

# FOWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Spring Newsletter 1

26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

### Dear Parents

There are so many things to tell you about in this week's newsletter. On Monday, we had our annual Challenge Day with two other head teachers from within the Peninsula Learning Trust and an external consultant, who is also an Ofsted inspector. They were delighted to see so much good learning going on at Fowey and were particularly pleased with the children's writing across the curriculum (e.g. writing in Science or history) as well as children's attitudes to learning and behaviour. The children were very proud to tell them all about Wednesday Workshops, Wind in the Willows and their new CARE values. The day highlighted attendance as a significant cause for concern and have emphasised the need for us to continue to work together to improve this.

I was pleased to hold my first PVG meeting this week and it was great to see how keen parents are to work together with the school. We have agreed a number of actions, following suggestions from parents (more details below).

Have a lovely (hopefully dry) weekend!

Kate Sicolo  
Headteacher

### Diary dates 2018



#### January

29<sup>th</sup> January - Lunch n Learn Year 2 (Gribben)

#### February

1<sup>st</sup> February - Lunch n Learn Year 1 (Cannis)

1<sup>st</sup> February - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

8<sup>th</sup> February - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

**12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term**

19<sup>th</sup> February - Wednesday Workshops begin

22<sup>nd</sup> February - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

26<sup>th</sup> February - World book day

#### March

1<sup>st</sup> March - Years 4 and 5 - Swimming

6<sup>th</sup> March- Lunch n Learn Year 3 (Coombe)

8<sup>th</sup> March - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

9<sup>th</sup> March- Lunch n Learn Year 4 (Readymoney)

15<sup>th</sup> March - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

20<sup>th</sup> March- Lunch n Learn Year 5 (Polridmouth)

22<sup>nd</sup> March - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

23<sup>rd</sup> March- Lunch n Learn Year 6 (Carne)

29<sup>th</sup> March - Years 3 and 6 - Swimming

**29<sup>th</sup> March - End of Term**

### Dogs



Just a polite reminder that dogs should not be anywhere on the school site (this includes being tied up on any of the gates or fences around the school).

### Wind in the Willows and Nativity

Photographs from Wind in the Willows and Lantic's Nativity will be available in the office from Monday morning next week. Please pop in and complete an order form if you would like to purchase any pictures.

A huge thanks to Melissa Love for coming in and taking such beautiful images for us.

DVD's will be available in a few weeks (we have sent them off for printing).

## This week's certificate winners:

### Worker(s) of the Week:



**Lantic:** Ren, Ailla, Toby, Ellie

**Cannis:** Orlaith, Otilie, Daniel

**Gribben:** Logan, Freddy, Henry

**Coombe:** Millie, Sonny, Finlay

**Readymoney:** Oscar, Regan

**Polridmouth:** Lily LW, Evie, Jake

**Carne:** Reuben, Gabriel

## Attendance

Welcome to the weekly attendance awards. We have been set a target of more than 97% attendance. This week no classes have reached their target.

All classes missed out this week – good luck for next week:

<b>Cannis</b>	96.4%
<b>Readymoney</b>	95.9%
<b>Carne</b>	95.7%
<b>Lantic</b>	95.7%
<b>Gribben</b>	95.6%
<b>Coombe</b>	93.8%
<b>Polridmouth</b>	91.1%

## Newsletters

Several parents at PVG raised concerns about the costs for the school and environmental impact of printing the weekly newsletter. We have agreed that from half term, fortnightly newsletters will be sent out by e-mail only. Please ensure that the office has an up to date e-mail address for you.

If you would prefer a paper copy, these will always be available in the office.

Full minutes of the PVG are now available on the school website.

## PVG Feedback on Future School Productions

We all agreed that Wind in the Willows was a wonderful production and that the children benefitted enormously from participating in the production. However, we agreed that it was very long and that it is very difficult for children and teachers to have such late nights at school in the run up to Christmas. The production did have a significant impact on learning and progress at school.

So, from next year (2018-2019) we will have a different structure to school performances. Lantic and perhaps Y1 will perform their nativity at Christmas. There will then be another school production in July, perhaps with separate performances for KS1 and KS2 so that there are more opportunities for more children to play bigger roles.

We will also be looking at moving the July production to a bigger performance space on a Friday night, ideally in Fowey but if not in a theatre/hall space in St Austell or Bodmin so that more families are able to get tickets and children are not so tired the next day.

Lots more details will follow next year.

## Morning Drop Off

Parents at PVG have raised concerns about the safety of the current morning arrangements at school, which I share. Under the current system, there are many adults in and around the school building in the morning and it is difficult to establish when the children are the responsibility of the class teacher. This increases the risk of a child wandering off and not being spotted and also means that adults, who are not necessarily parents, have access to children who are not their own.

To reduce this risk, we have agreed that from half term all children will be dropped at their external classroom door between 8:30 and 8:40. The bell will go at 8:45 and children who are not in class by this time will be marked as late. Cloakroom doors will no longer be used in the mornings. Children will be welcomed by their teacher and will come into the building, by themselves, to hang up their coats and bags. There will still be an opportunity for parents to talk to the teacher at the door, each morning and afternoon, should you need to pass on any messages or discuss any concerns. Teachers can always meet parents after school if you need a more confidential conversation.

We will be working with the children over the next few weeks to prepare for this. We believe this is a great opportunity to promote independence and responsibility for our children.