

Hello everyone,

We have now had three successful weeks of new routines, both at home and at school. Children's smiles and positivity continue to fill our days at school, and we know that children at home are safe and well and making a real effort with home learning. It is so lovely to be welcoming back more children from Year 1 and Year 6 and children of our key workers. Please get in touch and let us know if you would like your child to return to school if they are eligible.



Just to update you, teachers will be making fortnightly calls to families who are at home to touch base with you and talk to the children in their class that they are not seeing in school. They will let you know which day this will be.

Children are encouraged to keep uploading their work onto Showbie and Tapestry and the teachers will give feedback about their work once a week. There will also be a celebration of children's work in an extra video from the teachers. This will be a great opportunity to share what they have been doing and to inspire and motivate the children who are learning from home.

If you haven't done so already, please watch our wonderful choir when they were taking part in the 'Music for Youth' festival in Truro back in March. Their recording of 'Flash, Bang, Wallop!' is so entertaining to watch - you will find it on the Cornwall Music Education Hub Facebook page and we have also shared this link on our school Facebook page. Well done to the members of the choir, and to Mrs Austin-Smith and Mrs Mulcahy - you sounded brilliant and we can't wait to hear you singing together again.

Our school is still registered to receive the Co-op Local Community Fund, so please remember to use your Co-op card when shopping (make sure it is registered online for St. Mary's to receive your 1%!)

Lesley Perkins, from the Co-op, has been in touch to ask if we have any inspirational stories of cooperation to share. I have told her that St. Mary's is one big story of cooperation - the way in which the children, parents, staff and parish all work together to make our school the success it is.

Thank you everyone.

Have a lovely weekend.  
With very best wishes,  
Mrs. Draycott

## **Vacancies**

See St Mary's School website for Teaching Assistant and Caretaker vacancies.

[www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk)

*Please note that signposting to any activities/services within this newsletter, by St Mary's School does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. It is recommended that parents/carers make their own enquiries to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of these. Under no circumstances will either St Mary's School or Plymouth CAST accept any responsibility or liability for any such activity/service.*

## **Education Library Service**

Organised by The Reading Agency ([www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)) and the UK public library network since 1999, the **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Last year, in Cornwall 8166 children took part. These have been unprecedented times and we had to adapt to how this could still be delivered. The Reading Agency has created a Digital Summer Reading Challenge platform. The new platform provides a fun, immersive and safe environment for children to achieve their reading goals, play games and join reading groups.

This year's theme is Silly Squad, a team of animal friends who love to go on adventures and get stuck in to all different kinds of funny books. For 2020 it's all about funny books, happiness and having a laugh!

The **Summer Reading Challenge** combines **FREE** access to books with fun creative online activities; This year it has been extended and will be launched on Friday 5th June and run until mid-September.

### **How the Challenge works**

- ♦ Children sign up online to the Digital Summer Reading Challenge <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>
- ♦ The website will be free to access, featuring games, quizzes, digital and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in the Challenge at home. Although library buildings are closed, libraries will also continue to deliver the Challenge through virtual services and e-lending platforms i.e. Borrowbox, Facebook and Twitter.
- ♦ Children taking part this year will be asked to set their own reading goal and we are keen to see if this encourages take up and completion. However, we will still be suggesting six books as the best goal to try for. Children who complete their **Summer Reading Challenge** will be able to download a certificate.

Cornwall Libraries and Education Library Service hope the children all enjoy this new and exciting way of participating in this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

## **Bidding prayers 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020**

### **Pope's prayer for June**

Many people suffer due to the great difficulties they endure. May we help them by accompanying them along an itinerary full of compassion which transforms peoples' lives and brings them closer to the Heart of Christ. We pray that all who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the heart of Jesus.

Lord Jesus, shelter our Holy Father, Pope Francis, under the protection of your Sacred Heart. Be his light, his strength, his consolation.

Lord Jesus, God of wisdom, light and truth, grant to our government and all in positions of responsibility, the guidance of your Spirit; that they may seek the common good of all peoples in our nation.

Lord Jesus, show the light of your mercy and love on all those in the poor countries of the world who are suffering on account of the Coronavirus. May CAFOD and all in the Church worldwide, who are working to help them, be guided and strengthened by your Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus, we pray for Queen Elizabeth, who celebrated her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday recently. We give thanks for the Christian witness she gives. May the Lord strengthen her in the service she gives to our country.

Lord Jesus, we pray for Fr Brian and a number of our parishioners celebrating birthdays, and anniversaries, during these difficult times. May your love bring joy and peace to their special day. We remember especially those living with loss and bereavement for whom this is a sad time.

Sunday is Fathers' Day. We pray today for all fathers and thank God for their love and dedication to family life. We pray especially for all fathers who are experiencing difficulties at this time.



## **A letter from Royal National Lifeboat Institution's (RNLI) Water Safety Team.**

Throughout the summer term, our local team of trained volunteers and Lifeguards do their best to visit as many of the schools, colleges, and youth groups in our region as possible. However, due to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak we have not been able to engage with school communities as we normally would.

**Below, you will find out ways in which you can help at this time** (press ctrl and click on link)

- [Water Safety from Home resources](#) - If you're a parent looking for ways to engage, educate and entertain your children at home, play our Water Safety Wednesday series – perfect for primary school-aged children.
- [Beach Safety Campaign](#) - Beach lifeguards cannot be everywhere this summer – although we are hoping to patrol around 70 beaches later this year – it is vital every one of us takes responsibility for our own, and our families' safety.

**Together, we really can make a lifesaving difference.**



### **Letter from the Presbytery 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Dear Friends,

I pray that you are all safe and well. We have all come to be very familiar with the words 'Black Lives Matter'. As Christians, as Catholics we agree and support these words and the feelings behind them. For as Christians we believe that all human life matters and is important and should be respected.

Our faith proclaims loud and clear that regardless of colour, race or creed all human beings are created in the image and likeness of almighty God. Therefore, all human beings deserve to be treated with respect and courtesy. Yes, all human life, through Jesus Christ, is sacred.

Surely this means that all human life, from the moment of conception to a person's last breath, must be protected and cherished.

Jesus reminds us in the Gospel that God has no favourites. In the eyes of the Lord all people are precious and important. All people have a God given value and dignity that must be respected and upheld.

A colour of a person's skin, age young or old, physical and mental problems do not hinder the love, respect and justice all human beings are entitled to as persons created in the image and likeness of almighty God. All life matters. There is only one race: The Human Race.

I write this email sitting in the porch of St Mary's Falmouth. I am acting as a steward ensuring that all our visitors are safe as they visit the church for private prayer.

At the moment the church in Falmouth is open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Mondays and Wednesdays. The times and days of our opening are not likely to change in the near future. This is because there is a shortage of volunteers willing to act as stewards and cleaners. I fully appreciate that many of you are unable to volunteer because of age restrictions and health issues.

The opening of St Mary's can only be extended if we have more volunteers. Therefore, if you are of the required age and are fit and able please consider acting as a volunteer.

Please God it will not be too long before we will be able to celebrate public Masses together again. The Bishop and his clergy are giving much thought to how Mass will be celebrated in regard to social distancing. However, I am confident that ways will be found for us to be fed and nourished by Jesus at the Mass through Word and Sacrament.

Until that wonderful time we remain united as a parish through love, care and prayer. May God bless you and keep you safe.

Love and prayers - Father Brian

