



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

After-school Clubs

- Clubs will restart on Monday 14th January

School Trips

- KS1 Theatre trip to see the Gingerbread Man

Letters sent by satchel post

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Monday 17th

- 9.15am KS2 Play
- 1.30pm KS2 play

Tuesday 18th

- KS1 Theatre trip
- 2pm KS2 play
- 5.45pm KS2 play

Wednesday 19th

- 11am: Carols and Community Parade
- Christmas Party

Thursday 20th

- 9.15am KS1 Christingle
- 1pm KS2 Christingle

Friday 21st

- Christmas Holidays start



Other

- Donations of mince pies and cakes would be gratefully appreciated for all of the Christmas Plays
- Please complete and return clubs lists ASAP, ready for clubs to start on Monday 14 January
- Planning Application information attached to the end of this newsletter

Sports News

Please find the sports news on page 3.

KS2's WW1 Play 'Christmas 1914'

Tuesday 18th December at 2pm

The Community performance of the KS2 play still has plenty of tickets available. If anybody would like to see it - parents, grandparents, neighbours... all are welcome.

Either call the office (01752 851362) to book tickets or go online: www.schoolinterviews.co.uk and use Event Code: pw9m2

Christingle Candles

Now in its 50th year, Christingle is a special, memorable celebration that takes place in thousands of churches, schools and communities across the country.

All of the money we collect in our Christingle candles goes to the Children's Society to support young people in need around the country.

To find out more, visit www.christingle.org

There are Christingle Candles in every classroom for any loose change. Thank you.



January

A reminder that there is an inset day on Monday 7th January, children return to school on Tuesday 8th January.

The staff, governors and pupils of Sir Robert Geffery's School want to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and thank you for all your support this term. It is by everybody working together our school continues to thrive and flourish.

Thank you to all who offer their expertise and time to enhance the learning experiences our children enjoy. Do consider volunteering it is rewarding and worthwhile if you have a few hours to spare.

Change of Menu: Thursday 20th December

1. Fish fingers and chips
2. Mediterranean tart and chips
3. Jacket Potato

Christmas Parties on Wednesday 19 December

We hope that all will contribute food for the parties. Lists are being formulated on the classroom doors.

Normal school uniform is to be worn on this day as there is a Christmas Parade through the village also.

Home Learning

Do try to encourage reading and use of the ICT sites to support learning over the break

ICT sites to support learning

www.mathletics.co.uk

www.educationcity.com

www.mymaths.co.uk

<https://trockstars.com/login>

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/sirrobert-pl12>

We have subscriptions for these sites. Your child has an individual login for them too that should be stuck in their reading record book.

Home Learning Menu

Please and find attached the next term's home learning menu so you can get a head start.

What do people value and appreciate about Sir Robert Geffery's?

Although we will always take any criticism or concern very seriously and act upon it where necessary, it is great to receive so many positive comments about such a range of things we do. It is also positive to see how things are put into place following suggestions.

Some examples...

Following a comment about the difficulty of getting to work and the cost of child care in mornings we started opening our doors at 8am, and now employ three members of staff to support learning. We have a reading club, home learning club as well as opening the ICT suite for completion of mathletics and spellodrome. We prioritise this to enable a calmer transition from home to school in the mornings and to support our families. There is no cost implication and some have said this facility has meant that they have been able to pay bills, or even enable them to afford a holiday or a few treats as it saves them money. The children therefore gain inside and outside school.

We spoke to pre-school about opening at 7.45am so that parents can drop off earlier if necessary.

Over the years home learning has been highlighted as causing friction at home, so we have put supported times from 8am, at lunchtime and after school where there are staff to support learning. Our learning menus encourage children to select different activities that take into account different life styles and family life.

There are very few schools where children can come from 8am and stay until 4.30 without a cost implication.

We have been very open to take up opportunities highlighted in our local community and beyond. For example:

- 1) When we were offered golf taster sessions we then extended this into offering a regular golf club.
- 2) Following a conversation about gymnastics, we now have Mo Gregory in every Friday delivering sessions and coaching our apprentices to develop their skills as well.
- 3) Next term Plymouth Albion coaches will be delivering our tag rugby club after they visited last term and the children enjoyed the sessions
- 4) Children in Year 5 and 6 have had the opportunity to try climbing at the Life Centre
- 5) The quality of the swimming provision was raised and as we also felt it could be better at meeting the needs of our pupils if we explored other options and not use the Life Centre
- 6) Children have visited Lantallack Farm, Pentillie Castle and Markwell Farm.

When the opportunities arose to develop computing skills through visits to the Apple Store we were really excited to find out more and built this into our curriculum. All children have developed their program skills this term and the spheroballs are used by all.

What have people commented positively about recently...

- Children's good behaviour
- The support of staff and the additional work they do
- The range of clubs children can take part in
- The residential opportunities
- The high standards achieved

Walking Games – a ‘runaway’ success!

Last week we took the whole of Year 5 down to Callywith College in Bodmin to take part in the inaugural walking games! We entered teams in the walking netball, football and tag rugby and had a soggy but fun-packed day. The day started with a chance to meet ‘Choughy’ the Cornwall School Games mascot and then we had a morning of coaching in how to play these usually fast and furious games at walking pace. After a quick pit stop for lunch, the afternoon matches then took place with each of our teams playing matches against many of the 8 other schools that entered the event.

