



St Petroc's School
40 Ocean View Road
Bude
Cornwall
EX23 8NJ

Tel: 01288 352 876
Email: office@stpetrocs.com

ST PETROC'S POST

Issue 158
5th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It suddenly feels quite Autumnal around the School; the leaves are dropping, the heating has been on and the rugby season is well underway! I am especially enjoying seeing how well the children are performing in the classroom. The timetable is becoming more familiar, they are fully immersed in their units of work and the teachers throughout the School are seeing great progress across the curriculum. There are also some quite wonderful displays appearing around the School and in the Early Years.

Next week, we have our Open Days on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th October, so I would like to extend an open invitation to prospective parents who would like to come and see how the school runs. It would be worth calling ahead, if possible, as we have a number of viewings booked already. For our Early Years parents, it is a wonderful opportunity to come and discuss the ways in which St Petroc's School might work for you. It's an ideal chance for us to explain the 30 hours funding and methods of payment, as well as perhaps breaking down any misconceptions, in a non-pressured conversation. The school offers wraparound care from 8:15am-5:30pm, and lunches, sports and clubs are all included within the fees, so it is well worth investigating as an option. Our Reception Class 2019 is looking very healthy and is already beginning to fill up so, if we might be on your list, be sure to book in for a tour next week.

Our U11s teams had a triangular fixture of Rugby and Netball on Monday afternoon, where they played Shebbear College and St Joseph's. Both teams performed very well and we look forward to welcoming Kingsley School and Shebbear College next week for more fixtures. It is great to be able to involve the children in competitive fixtures and is another extension and advantage of taking part in sports every day of the week here.

Wednesday saw our Key Stage 1 pupils set off to explore castles, myths and legends at Restormel Castle. It is wonderful to see the effect that these educational visits have back here in the School. The classrooms are full of so much engaging content and they certainly demonstrate a melting pot of energy and enthusiasm for learning. On Thursday, our upper Key Stage 2 pupils attended a writing workshop at St Endellion. The workshops were run by four fantastic children's authors and these sessions gave them a real insight into the work required to become a published author.

Next Friday 12th October is our Harvest Festival assembly. Year 4 spent this Thursday afternoon learning about the ancient tradition of baking a Harvest Bread and some parents who came for a viewing yesterday had the most amazing aroma as we toured the School. Friday 12th October is also the date for the Friends' of St Petroc's Quiz night.

Have a wonderful rested weekend,

Ben Hilton

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FORWARD DATES

**Monday 8th
October 2018**

U9s Rugby & Netball
v Kingsley (Home)

**Wednesday 10th
October 2018**

School Photographs
PM: Soundwaves
South West Graffiti
Classics Visit

**Wednesday 10th &
Thursday 11th October
2018**

School Open Days

**Thursday 11th
October**

U11s Rugby & Netball
v Shebbear (TBC)

Friday 12th October

Harvest Festival
Assembly

7:30pm Friends of
St Petroc's Wine &
Wisdom Evening

**Wednesday 17th
October 2018**

1.45pm Beach Clean
3:30pm Prep School
Break for Half Term

Information for Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who attended last Friday's Coffee Afternoon in aid of Macmillan, to the Friends for organising it and also to everyone who baked cakes or contributed in any way. The afternoon was really successful and raised over £220; a fantastic amount for a worthy cause.

The next Friends event is a Wine and Wisdom evening on Friday 12th October, and we hope to see many of you there. The quiz will be raising money for two local clubs that are well attended by our pupils – Bude Nippers and Bude Cubs and Scouts. We would love you to get a team together and come along to what will undoubtedly be a great evening! Contact the Office or see the posters around the School for more information. Mr Hilton is keen to 'pass on' his cherished Wooden Spoon from last term!

