



Friday 24th May 2024

Volume 1, Issue 5

Mrs Wright's Update!

As we come to the end of another busy and fruitful half term at The Cathedral School of St Mary, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on our achievements and share some important staffing updates.

Celebrating Success

Our students have continued to impress with their dedication, enthusiasm and talents. Highlights this half term include:

- **Academic Excellence:** We are very proud of our Year 6 pupils, who have worked incredibly hard in preparation for their SATs and they took each test in their stride. Our year four pupils are currently revising for their Multiplication Tables Check which takes place next half term. Please encourage pupils to attend the 8am Tables Club run by Mr Driscoll.
- **Sports Achievements:** Our school teams have participated in various competitions, showcasing great sportsmanship and skill in Tag Rugby, Indoor Athletics, Bikeability, Swimming and Football.
- **Events:** Foundation class had a morning at Pizza Express where they all made their own pizza. I'm sure their families enjoyed having a taste!
- Year 6 had an afternoon with Dave from 'Bug Life'. The children had the opportunity to get close to an assortment of creatures: spiders, snakes, hedgehogs, bearded dragons and a chicken. Some fearless pupils held and fed the snakes - at this point I felt the need to leave the hall!
- Year 3/4 visited The Box to see artefacts up close and develop their field enquiry skills.
- Year 2, 5 and 6 attended 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' workshops run by the NSPCC
- Well done to Mrs Penelrick who gained a diploma and is now a fully qualified Trauma Informed Practitioner. Our school community will reap the benefits of this as she continues to support the wellbeing of our pupils.
- The whole school community had a lovely lunch in the Bishop's garden for the Booknic event. It was great to see so many families sharing lunch together with the children, whilst reading the books. We hope to hold more events like this and we are open to suggestions.



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Faith in Action

As a Catholic school, our faith is at the heart of everything we do.

- **Charity Work:** On the last day of the spring term, pupils and staff slept the night on the hall floor at school as part of The Good Shepherd charity project, raising money to support homeless people. We had a great evening and I'm pleased to say everyone slept through the night until....some silly adult forgot to unset their alarm. Apologies to all, **my** alarm went off at 6am! Well done to all the pupils who took part both at school and at home.
- **Celebrations:** Congratulations to those pupils who made their First Holy Communion last weekend. I'm sure they had a memorable day. Thank you to all the adults who were involved in preparing the children.
- Our pupils continue to attend class Mass every Wednesday. Parents and carers are welcome and encouraged to join their children at Mass when it is the turn of their class.
- Year 3 and 4 represented the school at the Laudato Si Mass held at the Cathedral this Wednesday, along with representatives of all the schools in Plymouth CAST.

Staffing

After many years at CSOSM our beloved Mrs Ellard will be retiring in July. Mrs Ellard has supported many children over the years in our school community and we shall miss her greatly. We are sure she will enjoy this next phase of her life as she thoroughly deserves it. Thank you for everything Mrs Ellard.

In September we will be reverting back to our split year groups and there will be a few changes of staff with our sister school, St Joseph's in Devonport.

Foundation/ Year 1- Miss Grosch
Year 1 and 2 - Mr Davies (currently at St Joseph's)
Year 3 and 4- Miss Galloghly
Year 5 and 6 - Mrs Berry

Mr Driscoll and Miss Toms will be teaching at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. As I am the Executive Headteacher, Mr Moore is the Executive Deputy and our Senior Leadership Team and Governing body are across both schools, so our teachers have the opportunity to work across



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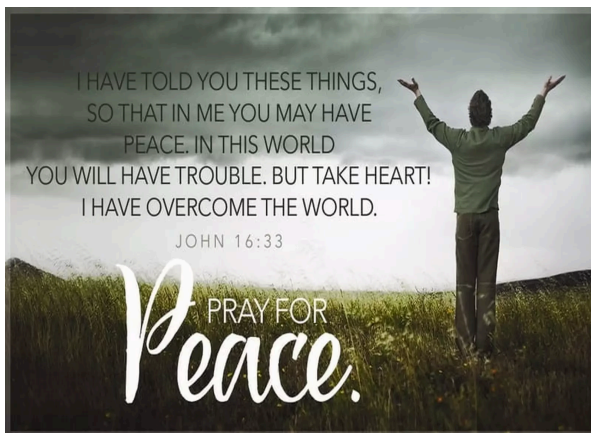
both schools. Mr Driscoll and Miss Toms will still remain an integral part of CSOSM as they will be leading subjects across both schools.

