



FEDERATION NEWS - Welcome back to school. I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and that you are all as excited as I am about the forthcoming term.

Severe Weather – I hope that we will not be affected by severe weather but this is some information to help.

Reasons for the school closing/ partially closing

- Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely
- Basic amenities in the school cannot be maintained i.e. the school cannot be adequately heated or there is a lack of running water
- Conditions on site are dangerous for children and staff.
- Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous to travel.

It may be the case that only one site is closed i.e. St Peter's might be closed whilst St Rumon's is open.

When you will know:

We aim to have information about whether the schools are open, closed or partially closed as early as possible and if possible by 7:30am however, due to the nature of many staff travelling in from considerable distances, it may not always be possible to know for sure by 7:30am.

Places to check to find out whether we are closed/ partially closed:

- <https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/closure/>
- Tune into BBC Radio Devon
- Check out St Rumon's and St Peter's homepages: <http://stpeters.tavistockcsf.org.uk/website>
<http://strumons.tavistockcsf.org.uk/website>

Notes:

- If it is decided that the school will open, but the travelling conditions are difficult, parents should ring the school to advise that they are likely to be late.
- Please do not assume that the school is closed as non-attendance for this reason would be recorded as an unauthorized absence unless there were extenuating circumstances.
- Breakfast Clubs – because of the early nature of the breakfast club it may not be possible to give lots of warning as to whether these are running and so we ask that, on these very rare occasions, parents are patient with the school.
- Heavy snow/ other extreme weathers might result in the school closing part way through the day. If that happens all parents will be contacted to come and collect their children. No child will ever be left unattended.
- If you are not sure whether the school is open, please check the school website before phoning the school as it is very likely that the phone lines will be extremely busy.

Tesco Bags of Help Appeal - our bags of help appeal is in Tesco now. Please encourage all your friends and family to shop in Tesco and place a counter for us. If we are successful the funding will be used to help with a much-needed revamp of St Rumon's playground. It would be wonderful if we were able to secure the funding without which the work will not be able to happen. Please note that Whitchurch Primary is also in Tesco and so make sure that you put the counter in the right slot!

Sickness – may we please remind you that if your child is unwell with diarrhoea and/or vomiting they are kept away from school for 48 hours from the last episode. This is to ensure that bugs are not passed around school unnecessarily. Thank you.

Tidy Tavy - Its Tidy Tavy time this week. This weekend we'd love people to blow away the cobwebs and join us at 10:00 outside Meadowlands Pool. Dogs are welcome and there is no need to do the full 2 hours - even 15 minutes makes a difference.

Parking – as always, please can I remind parents of the need to respect the communities in which we sit and ensure that parking is done with care. In St Peter's it is essential that we do not park covering driveways or in ways that will make access difficult for our neighbours. In St Rumon's parents should not park on the road outside the school after 8:00am.

PTA News - The Christmas Fair raised **£1,353**, so thanks again to everyone involved! We will be applying for match-funding, so watch this space... If anyone has any unwanted gifts, wrapping paper, gift tags, or old Christmas cards, please bring them into either school & we will take them off your hands with great appreciation. Our next PTA meeting is on Monday the 15th of January at 8pm at the Bedford Hotel. We will

be discussing the next disco and a quiz, so please come along if you are able to.

Toddler Group – The first session this term will be on Monday 8 January 2018. Please come and join us.

Tesco Uniform – Please note if you need to get extra uniform - embroidered jumpers, cardigans and PE t-shirts are available online from tesco – www.tesco.com/ues. You will receive clubcard points and the school receives a donation for every item purchased.

Church News:

Confirmation Opportunity open to Year 5 & 6 - Our Vicar, Chris Hardwick, together with Trudi Massey and members of the Catalyst Youth Team based in Tavistock, is preparing to deliver a Confirmation course on a Wednesday afternoon after School (finish by 4.15 pm). It is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith and there will be an opportunity to be Confirmed next year at St. Eustachius' Church, Tavistock, at the end of June by the Bishop of Exeter. Please talk to your child(ren) and see if this is a journey you may like to take. The following sessions are planned: 24th and 31st January, and 7th February 2018 next term. If interested, or would like to know more, please get in touch with Mrs Lewis at School or Revd Chris on 617432.

