| Wed 5 Sep  | Back to School              |
| Fri 21 Sep | Mufti Day                   |
| Mon 24 Sep | Yr 6: Residential – Cadover |
| Tue 25 Sep | Yr 5: Residential – Cadover |
| Wed 26 Sep | Yr 4: Residential – Cadover |
| Thu 27 Sep | Yr 3: Residential – Cadover |
| Thu 4 Oct  | 7pm Friends AGM             |
| Fri 19 Oct | Inset Day                   |
| 22-26 Oct  | Half Term                   |
| Wed 31 Oct | School Photos               |
| Fri 2 Nov  | R-Yr 5 – Flu Immunisation   |
| Fri 21 Nov | Christmas Holidays          |

#### 2019

|           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| Tue 8 Jan | Back to School |
|-----------|----------------|

Solar Meter Reading this week: 66,444 kW



#### Piano and Singing Lessons

There are a number of unpaid invoices still outstanding for piano and singing lessons. Please could bills be settled for this term ASAP – I will be sending out reminders next week.

Thank you, Jane Suckling.