



Weekly Benson Bulletin

15 December 2017 No. 14

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Ofsted Attendance Grades		
96.5% + High	96.1% - 96.4% Above national average	95.5% - 95.9% In line with national average
94.0% or below Low	90% or below Cause for concern	85% or below Persistent Absence

PUPIL WELFARE GROUP	
We pride ourselves on being approachable and are happy to discuss any concern with parents, no matter how big or small.	
Mrs Giblett (Headteacher)	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Galler (Assistant Headteacher)	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs J Williams and Mrs B Morris	Special Educational Needs Coordinators
Mrs J Truen	Family Support Coordinator
PHASE GROUP LEADERS	
Mr Crocker	Y1-2 Phase Group leader
Mrs Kyte	Y3-4 Phase Group leader
Mr Kitto	Y5-6 Phase Group leader

Available pupil places at Archbishop Benson School						
Updated 10.11.2017						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
1	2	0	0	0	6	0

Attendance News:

Our whole-school attendance rate for this week was 96.5%.

Congratulations to Class 5MS.this week who topped the attendance table with 98.7% attendance. Well done!

Christmas Wishes

The festive mood has continued unabated this week. The Ofsted phone-call did not interfere with our Yuletide plans and our Reception children charmed us all on Tuesday with their performance of Hey Ewe.

We also enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch produced by George, Korrine, Sally and Karen with a very tasty festive sticky-toffee pudding. A big thanks to staff for joining in with the serving of the meal and also to FABB for providing the Christmas crackers. I am sure the children have been regaling you with the various cracker jokes at home.

Q: What do you find hiding in a bakery at Christmas?

A: Mince spies!

We have come to the end of another incredibly busy and successful term. It is amazing how much staff have packed into just 14 weeks. I know that you will want to join with me in thanking the teaching and support staff for all their hard work and good cheer right up to the very last day. I am very proud and grateful for all that they do. I am also equally grateful to members of staff and helpers who may get a little forgotten at this busy time of year. A big thank you to:

- The office and admin staff who are particularly busy in the last week of term and yet still remain so helpful and friendly.
- Our site supervisors and cleaners who have to cope with keeping the school looking good in the midst of plays, services, festive cooking and seasonal art work (all that glitter!!).
- Our wonderful army of volunteer helpers who have helped us faithfully throughout the term, but to many more who helped out in the past couple of weeks with cinema trips and class activities.
- Our FABB team who work tirelessly in the background to support the school and to make a real difference to the lives of the children (and staff).

We also want to thank all our parents and carers for your support this term. We do appreciate the many, many ways that you engage with the school. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in 2018 after a well-earned and well-deserved rest for your children, and hopefully you too.

We do appreciate the positive comments many of you shared with us over the past couple of weeks at the various festive celebrations. If anyone would like to send in a written thank-you to the staff or children, then we will make sure to share it with them at one of our whole-school assemblies. They do love to receive letters and cards.

A Busy Week!

I am sure that you will want to join with me in saying a heartfelt thank you to staff and governors for responding so positively and proactively to our Ofsted inspection this week. I had the privilege of walking round the school with Alex Bray, the inspector, and seeing the school through his eyes

- He praised the teachers and TAs for being so open and welcoming when we visited the classes and mentioned that this was not always the case in other schools.
- A wonderful array of lessons and activities were seen across the school.
- TAs were superb in supporting children both inside and outside of the classrooms.
- Our children, as is ever the case, were charming and so ready to talk about their learning!
- Our volunteer helpers did us proud on the day.
- Our office staff, our site team, our cleaners and the kitchen staff all worked equally hard behind the scenes leading up to and during the inspection.
- Many of our governors managed to secure time off work for the day to support the school and to meet with Mr Bray.

We were delighted that the inspection remained a one day inspection and we await the Ofsted letter in the New Year. I hope the staff and children are not tired of hearing me say how proud I am of them all. It was a real team effort and we are now all looking forward to an extra-Merry Christmas this year

Training Days

Even though Ofsted has come and gone, we still remain focused on our school improvement priorities for this year

- We just want to remind you that school is closed from next Wednesday for the Christmas holidays. We will have a Reading training day on that day and are looking forward to introducing some new developments in our whole-school approach to reading which we will share with you in the New Year.
- The children will be returning to school **on Friday, January 5th. We are using Thursday, January 4th** to have another training day, at the beginning of term, to review our approach to marking pupils' work.

The outcomes of both of these training days will have a direct impact on enhancing your child's learning over the next 2 terms and we thank you for supporting us in being flexible with a couple of our training days so that we can arrange them for maximum impact

Kitchen News

Menu change next week

The menu for the children's last day on Tuesday has been changed and will now be as follows:

Sausages, chips and beans
Vegetarian sausage, chips and beans

Ice Cream

Table Tennis Schools County Team Championships

On Thursday 14th December, 16 of our children went to Penryn College to take part in the Table Tennis Schools County Team Championships. It was a great day's table tennis and all of our players did really well. Our boys A team came second overall in the county. They won their group after beating both St Francis and King Charles 8-0. They reached the final where they lost a great match against a very strong Bosvigo team. Our boys B team also played very well, beating Bosvigo B and our C team and ended up coming third overall. Our boys' C team drew an exciting match with Bosvigo B and lost to our B team. Our girls' team also played really well, coming joint third. They beat King Charles before losing to Bosvigo.

