

FEDERATION NEWS - As always a full and action packed first full week back in school. The children in Reception and Year 3 continue to impress everybody with how confidently they have settled into school. The children in other classes have been doing a great job too. Congratulations goes to Mrs Knapp who recently gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Miss Ramsden will be working alongside Miss Harris in Pew Tor class for this year. A reminder of which teachers are in which classes is below:-

TAVY	FS/Y1	Mrs Collins
MEAVY	FS/Y1	Miss White
PLYM	Y1	Mrs Riordan
LYNHER	Y2	Mrs Arscott/ Miss Evans
PEW TOR	Y3	Miss Harris/ Miss Ramsden
FEATHER TOR	Y3/4	Mrs Giles
COX TOR	Y4	Mrs Prout & Miss Charlesworth
KINGS TOR	Y5/6	Mr Stirling & Mrs Prout
GREAT MIS TOR	Y5/6	Mrs Lewis
BRENTOR	Y5/6	Miss Burton

Rockstar Maths - The children across the school have either been given or will be given a log in for Rockstar Maths. Rockstar Maths is a fun timetable game that the children can access on a computer or through an app for IOS or Android. We are working down through the school at the moment and so Key Stage 2 pupils will soon have their logins if they have not already got them. Following that we will set up the children in Year 2. We are currently assessing whether Year 1 pupils will be given access. Once the children have access, their teacher will be able to see what tables they are strong on and what they need more work with. They will also be able to set specific times tables for the children so that their activities are tailored to their needs. If you would like to find out a little more about Rockstar Maths then have a look at



their homepage: <https://trockstars.com/home>

Homework - There has been a slight tweak on the homework policy this term so that spellings will be given out on a Monday and tested on a Friday and other homework will go out on a Thursday and come in on a Tuesday. Please help your children to learn their spelling by a. regular practise such as Look Cover Write Check and b. using the spellings in context. It is quite a common occurrence that children remember their spellings for a test but are not able to apply those spellings when they are writing.

By the time that the children get into Year 5 and 6 they receive spellings, English and Mathematics homework and, so that Y5/6 parents can keep on top of it, the Y5/6 team have launched a blog. Each week they will put their homework and spellings on so that parents can log on and see what it is that their child is meant to be doing. Y5/6 parents can access the blog by following this link: <https://tcsfy56.edublogs.org/>

Parking - Whilst most children take the coming back to school completely in their stride it is often a fairly stressful and busy experience for parents. When people are running late it is often tempting to quickly pull in and rush your children into school. Please could I ask all parents to respect our local community when parking around the schools. We have already received two parking related complaints this term from members of the public. Parking on the road outside St Rumon's causes potentially dangerous situations with traffic as well as upsetting the neighbours, for this reason we issue parking permits for Abbey Rise Carpark and Brook Street Carpark. We do not issue parking permits for St Peter's but please could I urge all parents to ensure that they do not block people's driveways or park dangerously close to junctions. This week we received a call from a disabled local resident who was not able to get their car out of the drive in order to attend a medical appointment because it was totally blocked.

News from the Governors - Welcome to the first Parent Governors' snippet to tell you what we're up-to and how we think our schools are doing. As the most recently appointed parent governors, we wanted to introduce ourselves and make sure that all of our parents know what we do as governors, reflect on last year and to look forward to the new school year.

Our job is support and ensure that Mr Connors and his team are providing the best opportunities and education possible for our children. Nurturing the whole child is at the heart of our school and whilst Maths and English are really important, we value and celebrate our children striving to meet their full potential in all aspects of their school life while they are on their educational journey with us. When you walk into either school I hope you agree that there is an instant identity with our values, our children are polite and happy and eager to learn.

Last year was an amazing year, full of sporting triumph, music excellence and creative magic. Highlights for us include the amazing Lion King performance, best in parade at the Tavistock Carnival and our consistent sporting success particularly in our cross-country. The arrival of Mrs Arscott as our new deputy head has strengthened our wider leadership team and Miss Burton becoming a 'Primary Mastery Specialist for Maths' with the National Centre for Excellence for Teaching Mathematics has helped to deepen our older children's understanding of Maths. Overall, we have a real depth of talent in our teaching staff which gives the children a full range of activities in which to engage and learn.