Come and support

Friends of St Petroc's WINE & WISDOM

Friday 12th October 2018

7:30pm

£5 per person

Payable on the night

Nibbles provided

Pay Bar with Wine, Fizz and Beers

Come as a Team (Max 6) or
on your own and join a
team on the night



to be held in the School Hall, St Petroc's, Ocean View Road, Bude

Early Years

This week in the Little Turtles room we have all thoroughly enjoyed investigating sand. Our hands have been busy scooping with spades and our fingers have grabbed, sprinkled and poked the sand. We also enjoyed watching the sand wheel turn and moving our feet in the tray to make marks.

We have also been lucky enough to go for a walk to see the ducks. We loved having our snack in the sunshine watching the ducks and swans.



The Sea Lions have been learning their numbers this week and have mostly been looking at numbers one to five. We started off by making some yummy banana cakes in number moulds. We helped to mash the banana and counted with our teachers how many spoons of ingredients we needed, then some of us decorated our cakes with our favourite colours.

We've also been having fun in the water tray. We had bubbly water and coloured water, and we loved scooping and pouring with various tubs and jugs to find some hidden numbers in the bottom.

Our role play area for this week is a bank and we have been playing with lots of pretend money. "£55" one of our Sea Lions told us, using the computer to give people their loans. It's a great bank and is helping us to recognise numbers in our environment.



This week the Dolphins children have enjoyed the stories 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne and 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' by Vivian French and Alison Bartlett.

During Circle Time, discussions took place about shopping lists and our favourite fruit.

Throughout the week the Dolphins have participated in imaginative play, taking fruit orders while working in Handa's fruit and vegetable shop.

The Dolphins have also been busy threading pasta then painting it to make an African necklace. They have also been learning about some animals that live in Africa and spoken about their favourite ones.



Prep School

It has been an exciting week in Reception as we have gone back to the time of knights and princesses, exploring the theme of castles.

We started off the week making some horses and the children galloped around the garden, racing each other and pretending to be knights.

On Wednesday we had an amazing trip to Restormel Castle. The children were particularly interested in where the knights slept and where the fighting happened!

It was a pleasure to see the children enjoying themselves and asking interesting questions. They showed impeccable behaviour while out and about, representing St Petroc's brilliantly for their first outing.

The end of the week saw us working in the castle treasury, counting the King's money, as well as in the castle laundry room sorting the socks into matching pairs. They also worked in the castle armoury, designing and making shields.



On Wednesday, Year 1 joined Reception Class and Years 2 and 3 on the trip to Restormel Castle. There was great excitement on the bus as, for some of the children, this was their first 'real' school trip. As we drove through some rather thick fog and rain we were wondering what was in store for us all on the other side of Bodmin. Luckily, as we arrived the clouds lifted and out came the sunshine.

The children walked around the outside of the castle by the moat, paying particular attention to all the windows, turrets and arrow holes. This was great but the children couldn't wait to get inside. They were fascinated by all the different rooms and all ventured up the narrow stairs to the top, where there was an amazing view over the valley.

After lunch the children all got a chance to dress up as different characters from the 13th century. The 'Lady' costume was particularly popular with the girls, as was the 'Paige Boy' costume with the boys. There was even some chainmail to try on, which was extremely heavy.

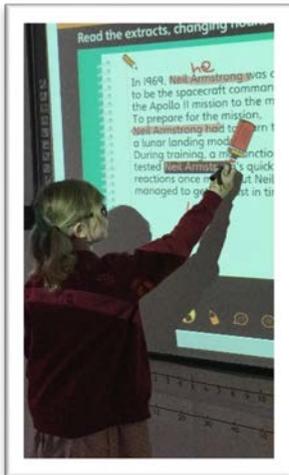
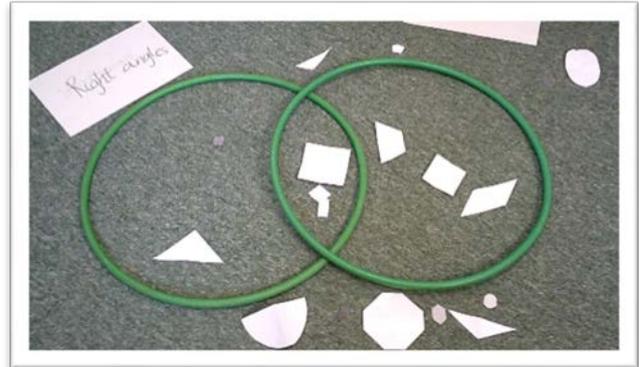
The children and staff had a fantastic day, which really brought our 'Castle' topic to life. Many thanks to Mrs Cuff for organising it.

