



**Newsletter 6th November 2020**

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# November News!

## Lockdown 2

I do hope that you are all faring well, as we enter this next phase of lockdown and that you remember to reach out for our support in the coming weeks, whenever you might need it. It is imperative that families move away from site as soon as possible after pick up please, with no lingering or playing on the field and that social distancing between adults is maintained at all times. This will help maximise our chances of keeping all classes open.



## Learning to Learn

As a staff we had an extremely useful INSET day learning together on Monday. In part, we worked on metacognition, or 'learning to be a learner.' I talked to the children about this on Tuesday in assembly too, discussing how practising new skills strengthens the neural pathways in our brains and how the structure of our brains changes constantly as we learn new things. But that learning is an ACTIVE process for us and not something that is 'done to' children; that each learner plays their part, using their concentration, perseverance, courage, etc. to get the very best from our learning journey.

## Toys at School

You'll recall at the beginning of term that each class received a tray of 'fiddle toys', funded by the PTA and useful for some as an aid to concentration. These are very much in use and available, being wiped over between children to ensure no cross-contamination.

This means please, that children should not bring in any toys, including soft toys, for playtime or other use. Similarly, we do not want Blu-tac brought in for this purpose.

For any child who needs the emotional prop of bringing a small soft toy into the classroom, we would ask that they understand these will be kept safely in the cupboard or on a shelf for them until home time, please.

## Ventilation in classrooms

We continue to ensure safety is our top priority at school, particularly in light of recent new and positive cases in our community and at other local schools.

Guidelines ask us to ensure well-ventilated rooms, and while the heating is on, this will mean that rooms will be cooler than usual. Please consider extra layers for your child if they are finding themselves cold when sitting still. For example, a school hoodie/cardigan as well as a sweatshirt, or a navy gilet, or a thermal vest. Don't forget the 50p items in the front porch.

## Harvest Breakfast

We are planning class-based Harvest Breakfasts on Thursday 12th November. We will not be able to get together in the hall for this traditional St Minver School event, but do want to come together for this important celebration, in a covid-safe manner. Today your child will come home with a slip asking for a SMALL contribution to this, either cereal, milk, pastries or a few pieces of fruit. Please remember you are not feeding the whole class though! We will be taking any unopened produce to Wadebridge Foodbank later that day.



We will also use Thursday to launch our Cornwall Christmas Box appeal—please see box to the right.

Mrs J Rodwell

Head of School

- **PLEASE LOAD DINNER MONEY ACCOUNTS BEFORE YOUR CHILD HAS A MEAL**
- **NEXT WEEK WILL BE MENU WEEK 1**

## Dates

**12/11/20—Harvest Breakfast**

**12/11/20—Launch of Cornwall Christmas Box**

**9/12/20—Christmas Dinner**

**11/12/20—Final drop off for Cornwall Christmas Box**

**21/12/20-3/1/21—Christmas Holiday**

**4/1/21—School Closed (Training day)**

**5/1/21—First day Spring Term**



**Cornwall Christmas Box**

Don't forget that from next Thursday you can sign up to make a donation for the Cornwall Christmas Box scheme.

As some of you will remember this is a scheme run across our county and provides families in crisis with Christmas Dinner in a box.

Each box contains enough food for Christmas dinner with all the extra little goodies, treats like mince pies and biscuits, and of course Christmas pudding - which all go to make up a feast for a family in need. Due to storage and distribution limitations fresh food can not be donated but there are plenty of good things to eat that can still be included. A typical box costs around £30-£40 but last year by the generous donations of our St Minver families we were able to send numerous boxes to the distribution centre benefitting many families in turn.

As of Thursday 12th November for children in years R-3 there will be a clipboard outside your child's classroom at drop off and pick up for you to sign up to donate a particular item.

If your child is on Years 4, 5 or 6, please chat through with your child what you would like to donate and ask them to come into their classroom and sign up on the class sheet.

Donations can be dropped in a box outside of your child's classroom (Yr R-3) or inside the classroom for Yr 4-6 from 12th November until Friday 11th December.



# Stars of the week! Mathletics!

We are delighted to confirm that the following children were awarded Star of the Week today!

**Class R:** Jemima Gawler and Frank Grills for being keen to learn, attempting new things and completing tasks with independence

**Class 1:** Leo Stokes for being a brave learner and doing his best all week and Josie Faragher for wonderful reading

**Class 2:** Finlay Gawler for excellent history work and Ava Bolton for trying hard in all her work and always showing politeness and consideration for others

**Class 3:** Sienna Davis and Verity Harris for writing a wonderful set of instructions on How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth.

**Class 4:** Chloe Faragher for being a great peer support in Maths and Daisy Hodge for not giving up and finding lots of different ways to solve problems in maths

**Class 5:** Nate Tamblyn and Oliver Brown for amazing descriptive writing in Literacy

**Class 6:** Tristan Vernon - for always being eager and supportive in learning and Beau Cleave- for fantastic work in DT, history and French



A huge well done to all those who logged on this week, there were some amazing individual scores notably Isabelle Hemmings in Year 1 who scored an amazing 2,200 points and Year 5 for their highest combined score so far of 5,736. I wonder who will get a mention next week?



## Priceless Playtimes!

Who has been a great ambassador for our school values "Be brave, be kind, belong" ?

A huge well done to: Ottis Cresswell in Year 2 for upholding the motto of being kind. He stopped playing out in the playground to help his friend who was having issues with their coat zip.

Yr 4 for a positive lunchtime play, doing things as a team & playing sporty games



As we head towards darker mornings and evenings please can everyone take care when travelling around the school site and parking.

Obviously we still have restricted parking to manage but please do not park on the roundabout area, if everyone travels through the car park and also uses the car park by Happy Days nursery, there is less likelihood of an accident.

As always please do not pull up outside the front of school as visibility is reduced and it makes the corner of the school driveway very dangerous for oncoming vehicles.

In the event of an accident, including any damage sustained to parked cars, please call the office number 01208 862496.

## Covid protocol!

In these uncertain times, should you have need to report a positive COVID case for your child or within your family, please call the school number 01208 862496, should there be no answer please click the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rVOWGVbBBUq60whMGjC2GNQzh8GyMTB-DIM8-H3wZjiVUQkxWNIFMSVIQQk5YNIFGSORK-WUFVRVVZRI4u>

Once we have received the details, a member of the Aspire team will be in touch with you as a matter of urgency. Please DO NOT use the school number out of school hours unless it is regarding vital COVID related information.

## The PTA need your help!

Next Monday and Tuesday the PTA will be collecting donations for the Christmas Hampers and Secret Room.

Outside of each classroom will be a box for you to place any donations that you can make.

Suggested items for hampers—chocolates, wines, festive foods, chutneys, jams, crackers, biscuits & Christmas crackers etc

Suggested items for secret room—any unwanted unused gifts, candles, toiletries, scarves, gloves, bath bombs, books etc

Thanks in advance for supporting the PTA in keeping Christmas on track for our children!