



St Hilary School Newsletter

"The Best we can be"

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Welcome back to the start of the new Academic Year – I am so pleased to be greeting the whole school community again after such a long time away. Every day this week the children have seemed to become more and more confident, relaxed and comfortable with the new daily routines and expectations. As ever, they have proven to be so adaptable, resilient and keen to fulfil their responsibilities as members of the school community – all staff at the school have been so impressed.

Perhaps most importantly in this week's newsletter, I would like to start by extending a very warm welcome to all of our new recruits across the school. First of all, our new Reception children, in both Mrs Sandow and Mrs Gardner's classes, who have been absolute stars! They have looked beautifully smart, listened carefully at all times, shown just how grown up they are at drop off and lunch times and shown the St Hilary spirit of adventure for learning right from their first day! (I have also been very impressed by their Year 1 classmates who have been wonderful role models!)

Likewise, across the school we have numerous new children, all of whom have been looked after immaculately by their classmates and already feel like established members of their classes and the school!

Finally, I would also like to welcome Miss Reynolds our new Year 5 teacher who has started with us this term. We wish her the very best of luck and I know you would all like to join me in welcoming her into the team at the school.

On the other hand, we also have been missing Dot this week! I am sure that the whole school community would like to extend their warmest wishes to Dot for a speedy recovery, after she underwent planned knee surgery over the summer holiday – from our conversations, she seems to be making great progress!

Keeping things simple this week I thought it would be nice to share some of our highlights of the week with you – it has felt such a privilege to be able to witness so many positives:

Mr Larter – My highlight has been the fact that the children in Year 6 have had 100% attendance, which means each day, the class has been bubbling with enthusiasm and excitement – a welcome sight after so long!

Miss Reynolds – Being made to feel incredibly welcome by the children and witnessing their incredible resilience and eagerness to learn and get back into a normal school routine. Their poetry work has been amazing, and I could not be prouder to be part of Gwenver class ... I cannot wait to see what the rest of the term brings.

Mrs Davies – Welcoming back the children who have been so mature, so smart and so positive in all of their learning – I am very proud!

Miss Jelbert - Doing what I love after 6 months at home! Seeing the children, hearing them laugh and the school being 'whole' again.

Miss Worsey – It has been wonderful to be back in the classroom with my superstar bunch and I am so proud of how well they have settled into their first week in Key Stage 2.

Mrs Ellis – Seeing everyone's smiling faces every morning and being reminded about the lovely stories children like to share with you. Also ... yummy packed lunches.

Mrs Sandow – Watching and listening as the Reception and Year 1 children ran around in the wooded area of the field, chasing bubbles. Witnessing giggles and laughter, fun and friendship, energy and enthusiasm. Children at play, relaxed, carefree, happy and secure!

Mrs Gardner – The Reception children all came into school and within 10 minutes were playing with their friends old and new. What a great way to begin their educational journey... playing and having fun!!!

Miss Brant – Enjoying being part of the team welcoming our wonderful new Reception and seeing how courageous they are!

Mr Davey – Already seeing the benefits of applying 'emotion coaching' from the teacher training days last week.

Mrs Eddy – Getting back to singing with groups of smiling children out in the sunshine.

Mr Hamshar – The whole school ZOOM assembly on Monday – seeing the children as a whole group was fantastic and despite the distance between the classes it really felt like the whole community being back together. The settled focused



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and purposeful classrooms – seeing everyone working hard and re-building their concentration – smiles, laughter and hard graft aplenty!

The parents on the playground at collection time waiting in a perfectly physically distanced group on the lower playground as I popped down to say goodbye at the end of Tuesday – thank you for treating the whole school community's safety and health with so much respect!

Just before I finish, can I please ask that you all very carefully read through the PE letter from Mrs Ellis from this week and the additional Coronavirus Update that follows!

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to our amazing staff for making the school kick back into gear so smoothly and our parents and carers for all of your support ... AND most importantly a huge well done to the children of St Hilary School for quite simply being stars on their return!

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hamshar

COVID PLAN UPDATE:

Firstly, can I ask you to maintain your hard work in fulfilling the back to school expectations from the school plan – sticking to drop off and pick up times and physical distancing are key!

Please do not come into the school playground before the time that your child's drop off slot opens.

Similarly, please avoid coming onto the school site or congregating outside the gates, before the start of your child's pick-up slot.

Understandably, we have had calls each day from concerned parents whose children have minor symptoms of a cold or hay fever, wondering whether to send them into school.

In these circumstances, we ask that you very carefully consider whether your child has any specific COVID symptoms.

If they have, it is imperative that they are tested and isolate accordingly, until the results are known.

If not and they are mild cold/hay fever symptoms, we ask that you use your judgement about whether or not to send them into school. However, wherever you have a concern or are uncertain what to do, please err on the side of caution and keep your child at home, monitor them closely and, if any symptoms of COVID are displayed get tested.

For more details on the testing process, follow the link below, which also explains how to go about getting tested:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Similarly, if someone in your home group has been tested you must remember that your whole household need to self-isolate, until a negative result has been returned or for a full 14 days from a positive test result.

For all of the school's documentation and links to government advice on Covid, please refer to the school website:

https://www.st-hilary.cornwall.sch.uk/website/back_to_school_plan_for_september_2020

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The children will be having their photographs taken next Wednesday 16th September, but unfortunately this year, due to the current climate, younger siblings will not be able to come in to be taken with them.



SCHOOL MEALS

A reminder that the cost of a school meal has increased from £2.30 to £2.40 from 1st September 2020.



We have a "Twitter" account up and running to share our news and celebrations. Please join us at 'StHilarySchool'

New Parents - make sure you check out our facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/StHilaryCornwall/>



ALL IN MODERATION.....

As an official 'healthy school' we promote a healthy mixed diet, and we certainly wouldn't like to say that a sweet treat here and there is a bad thing. We all enjoy the occasional cake sale and 'Hot Chocolate Friday'! However, with classes of 30 in the infants and above that in the juniors, if all children were to bring in sweets/cakes on their birthday, that can amount to a lot of sugar!

Another more important consideration is that we are aware of an increasing number of children with allergies, and we have to safeguard them by ensuring that they do not eat items that could put them at risk.

So we ask parents not to send in sweets/cakes etc on their child's birthday but to save these treats for the parties and celebrations where parents are able to monitor and choose which sweet items their child should have.

Thank you for your continued support.