Well done to all of the players and thank you to Mrs Glanville for taking the children to Penryn in the minibus.



Lost

A child in Year 3 has lost their winter coat. It's a blue, waterproof Slazenger coat. If you find it or your child has taken it home by mistake, can you please return it to the office. Thank you.

Thank You

A big thank you to Emily Hankins who is making 60 snowflake biscuits for the Year 1 Christmas Ball. You can find out more about the lovely things she makes by going to emilyhankins.co.uk.

Message from FABB

We hope the children enjoyed having Christmas crackers with their lunch on Wednesday. A huge thank you for your support of the Christmas Fayre. It was a lovely evening and raised over £2,500 for the school. We would also like to thank Julie at Truro City Council Parks & Gardens for the donation of beautiful plants that you will have seen around the school grounds.

Looking ahead to next term, we have a FABB meeting on Wednesday 10 January at 7pm in the Year 5 & 6 work area. Everyone is welcome. There are also a couple of events coming up: the Santander Quiz night (in aid of FABB) on Friday 2 February and a FABB disco on Wednesday 7 February. More details will be sent out next term. Merry Christmas!

Christingle

We are really looking forward to the service on Monday evening. We have now sold out of tickets. If you have not paid for your tickets yet we would be grateful for payment. The children will be bringing home donation envelopes and if you would like to make a further donation to "The Children's Society", it would be gratefully accepted. On Monday, the Year 1 and Year 2 children need to be back in school at 5.45pm. They should be dropped at the KS1 door by 2C – (the disco door!) – then parents can enter the hall via the main Reception with tickets. After the service, Year 1 children can be collected from 2C and Year 2 children from 2KP. The service lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Year 3 and 4 Feetbeat Dance Competition

On Friday 8 December 2017, ten of our Year 3 and 4 dancers went to Richard Lander School to take part in a Feetbeat dance competition. The children did really well and came 4th overall. Thank you to Mrs Medcalf for teaching the children and to Mrs Glanville and Mrs Nolan for taking them to Richard Lander.



Blues Club.

We are open every day for Breakfast and After School. We run from the St Paul's Children Centre which is on the school site.

Our team of qualified staff will ensure that your child is cared for in a safe and stimulating environment. Healthy breakfast and snacks are provided every session. If you would like to find out more about what we do please pop in and meet Esther and the team any day.

Our staff are fully qualified and DBS checked. Blues Club is rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

You can also phone us on 01637 877073 to find out more information, or email us at info@firststepscornwall.co.uk

Scratch Coding

Free Family Learning course at Truro Library/Link into Learning.

Your child is learning Scratch computer coding - why should they have all the fun?! Make a game like Pac-Man; experiment with robots...

9 week course on **Wednesdays 10-12** starting 17th January.

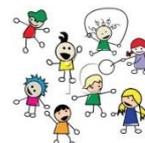
To find out more and book a place, why not drop in and meet the tutor on 10th January 10am - 11am? Or contact Ian Barnes on 07811 179401/ ian.barnes@cornwall-acl.ac.uk

Christmas Jumper Day

Hello, my name is Karen and I am the shop manager for Save the Children in Truro. As part of our Christmas jumper day celebrations this year we will be holding a meet and greet with Frozen's Elsa and Olaf on Saturday 16th December 11-2pm.

Stay and Play

Truro Nursery School, in partnership with Archbishop Benson School, offer a Stay and Play session on Thursdays in St Paul's Children's Centre from 9.00am – 10.30am. Play and early learning sessions for families following the early years foundation stage curriculum for ages 0 – 5 years. Cost is £2.00 per family (up to 2 children). First session is free to new families.



External Swimming Lessons

My name is Alexis Hall and I run swimming lessons at Truro Prep school. The lessons are held each week after school on a Wednesday during term time. We have some spaces for non-swimmers, beginners and improvers. Tel: 07763752154 www.diddydolphins.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary 2017

December

- Mon 18th** Cinema trip Y1 – Y6
KS1 Christingle Service
6.00pm in the school hall
- Tue 19th** Cinema trip Reception classes
CHILDREN BREAK UP FROM SCHOOL
- Wed 20th** **Inset day – No Children in School**

January 2018

- Thurs 4th** **Inset day – No Children in School**
- Fri 5th** **CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL**
- Wed 10th** FABB Meeting will be at 7.00pm in the year 5/6 work area

February

- Fri 2nd** Santander Quiz Night 7.00pm (in aid of FABB)
- Wed 7th** FABB disco

Term Dates for 2018

January

Fri 5/1 Children return to school

February

Fri 9/2 Break up for half term
Mon 19/2 Children return to school

March

Thu 29/3 Break up for Easter

April

Mon 16/4 Children return to school

May

Mon 7/5 Spring Bank Holiday – school closed
Fri 25/5 Break up for half term

June

Mon 4/6 Children return to school

July

Tue 24/7 Break up for end of term

Launch your week off with Family and Friends at

Launchpad

Christmas

Sunday 17th December from 4.00 pm

Bible
Stories

Reflective
Activity

Picnic Tea
Provided

Craft
Activities
for all

Music

FREE

Count Down
5-4-3-2-1
blast off!

ALL WELCOME

Games

If you would like to know more about next years' Launchpad Sundays please visit our Facebook page at <http://www.trurobaptist.co.uk/launchpad> or email children@trurobaptist.co.uk.

Truro Baptist Church
releasing God-given potential

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