Years 2 and 3 have enjoyed another busy week, the highlight of which was the trip to Restormel Castle. While touring the castle we found lots of the features and rooms that we have researched in our Topic lessons.

We also learnt all about the different people we would find in the castle and what their roles would be. The class then added some characters, including Lord Hilton, to our growing castle display in the classroom.

Maths and English have been very practical subjects this week. Some of the Year 1 pupils joined us in hot-seating the main characters in the fairy tale 'The Frog Prince'. We all felt very sorry for the sad frog after the Princess broke all her promises!

In Maths, we have been sorting 2D shapes by their properties, using a big class Venn Diagram. Mrs Croxall has been very impressed by all the shape names which the children have been able to recall each day!



Continuing with our English non-fiction topic about Neil Armstrong, Year 4 have been writing diary extracts about doing something for the first time. Writing in the first person, the extracts had to be exciting and descriptive, and were read aloud to the class. Then, in pairs, using peer assessment and the two stars and a wish technique, they marked each other's work.

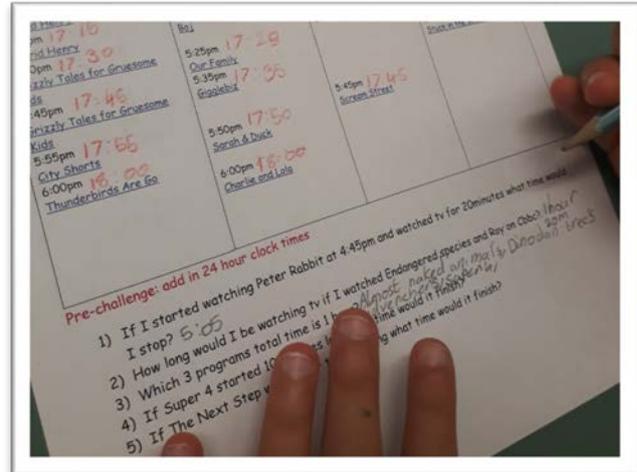
The stars are good points, and are backed up with evidence from the text, and the wish is something that could be improved. They were very critical markers! We finished with a recap on the use of pronouns in writing.



On Thursday Year 4 made two spectacular Harvest Loaves in preparation for our Festival Assembly. The pupils learnt about the ancient tradition of creating a loaf to offer thanks for a successful harvest. They also thought about how hard it would be to cut all the crops by hand and Kaitlin told us about a farmer she knew in South Africa who still preferred cutting by hand to machines!

We made our breads complete with field mouse, and particularly enjoyed snipping the sheaths with scissors to get a feathered effect. Well done Year 4; Mrs Cole was very impressed with your creativity and ability to follow instructions.

Year 5 have taken the time this week (do not excuse the pun!) to convert the 12 hour clock into the 24 hour clock. After establishing a good understanding, they went onto looking at TV schedules, with some of their favourite programmes being aired! The times had to be interpreted, including start and finish times, durations and the effect of late screenings. A tricky subject, which you can't 'just get' straight away, but all managed to progress well in the given time. Practise, practise, practise!



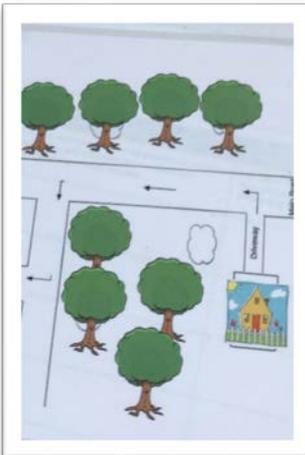
Years 6 and 7 have been busy this week creating a board game for their current topic on the circulatory system.

