Issue 199 • 6th December 2019

St Petroc's Post

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been pondering what to open with this week. Brexit, perhaps? I must say, it is kind of our politicians to celebrate our Carol Service and the end of term with Election Day. This is, of course, all a shameless plug for our Carol Service and I look forward to seeing you at Bude Methodist Church on Thursday at 4pm. **Please note the earlier start time**.

This week, the school has been awash with visitors. We welcomed Matthew Lovett, a former Headmaster of both Truro Prep and Kingsley School and now a partner of MIST. He spent time with pupils from different year groups, met a large selection of staff and was full of praise for the overarching happiness and politeness of our children, as well as the drive our staff have to see pupils succeed. Another familiar face was Lucy Body, our SENCo, who dropped in with her new baby. She sends Christmas wishes to everyone. In addition to some touring parents, we were pleased to welcome Bishop Phillip Mount-Steven for a whistle-stop tour of St Petroc's, whilst visiting the Poughill Parish.

The choir gave a lovely performance to the Rotary Club Senior Citizens Christmas Party on Tuesday afternoon. This was followed by the Christingle service at St Michael's Church, a joint effort with Bude Primary Academy. I received a lovely email from the Rotary Club thanking us and saying how much the guests enjoyed their afternoon. What a fantastic community event and effort by the Rotary Club. The Nativity performances from the Dolphins preschool children were next on the agenda and it was lovely to see so many of you there. A massive thank you to Mrs White and the rest of the Early Years team for what is quite an undertaking. The children, who are not always in the same space, on the same day, at the same time, make a rather challenging 'jigsaw', and yet it comes together remarkably. I hope the children made you all as proud as they did us! We then moved onto the school performances of The Amazing Advent Calendar, where the Key Stage 2 children have been supporting the younger children with their performance. The older children often take much more of a lead in our Carol Service next week and it is fantastic to see the growth in confidence and progress made by your children. It is so indicative of life at St Petroc's; the children genuinely care for and support each other.

I look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Bazaar tomorrow. Please do come and support the event. The school is so grateful for the incredible investment being made here and that would not be possible without these events. Thank you to everyone for your efforts; they are truly appreciated. Have a great weekend everyone.

Ben Hilton
Fast Yn Mesk Tonnow

Diary Dates

Saturday 7th December
12-3pm Friends of St Petroc's Christmas Bazaar at An Mor

Thursday 11th December
Christmas Lunch

Thursday 12th December
4pm Christmas Carol Concert at Central Methodist Church

Last day of term
(No Stay & Play)

Monday 6th January 2020
First day of term

100 Club Winners

1st Prize
Mrs Cook

2nd Prize
Mrs Winstanley

3rd Prize
Neva

Fancy seeing your name on a future winners' list?

See page 4 for details of how to join the 100 Club and for the list of numbers currently available.

St Petroc's
Founded 1912
FAST YN MESK TONNOW

Christmas BAZAAR

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

SANTA'S GROTTO 12-1PM

An afternoon of festive fun for the whole family

Amazing raffle prizes including a short break at a Park Leisure Holiday Park, £100 cash and 365 days of free coffee at Rosie's Kitchen

FREE ENTRY

ALL WELCOME

12-3PM

AN MOR HOTEL

HARTLAND TERRACE

BUDE

RAFFLE ★ FESTIVE FOOD AND DRINK ★ SILENT AUCTION ★ GAMES

LOCAL CRAFTS AND GIFTS ★ PROMISE TREE ★ CAKES

FACE PAINTING ★ SANTA'S GROTTO ★ TOMBOLA

PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S CLOTHES AND TOYS

AND SO MUCH MORE!

Visit social media for further details and updates

Friends Of St Petroc's @friendsofstpetrocs

Little Turtles

Christmas crafts

This week in Little Turtles we have been embracing all things Christmassy! The children have been super busy creating special crafts for their families and everyone has enjoyed the felt Christmas tree with Velcro baubles. We have decorated the tree lots and it's been really fun.
We were also lucky enough to go on a chilly but sunny walk down to see the ducks at the beginning of the week. The ducks and swans were very happy to see us!

