

**A NOTE FROM MRS HEFFER**

**This week's British Value focus has been DEMOCRACY:**

*"I understand democracy as something that gives the weak the same chance as the strong."*

Mohandas K. Gandhi

**WELCOME BACK** - A very big welcome back to one and all! We have been delighted to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm having recharged their batteries over their lovely long break. All have settled in very quickly including our 20 new Early Years pupils and our 8 new in-year pupils. We have been particularly impressed with how quickly our youngest pupils have picked up the lunchtime routine. Well done to all!

**INFORMATION MEETINGS** - This week, the teachers have presented information meetings to provide what we hope is a clear overview of our expectations of the pupils over the forthcoming year. Thank you to those of you who have given us such positive feedback following these meetings. We are pleased to hear that they have been well received and have been useful. If you were not able to attend, your child's class teacher will be able to provide you with a print out of the presentation information shared at the meeting. Parent consultation meetings will take place the second week after half term. We will inform you when times and days will be listed for parents to book an appointment.

**HOME LEARNING** – Thank you for your support with our new reading records and expectations. It is clear from the class reading charts that the children are keen to be heard read at home each night. This week the children will be sent home their new home learning books which will include guidance on what we feel is the appropriate amount of time to spend on home learning activities for each age group. You will also notice we have introduced an additional free choice home learning activity grid. We feel these activities will enable your children to choose homework activities that will reinforce life skills as well as offer the opportunity to work on a topic based task that holds a particular interest for them. Again, we greatly value your support with these home learning activities.

**UNIFORM** – It has been lovely to see the children all looking so smart in the correct uniform and footwear. We have only found the need to ask a small number of pupils to remove bracelets. Please can I remind you that all children must have their PE kits in school each day which must be clearly named. Thank you for your continued support with uniform.

**CLUBS** - Mrs Read has been hard at work sorting out the big task of trying to ensure every pupil who has requested a place on a club, has the opportunity to get on at least one. Today your child will be told if they have managed to secure a place on the clubs for next week. Some clubs with very limited spaces have been particularly popular e.g. 31 pupils wanting places on the cookery club which can only take 8 pupils due to health and safety. It is likely that there may be some pupils disappointed but we aim to run these clubs throughout the year where we can give those pupils who have not had the chance to do all the clubs of their choice to hopefully get a place next time.

**SPECIALIST TEACHING** - This week we have launched the specialist teaching timetable for our Key Stage 2 pupils. We are delighted with the way in which the pupils have responded to this new way of working and it is very clear that the pupils enjoy working with all our Key Stage 2 teachers for their foundation subjects

throughout the week. The teachers are also clearly enjoying the opportunity to become more focused on their two foundation subject areas and have the chance to get to know and work with every pupils in Key Stage 2. We are also very excited about using the new teaching and assessment programmes and resources we have recently purchased for science, IT and PSHE.

**BRITISH VALUES** – In addition to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural aspects of learning throughout our curriculum, this week we have been focusing on ‘Democracy’ as part of our school’s drive to ensure our pupils have an understanding and appreciation of British Values. This week we have talked to the children about the definition of democracy and the role of our school council. Following class nominations and a class ballot, we are looking forward to announcing this year’s school council representatives who have an active part to play in continuing to improve our school.

**FOPS AGM**– **Friends Of Perran-ar-Worthal School** will be meeting on Thursday, .....at 7pm at Perran-ar-Worthal School to share ideas and plan for forthcoming fund raising events. We hope to see many new parents join this enthusiastic and proactive team to work together for the benefit of the children. If you are not able to attend but would still wish to be involved or share some of your ideas, then please speak to Rona King or leave a note with your fundraising ideas in the office to be taken to the meeting on your behalf. Every little support helps. We hope to see as many of you there as possible. Thank you for your support.

Have a good weekend!

**Hearing Screening** The paediatric hearing screeners will be visiting us soon to carry out hearing tests on children in Year 1. If you have any queries please speak with Mrs Read. Thank you.

### **Year 6 transferring to secondary school**

Although this must seem very early in the school year, the leaflet advising on the procedure for applying for a secondary school place was sent home with children this week. We strongly recommend that parents put down **more than one preference**. This will not give them any less chance of securing a place at their preferred school, but means that, in the event that the preferred school is oversubscribed, it reduces the chance of being allocated an unnamed school.

The application deadline is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2015**. The website address is: [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions)

Year 5 and 6 open evenings for schools close to Perran-Ar-Worthal are:

Penair School	Thursday 17 September 2015 - 5pm until 8pm
Penryn College	Wednesday 23 September 2015 - 5.00pm until 8.00pm
Redruth School	Tuesday 15 September 2015 - 5pm until 8.30pm
Richard Lander School	Thursday 24 September 2015 - 5pm until 8pm

### **Children starting school in the Foundation Stage in September 2016**

Leaflets are available from the main reception area. If you would like to use a school computer to apply for a place (the website is [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions)) please speak to Mrs Read, who will be happy to help. Applications must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January and you will receive notification of which school your child has been allocated to on 18<sup>th</sup> April.

**Receiving Newsletters via email.**

Many parents have chosen to receive an emailed version of the Newsletter, and if you would like to try this option, please send an email to the following address (please put 'add to newsletter mailing list' in the subject line). [secretary@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk) The weekly Newsletter is also uploaded to the school website [www.perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk)

**Advance notice of Parent Governor vacancy.** Paperwork will be sent home with children next week.

**Blue Jelly Photographers** have been taking individual and family group photographs this week, and they will be available to view online soon at [www.bluejellyimages.com](http://www.bluejellyimages.com). The code to access our school photos will be sent home with your child.

**Foundation Stage children.** The West Briton and Falmouth Packet photographers will be visiting us within the next week or so to take class photos of children that started in Puffins on Monday.

**Clubs will start next week** – Monday's club information (netball and street dance) has been sent home today, and details of other clubs will be sent home on Monday.

**Music Tuition will commence next week:** Guitar lessons on Thursday afternoon, other instruments to be confirmed.