Messy Church – Held at Tavistock Methodist Church on the second Thursday of the month from 4.30pm-6.30pm:(Next sessions : January 11th, February 8th, March.). A fun time for families with crafts, songs, story, prayer and a meal.

ST PETER'S NEWS

School Dinners – Please note that school dinners have again remain unchanged at £2.20/day. The cost for the first half term is £63.80 or £125.40 for the whole term. Please make cheques payable to 'St Peters CE Junior School'. We expect **payment in advance** for school meals and meals will no longer be provided for children if money is outstanding. Our school has to run on a very tight budget and cannot let debts build up – we would appreciate your support with prompt payment.

Tavy 13 Primary School Challenge – Children will run every week in school to build up to their 13 miles. They will need to sign up to enter the main Tavy 13 event and run their final mile on Sunday 18th March 2018. All participants will receive a medal and t-shirt on completion. This is a fantastic fun community event. Entry forms are available from the school office.

ST RUMON'S NEWS

Dogs – can we please remind everyone that dogs should not be brought onto school premises or left unattended, as some children are frightened of dogs.

Mobile Phones – as part of our Safeguarding policy use of mobile phones on school premises is not permitted. Can we please therefore remind all adults of this and ask that you ensure you end any phone conversations before you enter the premises. Thank you.

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

Breakfast Club – Please note that breakfast will stop being served at 8.25am. Thank you.

Letters Home

- Bouldering competition
- Football matches

COMMUNITY NEWS

Rotary Young Photographers Competition – Theme: 'A Different Perspective'. Entries need to provide 3 photographs (max size A4) by Friday 5th January. Entry forms available from the school office.

Spring Term 2018 Dates:

Thursday 4 January – Boys football match at Tavistock Primary (League)
Mon 8 Jan – 3.00-4.30 pm - Boys League Football Match @ Whitchurch Primary School
Wed 10 Jan – Y5/6 Bouldering Competition
Thu 11 Jan – 3.30-5.00 pm – Girls' League & Friendly Football Match @ Tavistock Primary
Mon 15 Jan – 1.00-3.00 pm – Y4 Dance Festival @ Kings & Scout Hut
Tue 16 January 2018 – NHS Eye Tests for Foundation Stage children
Fri 26 Jan – 12.30-3.30 pm – Sports Hall Final @ Tavistock College
Fri 26 Jan -2.00-3.00 pm – Geoffrey Cox Visit to Y5/6
Mon 29 Jan – 9.30-1.30 – Netball Finals @ Okehampton
Tue 30 Jan – 4.00-7.00 pm – Youth Speaks Competition @ Mount Kelly
Fri 2 Feb – 9.30-12.30 - Cyclo Cross (postponed from last term)
6th-8th February : Y5 London Residential
22-23rd February: Y4 Residential – Pixies Holt
11th-15th June: Y6 Residential to Beam House



PRIMARY SCHOOLS CHALLENGE 2018



Every week your Run Leader will take you for a run of 1 – 1.5 miles.

Every week this distance will be added to your personal total.

The main challenge is to try and reach an overall total of 12 miles by the 18th March

School Cross Country Runs

Your school may also take you along to run in the inter-school Cross Country events. If you take part in these events, the distance that you run will count towards your challenge total.

The TAVY 13 Primary Challenge, Sunday 18th March 2018

This is the final and most exciting leg... you will complete your distance at the Tavy 13 Half Marathon event and will be awarded your TAVY 13 t-shirt and medal just like the main race runners!

Final distance... a whopping 13.1 miles... **HALF MARATHON DISTANCE!**

The cost is only £8.00 to enter – pick up an entry form from your school and return it to your run leader.

For more information, please contact: **Mhairi McCall, Primary Challenge Coordinator**
Tel 07803 594962 email: mhairi@ocrasport.org.uk

Let's have fun getting fit!