Sea Lions

Jingle all the way

The Sea Lions are in full Christmas mode! We have been making our own paper chain decorations, using our fine motor skills to wrap the strips of paper through each other, as well as writing letters to Santa himself. We asked for one thing each and we've had many wonderful choices; from new cars to dollies and teddy bears.

We also had a visit from our past classroom helper Olivia, who was with us for a year, to learn new skills and gain experience. All the children loved Olivia and we enjoyed our time with her. She came to say goodbye, as she heads off on new adventures, so we gave Olivia some big hugs and well wishes.

We were also lucky enough to watch the Dolphins Nativity and enjoyed watching our past Sea Lions friends on the stage. We thought their singing was great and we clapped very loudly for them all of them.

We've also been practising our own Christmas songs to sing at home for our families. Jingle Bells is our favourite!

Dolphins

Star performers

After three months of hard work, learning their lines, songs and positions on stage, the Dolphins finally got to perform their Nativity play and show off their acting skills! Mrs White would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support with teaching your children the vast number of songs and providing the beautiful costumes. In the classroom, the Dolphins continued with Christmas activities and the children have each decorated a bauble to hang on their tree.

The Friends of St Petroc's

The 100 Club

Join the 100 Club!

Each number costs £4 per month, with 50% of each month's donations supporting the work of the Friends of St Petroc's and the remaining 50% being the prize fund for that month's members.

Each month, three numbers are drawn at random and the lucky winners receive a share of the prize fund!

You could win one of three cash prizes every month!

Help raise valuable funds for the school and Early Years

Numbers currently available:

8 17 19 20 25 32 36 38 40 41 45 46 47 48 49

52 54 57 59 60 62 65 66 68 70 71 72 73 74 77 83

84 86 87 89 90 91 93 94 95 97 98

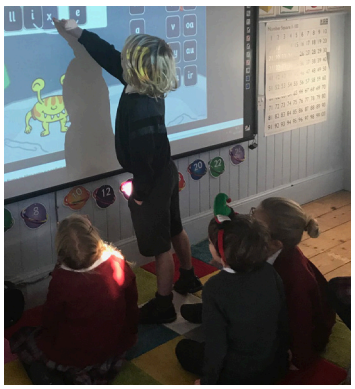
Contact Lindsay on mail@lindsayhazeldine.com for more details and to get the ball rolling with your 100 Club membership!

Reception

Santa's little helpers

We have been busy little elves this week, helping Fizz the elf in his workshop. The children have been measuring paper in order to wrap presents without wasting paper and have also helped Fizz to understand the difference between 2D shapes and 3D shapes. Santa asked Fizz to make sure only 3D shapes went in the magic sack and the children sorted the presents and shapes for Fizz. Well done everyone!

Years 1 & 2



Information seekers

Years 1 and 2 have been busy completing their core assessments this week, as well as enjoying some creative writing. The children wrote and illustrated imaginative stories, having first mapped out their characters, plot and ideas. In their ICT lessons, Years 1 and 2 continue to build their confidence and independence with browsing the internet and using search engines to find information.

Years 3 & 4

Practise makes perfect!

"It's exciting and fun because we're already excited about Christmas." Rosie-May

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Year 3 and 4! The children have been enjoying some festive Maths and English this week. The Maths has been in the form of Times Tables practise. We can never have enough of Times Tables – the faster and more accurate they are, the easier their Maths work will become. In English, the children are completing a Christmas Wordsearch. When they have all the words they will create some sentence work, practising their use of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs.

Year 5

The pupils used an array of persuasive writing techniques and all read their letters to the class with great expression, even making Mr Fox cry! He was so moved by their excellent use of persuasive language that he had no choice but to relent and see their side of the debate. The children all got to put tinsel on the tree and so Christmas (and Mr Fox's job) were both saved!

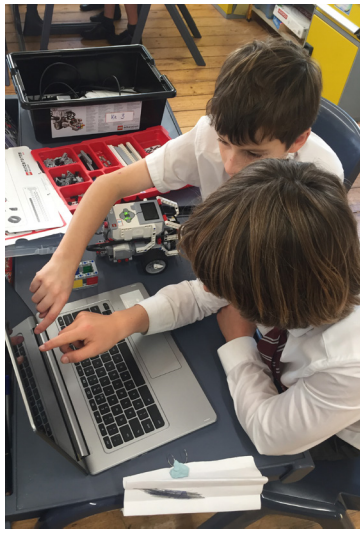
An aborted tinsel-ectomy...

