

## A NOTE FROM MRS HEFFER

This week we have focused on treating each other with respect:

Respect  
people's feelings. Even  
if it doesn't mean anything  
to you, it could mean  
everything to them.

The children have continued to remain focused during lesson time this week regardless of the whisper of Christmas in the air! With so many visitors, it has been a hive of activity with no two days the same.

**GOVERNORS MONITOR 'EVERYTHING'!** – Over the last two weeks the school has received no less than 18 governor visits. During their time in school the governors have visited classrooms, observed lessons, talked to children, looked at work in books, observed the use and effectiveness of the new IT resources, attended assemblies, sampled the school lunch, talked to staff about the new curriculum and looked at data. The governors were also very much involved in judging the KS1 and KS2 poetry competition which proved to be a huge success where all children performed to the best of their ability and clearly impressed the judges. All governors commented on how impressed they were with the children's behaviour for learning when visiting classrooms. We are very proud of them all. Thank you to the governors for giving so generously of their time to support the school in this way. Thank you also to the hard working children and staff that make our school so special. Please see an extract below from our Chair of Governors, Mr Colin Bridges following his involvement in our poetry competition:

*Dear Mrs Heffer*

*On behalf of the school governors, I would like to say how pleased we were to be invited to act as judges in the recent poetry recital competition. The event was extremely enjoyable, with some very amusing poems.*

*We were captivated by the performance of the children who participated. Speaking in public, standing alone on a podium in front of an audience, can be very scary. All the children did brilliantly and deserved congratulation.*

*In addition, the behaviour of the children when not speaking, which is equally important, was also exceptionally good, so that everybody was given a fair chance to do their best.*

*All of us on the judging panel were mightily impressed. Thank you so much for including us.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Colin Bridges*

*Chair of Governors*

**PERRAN-AR-WORTHAL GET INTO THE TOP 2% OF ALL SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY!!!** – Last week we were delighted to receive a letter from the Nick Gibb MP (Minister of State for School Reform) congratulating our school on achieving 100% pass rate in the Year 1 phonics screening test that took place during the Summer term 2015. An extract from the letter is below:

*Dear Mrs Heffer*

*I am writing to convey my warmest congratulations to you, your staff and your pupils for the very high standard of achievement in the 2015 phonics screening check.*

*We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics which is why I was so delighted to see your results. With 100% of pupils at Perran-Ar-Worthal Community Primary School reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top 2% of all primary schools in the country.*

*This year's figures show that 99% pupils who reach or exceed the pass mark in the phonics check go on to achieve at least the expected standard in key stage 1 reading which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.*

*I am pleased to learn that you have ensured that all Year 1 children in your school have a firm foundation in reading, from which they can develop further and become increasingly fluent readers.*

*Thank you for your work in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulations again to you and your staff for your hard work and professionalism.*

*With best wishes.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Nick Gibb MP*

A big well done to the staff and pupils for achieving such high results. We are very proud of you all for putting Perran-ar-Worthal School very clearly on the map!

**MR TEASDALE IS MADE TO FEEL VERY WELCOME** – This week our newest member of staff who will be joining us as our Starlings' teacher in January, came to visit the school to spend time getting to know the children and staff. Mr Teasdale was made to feel so welcome, he has decided to come back for a further visit next Wednesday. You may even see Mr Teasdale at the Christmas Fayre next Friday. Any parents of pupils in Starlings who did not get the chance to meet Mr Teasdale on Wednesday this week, please feel free to pop in to class next Wednesday morning up until 9am and again after school from 3.15pm. Mr Teasdale will be delighted to meet you.

**A SAD FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK FOR THE FUTURE** – This week has seen the last few days of Mrs Hobday's time with us. Sadly, due to ill health, Mrs Hobday has not been in school this week so we hope to say a proper goodbye on Monday and wish her all the very best for her next venture. Mrs Hobday has been a huge asset to our school and has helped so many children since she has been with the school. We hope she will pop back and see us at some point soon.