Mr Driscoll and Miss Toms, thank you for all you have given and will continue to give to CSOSM.

To finish, I would like to thank our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and most importantly, our wonderful children for making The Cathedral School of St Mary such a vibrant and caring place to learn. Let us continue to work together to foster a community of faith, learning, and love.

God bless

Mrs R Wright



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Catholic Life and Events

Catholic Life

We have enjoyed an extremely busy term growing the Catholic Life of the school. Our GIFT Team has once again been hard at work, coming up with ideas to raise awareness of important matters both on a local and global scale. This term they led an assembly in preparation for Caritas' Week of Creation. They have also been working closely with Sr Navya to organise an Adoration at the Cathedral during one of our lunch times. Thank you GIFT Team.



This last week, we have been asked to place special focus on caring for our Common Home as part of Laudato Si Week. All the classes have been holding special lessons focusing on ways in which we can look after the planet. The Year 3 / 4 children visited the Caritas team in the Cathedral to take part in lots of different activities and made pledges that focused on making simple changes that will make big differences to the world.



Collective Worship

Our class Masses have continued this term with the children taking bigger roles. Our year 5/6 children lead the congregation in all readings, Year 3/4 support with altar servers and our younger children deliver bidding prayers. If you would like to join us, please contact your class teacher.



We also celebrated the First Holy Communion for Anthony, Vivian, Gift, Grace, JoJo, Seemer, Tala, Lilly-Mae and Jimi who all received this Sacrament after a lot of hard work and preparation. It was a lovely day for the children and it was beautiful to have so many friends and family members to support.



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Congratulations!



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

We have high expectations for all of our pupils to arrive at school each day and on time. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Grosch	94.54%
Miss Galloghly	94.64%
Miss Toms	89.35%
Mr Driscoll	96.32%
Mrs Berry	93.00%

The highest attendance this half term goes to...



Mr Driscoll's class

As a 'well done' for winning this half term's attendance, your class have earned an extra 20 minutes playtime- keep up the excellent work!



Heart of Gold Awards

Miss Grosch's Class

The heart of gold this week goes to Jesse. Jesse is getting this for 2 reasons. Firstly, he has been really impressing us with his blending in phonics. He is beginning to be able to orally blend words given to him which is a huge leap forward. He has also made huge improvements with his Skip 2B fit, going from just 2 skips up to 17. Keep going Jesse!

Miss Galloghly's Class-

The Heart of Gold winner this week goes to Oghenrume. Oghenrume is new to our school and has settled in amazingly! Oghenrume has made a great effort to show he is following our school rules of being ready, respectful and safe. We can't wait to continue to watch you flourish!

Miss Toms' Class-

The Heart of Gold award this week goes to Lillian. Lillian is always smiling and is a very well liked member of our class. She has been extremely helpful in class and has been great at encouraging others with their learning. It has been lovely to see her being so supportive to others. Well done Lillian.

Mr Driscoll's class-

Jimi has been awarded the Heart of Gold award for his fantastic Fortitude this term. He has worked incredibly hard to try and continue to grow his understanding across a range of subjects and is ready and willing to listen to, and act on advice with regards to making his work the best it can be.

Mrs Berry's Class-

Tony has been awarded the Heart of Gold this week due to the way he conducted himself at the football tournament. Staff present told me that he was an exceptional team player who included all players on the pitch and remained supportive throughout. Well done Tony!