Threats of losing his job, being made to leave school and calling him the "worst teacher ever, who likes to ruin Christmas" are just some of the unpleasantries Mr Fox faced from Year 5 after last week's announcement that there would be no tinsel on their Christmas tree...! The pupils responded powerfully to Mr Fox's letter explaining the damage tinsel, which is made of plastic, can do to wildlife and the environment, and his grinch-like plan to therefore ban it.

Year 6

It's only logical

In ICT, the Year 6 children have been doing a fantastic job, working their way through the Lego EV3 education program and following the various step-by-step processes of logical and computational thinking. We have enjoyed, in equal measure, exploring two approaches - rushing off then problem solving after, and employing a more cautious, considered method to our robotics.



The results have been mixed and we have now, through trial, error and some pretty collaborative investigation, concluded that we may have a faulty or intermittent touch proximity sensor! Well done to the two groups who have been 'ironing' out that glitch. We were convinced for a period of time that it might be user error but it would appear not. Code debugging is a fantastic skill and can be transferred into all aspects of classroom teaching and learning. Keep it up Year 6; Mr Hilton is very impressed!

Stay and Play

Popping Penguins!

Brrr! This cold weather has brought out the penguins! In Stay and Play this week children made perky penguins, modelling them on either the Rockhopper Penguin or the Macaroni Penguin. The children also had great fun in their Outdoor Cooking session, making popcorn on the campfire. After an initial teething problem, where the popcorn started to escape from our homemade popcorn maker, we successfully made edible (and rather tasty!) popcorn. The children were excited to see the kernels change as they heated and to hear the pop pop noises!

House Rugby Match

Cherills v Vivians

Vivians match report by Indigo

We started the first half well. We were playing downhill, so had an advantage. Everyone on the team was passing well and there were some good tackles from Ben, who had come over from Cherills to help us out. We scored a try, by Scarlett breaking through and passing to me, then another try almost at the end of the half. We didn't get as many tries in the second half, as it was quite tiring playing uphill, but Cherills then got two tries. Lexi almost scored but got tackled. She passed to me but I annoyingly ran into touch! We played another 5 minutes and tried our best but Cherills won by one point. Thank you Mr Fox for umpiring.

Cherills match report by Ed

In the first half we were playing uphill. Vivians scored two tries but then we became stronger and stopped them getting any more tries in the first half. Unfortunately, we didn't score any until the second half, when we were going downhill. Ben was playing for Vivians and then I swapped with him for the second half to play for Vivians. In the second half, Ben scored two tries, with help from the rest of the team to get up to the try line. Kaitlin did great tackling and defending. For the last five minutes, Mr Fox allowed us to do kicking. We were running up hill for the decider but we scored the final try and Cherills won. We also thank Mr Fox for umpiring.

Games

Sunset sports skills

The students became the masters in one of their Games sessions this week. In groups, Key Stage 2 were given the task to design a mini game that practised a particular skill or match rule for Netball, Football or Rugby. After a 10 minute discussion and set up, the groups explained and demonstrated their activity to the rest of their peers. The groups then took a turn on each activity, honing their skills of accuracy and aim, ball control and communication.

St Petroc's School Choir

A busy week for our choristers

With residential home performances, the Christingle service and a performance at the Rotary Club Senior Citizens' Christmas Party on the calendar, our choir have well and truly sung their hearts out this week. Mr Fox, who stepped-up during Mrs Cook's absence, said he could not praise the children highly enough for their stamina and maturity.

Lantern making

Joining the festive parade

Today, the children made lanterns out of recycled materials, ready for next Friday's Santa parade during Late Night Shopping. Santa will lead the parade from the Crescent Car Park, through town and up to his grotto on Queen Street. Thank you very much to Mrs Miller for coming in to do our lantern workshop!

If you are able to join the parade, please meet at the Crescent Car Park at 5:15pm on Friday 13th December.

Prep School Christmas Play

The Amazing Advent Calendar