As parent governors we are keen to hear your thoughts and ideas about how we can help our children to be confident in their learning, to encourage them to take part in the opportunities available outside of the classroom and to feel really proud of their achievements. If you would like to get in touch with us, stop us in the playground or leave a message at your school's reception for us. We hope you are looking forward to an amazing autumn term and any feedback would be really welcome. We look forward to meeting you soon.



Claire Pearce (mum to Amelie (yr 6) and Harrison (yr 2))



Vikki Bendle (mum to Evie (yr 6) and Joel (yr 3))

Parents Evenings – Please note that parents evenings will be held on the following dates. Sign up sheets for appointments will be available from the school offices from **Monday 25th September**.

Monday 2nd October – KS1 Parents Evening – 3.30pm-6.15pm @ St Rumon's

Tuesday 3rd October – KS2 Parents Evening – 4pm-6.45pm @ St Peters

Wednesday 4th October – KS1 Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 6.15pm @ St Rumon's

Thursday 5th October – KS2 Parents Evening – 4pm-6.45pm @ St Peters

School Photos – Family & Individual – all children will have their school photograph taken by Tempest Photography on the dates below. If you would like a family picture with siblings, please go to either school site for 8.30am.

St Peter's – 9 October

St Rumon's – 10 October

PTA Meeting - next meeting on Monday the 18th of September, at 8pm at the Bedford Hotel. First drink on us! All welcome – Please come along and support the school!

Highways works – we have been informed by Devon County Council of the following disruption to roads near to the schools which may require you to allow extra time for the journey to school:-

- Forthcoming carriageway resurfacing work upon Vigobridge Road Tavistock. - **Friday 29th September for 1 day** between the hours of 6pm and 7am upon Vigobridge Road.
- Forthcoming carriageway resurfacing work **on Tuesday 3rd October for 2 days** between the hours of 7am and 6pm upon Meavy Way.

Toddler Group – Our first toddler group this term will be held on Monday 18 September from 1.45pm –

2.45pm at St Rumon's CE School. All families are welcome and refreshments are available. Please come for music, singing, crafts and to meet new friends.

Key Letters issued this week:

- Clubs letters
- NHS Flu Vaccine letters: KS1; Y 3& Y4

Church News:

School Harvest Festival Service on Wednesday 27th September – Please can **ALL** children be dropped to St Eustachius Church for 8.50am. All parents are welcome to join us for the service. Thank you .

St Eustachius Harvest Festival – Sunday 1st October – This year we will be celebrating harvest festival by collecting produce for the Tavistock Food Bank. Items that have been requested by the food bank organisers are: Smash instant potato; long life fruit juice; UHT milk; rice pudding; Coffee ;Sugar. Many thanks.

Messy Church at Tavistock Methodist Church (TMC) Thursday 14th Sept, 12th Oct, 9th Nov, Dec 14th 4.30pm-6.30pm. A fun time for families with crafts,songs,story,prayer and a meal.

ST PETER'S NEWS

Cox Tor Swimming lessons – Lessons start on Thursday afternoons from 21st September. If any parents are able to help walk the children down and back up to school – please let Mrs Prout or Miss Charlesworth know. Many thanks

Year 6 Secondary school applications – All Y6 pupils should receive a letter inviting them to apply for their secondary school place and contains details of how to apply. Applications need to be submitted by 31 October 2017

Year 5 & 6 Tavistock College Parents Evening – Sarah Jones, (Principal of Tavistock College) has invited all parents of Year 5 & 6 students to join them for a brief presentation and an informal question and answer session on Tuesday 10 October at 4.30pm at the St Peters School Hall.

ST RUMON'S NEWS

Fact of the Week Badge – The fact of the week next week will be the letter B. Please discuss this with your children so that they can come in with some interesting facts about this letter. We look forward to hearing their ideas as they come into school each morning.

Piano Lessons – Our Piano Teacher has vacancies for any Y1 and Y2 children wishing to start lessons from September. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Marks on 01822 854224 or 07818 862971.