**MISS BURTON IS HERE TO STAY!!!** – As you may already be aware, due to family commitments Miss Burton made the decision not to apply for the full time teaching post for Starlings and with the appointment of Mr Teasdale, Miss Burton will finish her class teaching commitment for Starlings at the end of this term. However, we are thrilled to announce that Miss Burton, having experience in Special Educational Needs in her previous role, will continue with us in January as 1-1 SEN support and regular supply teacher. As a very

valued member of staff who has quickly become very much a part of our close team, we are all thrilled that Miss Burton is here to stay!

**MATHS IS FUN!** – This week, Mrs Pallot presented the final maths workshop for our parents to show them how they can further support their child at home when using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. These sessions were well attended and clearly well received. A big thank you to Mrs Pallot for taking the time to put together 4 very comprehensive evenings and providing parents with a greater insight in how maths is taught in schools today. If you were not able to attend these sessions, Mrs Pallot will be posting the 4 powerpoint presentations onto the school website along with the maths calculation policy. We would very much appreciate any feedback following these sessions and any suggestions for further workshops that parents may find helpful. Following the very positive response to the home learning grid tasks from this term, we are now beginning to discuss and come up with a list of ideas for the home learning grid options for next term and would like to invite you to make suggestions for task that we could consider including. We felt that this would be an opportunity for you as parents to become more involved in working with us on ideas that inspire children to continue to develop their learning at home that is also manageable for busy parents. If you have ideas that you feel would make an excellent home learning task that can develop life skills, please could you also include this on the attached form. We look forward to seeing your inspiring ideas. Many thanks.

**NON UNIFORM DAY!** – Please remember we have a non-uniform day on **Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November**. Please see the FOPS information below for details.

**CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING SERVICE** – This week we have taken the delivery of the most beautiful and very large Christmas tree in preparation for our Tree Decorating Service on **Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm**. You are all invited to attend and enjoy our launch of the Christmas season at school. Please could we ask that all children bring their homemade decorations into school on Monday if possible to ensure we have time to chase up any missing decorations so every child has a chance to see their creation taking pride of place on the tree. Please ensure every decoration is clearly named and labelled with the child's class. We look forward to seeing our tree transform into a wonderful work of art! A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Bailey who have very kindly donated the tree again this year. If I could end with a small 'girlie' plea.....if there are any strong gentlemen out there who could help me to position and stabilise the tree and add lights after school on Monday, it would be very much appreciated. The trunk does need some trimming to fit into the stand so any helpful tools that could do the job would also be welcome. Please could you leave a message at the office if you are able to help? A big thank you in advance for your offers of help.

**CHRISTMAS FILM AND PUDDING MAKING NIGHT** – Forms are coming back at a rapid rate for this forthcoming event which is clearly proving to be very popular. If you have not yet returned your forms to the office, please try to return them as soon as possible to ensure we have plenty of time to check final numbers. Just to clarify, the £2.50 for the film night is to be paid on entry on the night. However, the £10 for the pudding making evening is to be paid in with the completed form by Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December to ensure there is enough time for the FOPS team to purchase the ingredients. Mulled wine will be included in the price....a not to be missed event!

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** - The Christmas Fayre is fast approaching and so many stalls will be on offer along with SANTA's GROTTTO, children's games, mulled wine and mince pies. To add to the atmosphere the children will be invited to sing some Christmas songs on stage with the adult choir. This will also be a chance to hear

a sample of the songs from the children's forthcoming Christmas Concert. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAYRE HAS ARRIVED!** – The previous successes of the scholastic book fayre have enabled our library to gain many beautiful new books for free. The book fayre is now in place and will be available throughout the week and during the Christmas fayre. This is a perfect opportunity to purchase those Christmas presents. Please see the timetable below for when the book fayre will be open and where.