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News and Events

Meet the Staff Sr Navya



My name is Sr Navya and I am delighted to have this opportunity to share a few things about my role and the clubs I am privileged to lead. As a teaching assistant, my primary focus is on supporting alongside our dedicated staff in the school. I provide individualised and small group support to help students grasp complex concepts and to succeed academically. I also ensure that each child is given the best possible opportunity to learn and grow. In addition to supporting in the classroom, I also have the pleasure of leading some unique clubs which contribute to the holistic development of our children. The prayer space is a special initiative aimed at providing the children with a peaceful and inclusive environment. It is a space where children can find solace, support and a sense of community to navigate their spiritual journey. Another club I lead is gardening club where I guide the children in planting.

Regular events in The Cathedral Centre



Ecumenical Bible Study Group:
Thursdays -10.00am coffee/tea, 10.30-11.30am.

Legion of Mary:
Thursday, 6.00pm to 7.30pm

Union of Catholic Mothers:
Tuesdays 1.30pm-3.30pm.

St Pio Prayer Group:
On the first Friday of every month after 7.00pm Mass, all are welcome. Contact: Rev. Deacon Tony Irwin, Tel. 01548 853413.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children:
Meet in the Cathedral Centre, third Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm. Contact Christine Hudson Tel. 01752 224018.

Knights of St Columba:
Every second Monday of the month at 6.30pm.

[The Cathedral Centre Events](#)

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We Love Learning!



1/5

Well done to our Year 3/4 mixed football team who played in their first intra-school friendly at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.



1/9

Well done to our years 5 and 6 football team who took part in the RC Schools friendly up at Notre Dame.



1/5

Our Junior Ten Tors team practicing putting up their tents ready for the event after half term.



1/19

In creation week, the children enjoyed their time in Plymouth Cathedral and explored the message of Laudato Si

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Congratulations to our First Holy Communion children who received the Sacrament. It was wonderful to see the Cathedral full of so many friends and families.



We celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week. We came together as a school family to create a piece of mural art with all of the ways the children could keep active to look after their mental health.



We treated all of the children to a new bell/torch for their scooters and bikes in recognition to their fantastic effort with bike riding.



Our children enjoyed taking part in the indoor Athletics Championship at The Life Centre. The children were a credit to the school and performed brilliantly.



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Half Term Events

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS A RELAXED CHILDREN'S CONCERT:

MONSTERS AND MAGIC

FREE ENTRY! Come and go as you please!
Main Hall, University of Plymouth, PL4 8AA
Saturday 1st June 2024 from 3.00-3.45pm

Interactive themed concert with music from Harry Potter, Night on Bare Mountain and more!

Inclusive, informal interactive, concert. Everyone welcome. Accessible venue! Come and join us!

MUSIC DIRECTOR: CAPTAIN M. WAITES RN

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS A THEMED CONCERT:

MONSTERS AND MAGIC

Main Hall, University of Plymouth, PL4 8AA
Saturday 1st June 2024
FREE ENTRY - donations welcomed!
Children's Concert from 2.30pm
Evening Concert from 7.30pm

BOOK VIA THE QR CODE

Music to include:
Sorcerer's Apprentice - Dukas
Harry Potter Medley - Williams
Midsummer Night's Dream - Mendelssohn

MUSIC DIRECTOR: CAPTAIN M. WAITES RN

ARGYLE COMMUNITY TRUST

WHITSUN HALF TERM ROADSHOWS

PLYMOUTH MAY 2024 | 9.30AM-3.30PM BOYS & GIRLS ALL ABILITIES AGED 5-15
(Football Roadshow unless stated)

TUESDAY 28TH
Manadon Sports Hub (Strikers and Goalkeepers)
Manadon Sports Hub (Girls Only)
Home Park (Football Special)
Wembury Primary School (Multi Sports)
Lipson Primary School (Multi Sports)

WEDNESDAY 29TH
Manadon Sports Hub (Girls Only)
Manadon Sports Hub
Ivybridge Community College (Strikers and Goalkeepers)
Plymstock School (Futsal Roadshow)
Wembury Primary School