These matches were fascinating and remarkably fast paced. The netball team improved in every game, the tag rugby team won 2 of their matches and both football teams were very successful. The results weren’t recorded and winners were decided on how well teams adhered to the values of the school games. Tilly and Kamora had a fantastic day as media ambassadors; interviewing participants, filling out surveys and questionnaires and also making short films of the event. They impressed all the organising adults with their confidence and independence throughout the day. The day ended with a closing prize-giving ceremony where one of SRG’s two football teams were awarded medals for showing the most respect to their opponents. Well done SRG!

Skipping Champions!

This term’s skipping club has been great fun for me to run. It’s been lovely to watch each member of the club improving their skills and honing their abilities... and we have some exceptional skipping talent at our school! We have been posting scores on the skipping-workshops National Skipping Challenge website and with less than a week to go to the end of term, we are sitting proudly near the top of 4 of the 6 categories. Abbie D and Lily P are 2nd and 3rd nationally for ‘Double Dutch’, Abbie is also 3rd for ‘Double Unders’ and Lily is 4th nationally for the ‘Pretzels’ category. And finally Olivia J and Olivia T are 2nd and Olivia T and Alice P are 3rd for the ‘Face to Face Partner Skip’ category. These children will all receive medals at the end of term from the Skipping Workshops organisers. Well done all!

Arena Monthly Challenge winning streak continues!

After our success in October’s Arena Monthly Skipping Challenge – we were excited to hear earlier this week that both Ruby F and Alice in Year 5 had been named as joint winners of November’s Monthly Shuttle Run Challenge. Well done to both girls for such super quick times, and thanks to Lee who recorded results during our PE lessons this month.

Rock Climbing Fun

Owen and I had the pleasure of taking two groups of Year 5 & 6 pupils to a set of practise rock climbing sessions at the Plymouth Life Centre over the past two weeks. For the first time ever, we have entered the school in the South West Youth Games Rock Climbing Competition that will take place in mid-January, and I wanted to see if there was any interest in rock climbing at the school prior to selecting a team to take part. I was fully expecting to have between 6 or 8 children wanting to take part but was gob-smacked and really pleased when over 30 slips were returned! It was so popular that we ended up running two sessions. I’m really thankful to Owen, our PE apprentice for giving up his time and indebted to; Victor and Sam’s mum, Theodore’s mum and Che’s mum for helping us transport the children to these sessions. I was really proud of the way the children behaved and also with the way they grew in confidence – every one of them had improved from the start of the session by the time we had to go. We were so excited with this opportunity that we have entered 5 teams into the event and it has been exceptionally difficult selecting the 15 children who will be taking part in January.

Yr 1 – Balance ability

We have been offered some places for a Balance-ability course for year one children. So we have an idea of numbers, please let us know if your child uses stabilisers to ride their bike and would therefore benefit from a balance-ability course.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

NEXT WEEK:

Tue 8 Jan Back to School
Fri 11 Jan KS2: Panto trip – Dick Whittington
Fri 18 Jan Climbing Competition
League Run
Mon 21 Jan Football Match: vs St Cleer
Tue 22 Jan Yr 3/4: Able Writers
Thu 24 Jan Cake Sale (nut free please)
Mon 28 Jan Football Match: vs Callington
Wed 30 Jan Sportshall Athletics
Fri 1 Feb League Run
Wed 6 Feb Netball Tournament
Thu 7 Feb Maths Masterclass
Gym Festival
Fri 8 Feb Landrake
Mon 11 Feb Primary Maths Challenge
Wed 13 Feb Parental Consultations
Thu 14 Feb Parental Consultations
18-22 Feb Half Term
Mon 25 Feb Yr 4: Bodmin Recycling Centre
Tue 26 Feb Yr 2: Bodmin Recycling Centre
Thu 28 Feb Cake Sale (nut free cakes please)

Fri 1 Mar League Run
Mon 4 Mar Football Match: vs St Neot
Fri 8 Mar Landrake Run
Wed 13 Mar Marine Biology
Fri 18 Mar Football Match: vs Lifton
Wed 20 Mar Yr5: Jnr Life Skills – Fire Station
Thu 21 Mar Cake Sale (nut free cakes please)
Mon 1 Apr Football Match: vs Windmill Acad.
Thu 28 Mar Maths Masterclass
Yr 3/4: Farm & Countryside Day
Mon 1 Apr Football Match: vs Darite
Thu 4 Apr 3pm: Home Learning Exhibition
8-22 Apr Easter Holidays
23Apr-10May Y3 swimming every morning
Wed 24 Apr Quadkids
29Apr-3May Yr 5: Barton Hall Residential
Mon 29 Apr Football Match: vs Delaware
Mon 6 May Bank Holiday
Mon 13 May Football Match: vs St Neot
Wed 15 May Yr 1/2: Cricket Match
Thu 16 May Cake Sale (nut free cakes please)
Mon 20 May Yr 6: St Dennis Recycling
Tue 21 May Yr 5: Cricket Match at Duloe
Wed 22 May Sports Day
Thu 23 May Maths Masterclass
27-31 May Half Term

