

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 3rd November 2023

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

What did you do with your extra hour? This was the question that we discussed on Monday, following the changing of the clocks on Sunday. Some children spent the hour having extra sleep, some used the time to be creative, some to play games and some to tidy their rooms. This led us to thinking about how precious time is and how important it is that we all continue to try and make time for the people and things that we love, even on days when we are not given the extra hour.

This is an approach that we continue to take with our children during their time with us. Our school days are ever so busy and we have a real commitment to taking time to get to know our children so that we can support them to progress and develop as people.

The learning that we have seen throughout the school has shown real purpose and endeavour as our children adapt back to the classrooms after a week off. The relationships that they are building with their classmates and adults around the school are a joy to see. The level of communication and collaboration throughout the school is something that I am very proud of. I hope that you have a fantastic weekend.

Sam Malyn

Disco Re-scheduled

Due to the school closure yesterday, we have had to reschedule the disco. The disco will now take place next Friday 10th November. I am very sorry for any upset caused by the disco being cancelled – we have worked quickly to arrange a new date to ensure the children do not miss out. Tickets that were purchased for the original disco will still be valid.

Home Learning Update

Every week, our expectation is that all of our children **read four times a week** and develop their times tables knowledge. The best way to do this is through Times Table Rock Stars. In addition to this weekly homework, your child will be bringing home a homework sheet containing a variety of tasks. **The aim is to complete at least one task from each column before the hand in date.** Your child does not need to bring in their homework book every week and we are hopeful that having longer deadlines for home learning will help you all to plan at home. We understand that balancing supporting children with home learning as well as navigating everything else that a school week contains is a real challenge. We are hopeful that removing the weekly deadline for homework will enable the process to be a more positive one.

The deadline for the homework for this half term is Monday 11th December

Messages from the Office

IMPORTANT -Your child's annual nasal flu vaccination is now due. The nursing team will be in St. Margaret's on Tuesday 7th November.

The School-Age Immunisation Service is delivering the flu immunisation programme in Cornwall's and Devon's schools on behalf of NHS England & Improvement. Flu can be a very unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu.

In 2023/24 all children in Primary Schools from **Reception to year 6 (inclusive)** will be offered the vaccine. The vaccination is free and recommended for young children; it is administered by a quick and simple spray up the nose. Please enter www.nhs.uk/child-flu to access information explaining the vaccination programme which also includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate. The patient information leaflet is also in the attached link: FLUENZ Tetra, INN-influenza vaccine (live attenuated, nasal) (medicines.org.uk).

We are due to visit your child's school on **7th November 2023**. In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following link <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

PLEASE ENSURE YOU ENTER THE FULL UNIQUE SCHOOL REFERENCE CODE. The code for your child's school is: DV113453

Please submit your consent form by **midday 3rd November 2023** to ensure your child receives their vaccination. If you experience any problems accessing the form please **telephone 01872 221105 for Cornwall schools and 01392 342678 for Devon schools** and the team will be happy to help. Please note that as in previous years **you must opt into** the programme. If a consent form is not submitted your child will not be vaccinated.

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you submit this form, please contact us on the numbers above.

If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, it would help us if you still complete and submit the consent form giving the reason. This will help us to plan and develop the service. Please tell us if you need this information in a different format.

Yours faithfully

School-Age Immunisation Team Kernow Health

- Now that the weather has turned colder could you please ensure that your child has a coat in school every day.

CHRISTMAS DATES

6th December—Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

11th December—Year 3 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

12th December—Year 4 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

13th December—Year 6 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

14th December—Year 5 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

15th December—Christingle in St. Margaret's Church (time to be confirmed)

Our learning this week

The View from our Blogging Team

In Year 3 this week, the children have been learning about rivers and mountains for their topic for this half-term. And in Maths, the Year 3s have been playing a fun Stone Age themed maths game. However, it was too easy for them because they had such mammoth brains. In Year 4, they were doing some water cycle art - I wonder if it was watercolours!

In Year 5 this week, they've been learning about earthquakes. When they heard about all of the disasters, they didn't even shake. They also learnt about Vikings attacking England. Finally, in Year 6 this week, they have been drawing, designing and describing dragon eggs. It's lucky that the eggs didn't hatch dragons and burn down the classroom! We had a fun grammar lesson about nouns (especially proper nouns) and adjectives. For our topic, we have been learning about volcanoes. We have mostly been focused on the volcanoes in the Ring of Fire. We really erupted at our learning this week.

In Year 3 this week, we have been working on the column method for subtraction in maths and checking our answers by using estimation for accuracy. In writing, we have started to write a story about a young girl called Erin who has always wanted to go on a sailing adventure. In PE, we have also enjoyed starting tag rugby and gymnastics. It has also been a great week as both classes have welcomed new pupils to their class!

In Year 4 this week, we have started our new topic on the Water Cycle. This started with a very busy art day! We created some fantastic artistic representations of water – Mr Malyn thought that they had been created by professional artists! We are continuing to work hard on our maths and have been using different representations to add and subtract larger numbers. There has been an excellent atmosphere in the classes this week and everyone has worked really hard!

What an exciting week we have had in Year 5! On Monday, we began our new topic on Earthquakes with some seismograph art work using watercolours and wax crayons, investigated the different layers of the Earth and learnt about what people in the past around the world believed an earthquake was.

We have hit the ground running in Year 6 after a lovely half term week. We have started to create our own mythical beasts in English, ready to write our own reports on their behaviour, appearance and habitats. We used an amazing text called 'The Incomplete Book of Dragons' as our inspiration. We also had an explosive start (haha!) to our new Geography unit which focuses on volcanoes. We learnt a little bit about the Pacific Ring of Fire and how the geography of that area of the world leads to 75% of the world's volcanoes being found there.

Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Merrity H

Peace: Freddy M.

Friendship: Ted R.

Forgiveness: Emmy C.

Hope: Rudi-James

Wisdom: William H.

Thankfulness: Evie-Rae

Compassion: Hamish K.