

**'Nurturing God's gifts with compassion and drive, so that all our children succeed, learn and thrive'**

Dear Parents,

I am sure you will agree that we have been very fortunate with the winter weather this year so far. Our schools are having their fair share of winter bugs and viruses and thank you for keeping your children at home when they are really poorly.

This term is going very well and your children are settled, working hard and making us very proud of their achievements. Our teachers are currently writing your children's school reports that you will receive nearer to the end of this term.

Our Board of Directors is about to begin some serious work on the **'strategic vision'** for our Trust and our five schools. Once we have come up with some ideas we will ask your opinion on these.

## School Council Conference

Our five school councils will be attending a MAT Conference on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016** at Grampound Road school. They will be working on the following things:

- Each School Council will tell the others about the life and work of their school.
- They will look at our six MAT values and work out the success criteria needed to achieve these in our lives.
- We will think about the future and the vision our children have for their schools and our MAT.

## Holiday during Term Times

Thank you for taking part in the survey on whether we should put the five INSET Days together into one week in June from 2017. We had a magnificent return on this survey of over 220. The Board of Directors will be discussing this response in February and will base its decision on the views of parents, staff and the statutory requirements around school attendance.



## Pancake Races

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 is Shrove Tuesday**, the day before Lent begins and we traditionally use up things from

our kitchens. This year we are going to be holding pancake races in each school and the finalists from key stage 1 and 2 will come to Grampound Road for the MAT Final on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30 pm.



We will let you know which children will represent each school for this fun event!

## Residential Visits for Year 4, 5 and 6

We have now booked our camps for the summer 2016 as below.



**The residentials are:**

- **Year 4** – one night and two days at Camp Kernow in Truro
- **Year 5** – two nights and three days at Porthpean Residential Camp, St Austell
- **Year 6** – four nights and five days at Barton Hall, Devon – Outdoor Pursuits and adventure.

Each of our camp providers has allowed us to reserve some further places without deposits if any of our children decide they would now like to attend. These will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please see your Head if you are interested in a place. Thank you.

We will be holding camp meetings for parents in April 2016 with details of the expectations of each trip

**MAT Value this half term -**

## Forgiveness

This half term we will be focusing on the forgiveness value within our Collective Worship times. After half term and in the lead up to Easter we will be looking at the



value of **Compassion.**



## Parent Forums this term

Thank you to the parents who attended our Parent Forums during the first half term.

**Our next Parent Forum dates are:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> March at 6 pm – Ladock
- 8<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15 pm – Bishop Bronescombe
- 9<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm – Veryan
- 14<sup>th</sup> March at 6 pm – Grampound with Creed
- 11<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15 pm – Grampound Road



## Internet Safety Day – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016

The next 'Safer Internet Day' will be the thirteenth edition of the event and will take place worldwide on **Tuesday 9th February 2016**. The theme for 'Safer Internet Day 2016' will be 'Play your part for a better internet'.

The day will give us the opportunity to think about the positive uses of technology and the role we can all play to create a better internet. The theme encourages us to consider what we do online, the way we behave and communicate and how we should always endeavour to be positive and post positive content.

## BREAK TIME SNACKS – a reminder

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children will be provided with a free piece of fruit each day. The government pays for this.

Key Stage 2 children may bring a piece of fresh or dried fruit to school to eat at playtime. They may also bring milk or fresh water to drink. **These**



**are the only snacks that children are allowed to eat at our schools during break times. We follow the National Food Standards in Schools.**

All of the children may have a water bottle, with a sports type cap, in class to drink as required throughout the school day. **WE WOULD ENCOURAGE THIS, AS GOOD HYDRATION AIDS LEARNING.**

## Half Term Holiday

Our schools break for the February Half term on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016. We hope you have a lovely break with your children.

## INSET Day Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 all of our teachers will be involved in an INSET Day looking at grammar, punctuation and spelling and our schools will be closed.

## Dates for diaries:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Candlemas
- 5<sup>th</sup> February – MAT School Council Conference at Grampound Road school Hall.
- 9<sup>th</sup> February – Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Races
- 9<sup>th</sup> February – Internet Safety Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> February – Ash Wednesday
- 12<sup>th</sup> February – Half term holiday commences
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February – INSET Day – schools closed.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March – MAT Singing Event at Truro Cathedral, details to follow.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> March – Annual Reports out to our parents
- 24<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of the spring term 2016

Yours sincerely,

*Mr. M.J Lees*  
*Executive Principal*