Breakfast Club – Please note that last orders for breakfast will be taken at 8.25 pm. Thank you.

Parking at St Rumon's – For safety reasons please do not park on the main road outside of school during school drop off and pick up. We have parking permits available for Abbey and Brook Street Car Park. Please contact the office if you require a permit. Thank you.

Lunchtime Awards – Congratulations to our lunchtime stars this week who were Audrey Potts, William Chappell & Georgia Crick. Well done also to Tavy Class who won an extra day's play on the climbing frames and

ERIC - We would like Every Child Reading in Class. If you can spare half an hour every Friday at 2.30pm to come into St Rumon's school and listen to children read, please let your class teacher know. We would appreciate as many adults as possible to share books with children. Thank you.

NHS Flu Vaccination – Letters have been sent home in children's book bags this week. Please return consent forms by 22 September 2017.

Autumn Term 2017 Dates:

Monday 18th September – PTA meeting – Bedford Hotel -8pm

Thursday 21st September – Y4 & Y5 Open Evening at Tavistock College

Thursday 21st September – Year 6 Junior Life Skills at Tavistock Town Hall – 1-3.30pm

Wednesday 27th September - School Harvest Festival Service.

Monday 2nd October – KS1 Parents Evening – 3.30pm-6.15pm @ St Rumon's

Tuesday 3rd October – KS2 Parents Evening – 4pm-6.45pm @ St Peters

Wednesday 4th October – KS1 Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 6.15pm @ St Rumon's

Thursday 5th October – KS2 Parents Evening – 4pm-6.45pm @ St Peters

Tuesday 10th October – Y5 & Y6 Parents Meeting with Tavistock College Leaders - 4.30pm @ St Peters

COMMUNITY NEWS

Burrator Reservoir Family Events

- Friday 15 Sept: 6pm-8pm – 'Going Batty!' Join us for our annual bat evening talk & walk, and help us count our resident bats with Neil Reeves. £3 per adult, £2 per child, 50p a drink. Please book your place in advance.
- Saturday 16 Sept: 9.30am-11am – 'Moth Breakfast' with Tony John. Come & learn how to identify moths in our moth traps. £2 per person, 50p a drink.
- Sunday 17 Sept: 10am-4pm – FREE Exhibition on 'PCWW 1917 Boundary Stones' at Burrator Discovery Centre. Come & learn about why the stones were originally installed & where you can find them, as we mark their Centenary! Produced by Ernie Stanton.
- Sunday 17 Sept: 10.30am-12.30pm – 'Come & explore our boundary stones' as part of our monthly Family Wildlife Watch session. Will include a short walk and fun activities along the way, followed by hot chocolate & biscuits. £2 per child, £1 per adult.

Young Photographers Competition 2017 Overall theme of this year's competition is "Environment".

There are 3 competition age groups: 4 to 9 years. 10 to 14 years. 15 to 18 years. There are 4 categories in each age group, they are as follows: 1) Wild and wonderful. 2) Tenderness. 3) Growing things. 4) People at work. Photographs may be submitted until 10 a.m. on the final submission day of Wednesday 4th October 2017. Entries to: Tavyside Health Centre, Abbey Rise, Tavistock. PL19 9FD, together with the entry fees. Envelopes should be addressed to The T.P.A and marked "Photographic Competition". They regret that they are not able to return the photographs entered into the competition but they may be collected after the exhibition by arrangement with the T.P.A.

TERM DATES 2017-2018 – Please see below important term dates for your diary!

AUTUMN: Wednesday 6th September – Friday 15th December 2017. (Half Term: 23-27th October 2017)
(Non- Pupil Days : Wednesday 11th October: Goose Fair Day)

SPRING: Tuesday 2nd January – Thursday 29th March 2018. (Half Term: 12th- 16th February 2018)
(Non Pupil Inset Day : 19th February 2017 – please note that this extends the half term by 1 day)

SUMMER: Monday 16th April – Tuesday 24th July 2018. (Half Term: 28th May-1st June 2018)
(Non Pupil Day: Monday 7th May 2018.)