They had to create questions on the heart, lungs and capillaries, veins and arteries. The game is a mixture of 'Operation' (reversed) and Trivia, with some very challenging questions! If you have the chance one day, come in for a game!



Years 6 and 7 also had a brilliant Computing lesson this week. After her traumatic visit to her Grandma's house, Little Red Riding Hood was far too frightened to walk home through the woods. Instead she decided to borrow her grandmother's car, in this case, an EV3 Robot.

The group navigated from Grandma's house to Little Red's garage with challenges en route such as 'make your robot say "goodbye" to Grandma', 'stop at the end of the drive', 'look both ways and say "go!" before joining the main road' and 'reverse into the garage'. Collaboration, planning and even costume design featured in the computing lesson, which looked specifically at controlled turns and measuring distances.



Art

In their Art lessons, all the children have been making clay poppies to be displayed as a whole school project. Hopefully we will get them finished and ready for the Key Stage 2 performance of 'Archie Dobson's War' in November.



Stay and Play

For Stay and Play on a Friday the children are thoroughly enjoying themselves with 'Lego Club'.

They have been building lots of different things, with new challenges every week. Recently we have been building bridges, which have to fit at least two cars on top – or a child!

Another challenge was to make a car park to fit at least five cars. These two children broke the record with 32 cars!



North Cornwall Book Festival

The pupils in Years 5, 6 and 7 attended a writing workshop at St Endellion as part of the North Cornwall Book Festival. The pupils, who are preparing for their Key Stage 2 SATs, had a wonderful day and thoroughly enjoyed meeting several 'real life' authors and undertaking the writing workshops.

Their first encounter was with Ross Montgomery. The children worked together and contributed ideas, which they added to the story starter. The starter sentence came from Ross's current book 'Max and the Millions', and it was expanded, edited and lengthened using the children's ideas. Ross focused on the importance of editing, a skill which both classes have been working hard on throughout their recent poetry units, and which is often very challenging. The pupils were encouraged to view everything as editable; understanding that there is usually room for improvement.



The second author to take to the stage was Vivian French, who emphasised the importance of story planning. She ran a workshop which focused on the why, who, what, where and how of your story. The planning process is always very difficult to encourage in pupils, as there is often so much excitement about writing that many students simply want to get going! Vivian also explored ways in which you can express how a character is feeling, without being too obvious and using the word itself. This linked really well with the Key Stage 2 PSHE work on how emotions affect you physically in many different ways.

Laura Wood, the creator of the 'Poppy Pym' stories, read from her own book, which introduced Poppy. She talked about character creation and developing a story setting. She explained the different layers of character that you need to build up and gave the pupils a guide to characters, which included a worksheet for after the session.

John Dougherty said that: "A story starts with a seed of an idea that has to be watered with daydreams and imagination". He was very inspirational and really captured the imagination of the students. John was a great way to finish the day and spoke in the style of a stand-up comedian. He was very funny and much appreciated by the audience.

We would like to thank the organisers for such a wonderful event, and well done to the pupils for their behaviour, ideas and participation.

Match Report: U11s Netball fixture v St Joseph's and Shebbear College, Monday 1st October

By Lily

We won the toss and we chose first centre pass. When we started we played very well and we were the stronger team. In the next half St Joseph's came back fighting and they were much stronger. The final score was 3-3, thanks to a last minute goal.

The next match we played against Shebbear. They were very, very strong but we were fighting our way through. The score was 7-2 to them.

I was lucky enough to be player of the match twice.

Thank you to Mrs Cole for umpiring.

Match Report: U11s Rugby fixture v St Joseph's and Shebbear College, Monday 1st October

By Indigo

Our first game was against Shebbear but it did not go as we planned it. We tried hard, even with a few injuries, but they kept strong.

Our next game was against St Joseph's and their skill was running and passing. We tried hard again and there were good tackles from Aiden and Ruben, and good passing from Ben and Piran. The final score was 1-3 to them. Thank you Mr Fox taking us.