THURSDAY 30TH
Manadon Sports Hub (PDC/COE Training Day)
Plympton Academy
Lipson Primary School (Multi Sports)

FRIDAY 31ST
Home Park (Football Special)
Ivybridge Community College
Ivybridge Community College (Girls Only)
Plympton Academy

DISABILITY ROADSHOWS
MANADON SPORTS HUB
29th (SEND Football)
30th (Short Breaks)
PLYMPTON ACADEMY
31st (SEND Football)

Book now 01752 522202
www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/courses.html

SCAN ME

www.argylecommunitytrust.co.uk

Tumble's May Half Term Rumble!

May 25th - June 2nd

DZS Dartmoor ZOO



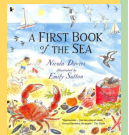
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Advice and Support

We are Readers

Miss Galloghly's class have really enjoyed their latest poetry unit, with a focus on seaside poems from the 'A First Book of The Sea' by Nicola Davies. The children were introduced to a variety of poems, which allowed for them to learn about a range of poetic devices from: alliteration, rhyming couplets and stanzas. The children then created their own amazing seaside poems which created beautiful images for the reader. The children particularly enjoyed the 'On The Pier' poem and are still chanting it weeks on! Great work!



ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 93%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days	Weeks	Lessons
	Absent	Absent	Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons



Attendance updates

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These Government regulations will come into effect from 19th August 2024.

As a school, we will be following the guidance as set out by Plymouth City Council and we will, where appropriate, be issuing fines.

As always, if you have any questions or queries about your child's attendance, do not hesitate to contact me.
Mr Moore



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Advice and Support

Dates for your diary

Monday 3rd June 2024- Inset Day

Tuesday 4th June 2024- Children return to school.

Monday 10 - 14 June 2024 - Phonics Screening commences.

Friday 14th June- Junior Ten Tors

Monday 17th - 21st June- Sports Festival

Friday 21st June - Sports Day

Friday 19 July 2024 - Last day of term

Wednesday 4th September 2024 - First day back from Summer Holidays



Uniform Store Plymouth

The uniform store Plymouth is a free service for families to kit out their children for school.

Through donations of good quality school uniform, we give the items to those in need, free of charge.

Our service is open to anyone to use- no referral is needed.

We are located at:

93 New George Street, Plymouth City Centre, PL1 1RQ

Opening hours:

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
10am-1pm.**


[Plymouth Uniform store](#)

Is your child eligible for free school meals?

If you receive certain benefits then your child may be entitled to a free school meal and if so, their school receives extra funding. This means it's important to apply, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and

IS YOUR CHILD
ELIGIBLE FOR FREE
SCHOOL MEALS?



 @cathedralschoolofstmary

 @cathedralplym

Love

Resilience

Aspiration

Honesty

Teamwork

Courage



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already receives a free lunch.

Check the criteria and apply online: [Free School Meals Plymouth](#)

FOOD REQUEST

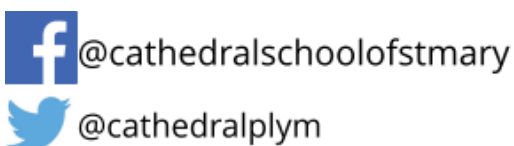
The Cathedral School of St Mary
have teamed up with

Love in action group -

The Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface



If you email Marianne our School PSA, by Tuesday 2pm of the week you require help with food, you will be able to collect from School on The Wednesday/Thursday



Love
Resilience

Aspiration
Honesty

Teamwork
Courage



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t.cook@plymouthcast.com#

Spaces Available For
Foundation September 2024!

THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL OF ST. MARY

ALL PUPILS ARE WELCOME

**Come and visit us!
Contact our school office to
make an appointment.**



Parent Comments.

"Everyone at the school are always welcoming and approachable."

"I appreciate all the hard work you put in day after day, it doesn't go unnoticed. It makes me so happy when my child comes home excited about the day they had at school."