<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>
3pm – 4pm in the School Library	From 1.30pm in the School Library	3pm – 4pm in the School Library

**Poppy Appeal:** Well done to the School Council for organising and running the 2015 Poppy Appeal. £152.22 was raised. An excellent result.

**Go-Active Clubs:** Next week is the last week for clubs. Letters re clubs starting in January will be sent out next week.

**Photography competition:** The Rotary Club have emailed us information on their forthcoming Young Photographer of the Year Competition. If your child would like to take part, further details are available from the school website (in the 'news' section).

#### **Goodbye and Thank You from Mrs Hobday**

People who know me well know that for special occasions I am prone to bursting into verse, but the huge gap that will be created in my life after leaving Perran-ar-Worthal School, has meant that my creative words have run dry. However, I cannot leave without saying how grateful I am to those parents who have 'lent me' their children during my time at the school. It has been a very special privilege, and one that has enabled me to do the job I truly love. Please accept this heartfelt "thank you" from me.

I wish you, and your children my very best wishes for the future.

*Angela Hobday*

**Celebration Assembly:** Maia Rowe, Courtney Saayman, Samuel Kneebone, Sonny Church, Joshua Anderson, Lewis Hamilton, Oliver Entwistle, William Mackrill, Ned Thomas and Toby Piper were all awarded a Bronze certificate in assembly this morning for achieving 50 points. Oliver Ward, Giselle Tyler-Scott, Zane Aslam, Evie Dark, Taro Symons, Charlotte Best, Eleanor Bray and Jamie McCallum were awarded a Silver certificate for reaching 100 points. Well done to you all.

### **FOPS Update**

Thank you to everyone who attended the FOPS meeting on Tuesday. There are lots of exciting events coming up, some important dates for your diaries are:

**Non-Uniform Day** - The date has now changed to **Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November**. The children's donations will form part of the "themed" hampers that are raffle prizes at the Christmas Fayre. A reminder of the "themes" for each class is as follows:

**Swifts** - Chocolate/general confectionary Hamper

**Kingfishers** - Ladies Luxury Pamper Hamper

**Starlings** - Male Grooming Luxury Pamper Hamper

**Robins** - Luxury "Breakfast Treats" Hamper

**Puffins** – Christmas Food & Drink Hamper

**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fayre** - ticket sales are going well and are available from FOPS at the school gates, the school office and at the Royal Oak. Tickets are £3 per adult, this includes a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie; children are free of charge.

Thank you to everyone who has already sold and returned raffle tickets to the school office. The deadline for returning them is **Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December**. There are some lovely prizes, including 5 large and 3 mini hampers, meals at the Royal Oak and the Norway Inn, a golf lesson at Killiow, a Rococo Hair Salon voucher, a Pandora bracelet and many more.

There will be lots of Christmas gift shopping opportunities at the Fayre with a wide variety of stalls selling craft items, cards, felting, stained glass ware, ceramics, Christmas food gifts, tombola, games for the children and come and meet Santa in his Grotto!!

Thank you to parents that have said they will be bringing a fruit cake to sell on the night, if you would prefer to make any other Christmas themed cake, mince pies or cupcakes, your donations would be gratefully received!

The school children's choir are also singing at the Fayre, along with the Adult Community Choir. The children have been working very hard to learn a variety of new Christmas songs to entertain you all!

**Blue Bags Collection** – The deadline for returning your blue bag is **Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December**. For further information please go to [www.bag2school.com](http://www.bag2school.com)

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December – Film Night & Pudding Making Evening** – Letters have been sent home so that the children can make their film choice, the deadline for returning them is **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December** to the school office.

The Christmas Pudding Making Evening, being run at the same time as the films, has had a good response, please return your slip and £10 by **Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December**, this then gives us enough time to buy and organise all the ingredients and refreshments. Thank you.

If you would like any further information, please speak to Rona King,  
Sarah McConnell or Susie Matthews