



St Hilary School Newsletter

"The Best we can be"

Issue: 1059 22.07.2021

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Rounding off the academic Year - 2021

The final newsletter of what has been another very strange and, in many ways, challenging year!

In spite of all of these challenges and all of the disruption, I could not be prouder of everything that the teachers, the parents/guardians and, most importantly, the children of St Hilary have achieved since September!

While safety of the children and school community may have dominated at times, the quality of learning and provision throughout the year has been testament to the time, care and dedication of the teachers and all staff at the school. Whether learning in 'Bubbles' or learning remotely, the quality and breadth of teaching offered, and the levels of challenge and engagement of all children has been second to none.

Huge respect and thanks to our remarkable staff team for their unerring commitment and quality.

Coping with the ever-changing landscape of your children's education this year as families has been no small feat! You have been supportive, positive and coped magnificently with every hurdle either the government or school has asked you to clear – making our job as a school easier and so much more rewarding and most importantly ensuring your children have continued to thrive.

Huge respect and thanks to our remarkable parents/guardians and school community!

The children have ridden the rollercoaster of education over the last two years with permanent smiles, flexibility, resilience and enthusiasm. Whatever the challenge, they have risen to it; whatever the obstacle, they have climbed it and whatever the emotional barrier, they have grown, evolved and persisted - on so many occasions providing the example we have all needed to follow!

Huge respect and thanks and an even huger well done to our amazing children!

At the end of the year, we often need to say a few goodbyes and 'thank-yous' as people move on to new challenges and opportunities, and this year is no different:

After many years with us and having helped and entertained so many children from our school Barrie and Jude two of our dinner supervisors (and legendary comedy duo ... among the greats of 'Morecombe and Wise' and the 'Two Ronnies') are leaving. Their positivity, humour and care for the children will be sorely missed and we all wish them the very best of luck and every happiness for the future!

On to Mrs Kemp, who stepped in to cover the Perran Class from March this year. From day one she has been a positive force in the school, taking every expectation in her stride, nurturing and challenging the children and wowing the school with her forest school's approach and her dance in the recent Sports Days. Thank you so much for everything you have done and the positivity you have approached every day here with. Perran were very lucky to get you and we are all so grateful for your efforts!

Next, Mrs Eddy our music guru is retiring from teaching, to enjoy being with her family. We have all learnt so much from Lindsay over the years she has been with us and under her care, music has continued to go from strength to strength. Her expertise, her dedication and her care, consideration and respect for all have been the cornerstones of her amazing contribution to the school and we wish her a long, happy and adventure filled retirement! She'll still be teaching cello lessons though, so we'll be seeing her about the school next year!

On a different tack, I am sure that the whole school community would also like to join us in sending all our love and best wishes to Miss Worsey for her wedding taking place this summer, we wish her every happiness and luck for a perfect day of celebration!

Now finally ... our Year 6 Leavers! Thank you for your wonderful leavers' assembly, thank you for your amazing efforts over the years – a group of constant happiness, fun, enthusiasm and in every way a group who epitomise the school motto 'the best we can be'! I wish them every success and every happiness as they make the bold step forward into the next chapter of their schooling, knowing that whichever school they are heading to are lucky to have them! You have made us all so proud ... so, leave with your heads held high as a remarkable group of children full of St Hilary spirit!

Hang on, hang on ... there is one more small matter to address ... but where on earth do I start with Dot, our incredible school secretary who is retiring after 32 years with the school! Constant kindness and warmth; constant interest in everyone else's wellbeing; and demonstrating an unerring knack of putting everyone at ease, making them feel welcome and listened to, regardless how confident they are feeling or how stressful the situation. She is second to none!

Having been such a dedicated servant to the St Hilary School community for such a long time, it is worth considering the number of families she has assisted, comforted, influenced, supported and the many, many children she has helped - improving their life chances and increasing their self-esteem and happiness. Her work and personality have touched so many of us – how lucky we are! I am certain the whole school community would like to join me in saying a huge thank you and in wishing you the long happy and healthy retirement you deserve.



All this leaves me to say is have a wonderful summer, filled with the rest, relaxation and fun that you all deserve!

All the best

Rob Hamshar



2020-21 - Round Up from Our Chair of Governors

And so we come to the end of another school year at St Hilary, but boy, what a year! A year like no other and hopefully one that none of us has to experience again.

Normally, I would go through key events that took place over the academic year but this time I would like to reflect on the journey we have all been on, especially now we are (hopefully) coming out the other side and learning to live with this awful virus.

Approximate timetable:

Lockdown 1 – 23RD MARCH 2020, the day it all kicked off for our children.

Year 6 “bubbles” returned for the last part of the school year, followed by Year 2 and key worker bubbles.

Autumn term – all returned to school after a lot of work, as staff prepared for a very different daily routine.

Lockdown 2 – November 5th!!!! School continued as normally as possible.

January 4th – Inset day for staff, preparations under way, end of the day PM announced another full lockdown starting 6th January.

Return to school 8th March.

The above is obviously just a list of dates but when you start to think of what happened between those dates; the highs, the lows, the upset, the anger the disbelief. An emotional roller coaster going on and on and on. Some coped better than others and a few have emotional scars that will take a long time to heal. But what makes me immensely proud is the way our wonderful staff team dealt with all that was thrown at them. Be it setting online work (thank you SeeSaw!), talking to parents, one to one conversations with staff and pupils, planning, cajoling; basically, writing the way ahead daily on a blank sheet of paper!

For the school, lessons were quickly learnt and we evolved, with the education of our children at the very heart of the often very difficult decisions that were made.

I seriously think that despite everything we have come through this in a better place. There is an even better feel about St. Hilary and that is down to you, the parents/carers, the staff, the children, there is a togetherness that has grown because of the situation we found ourselves in. The following quote came from someone far more eloquent than me, but I feel it is very much aligned to our school and wanted to share it with you:

“When things do not go your way, remember that every challenge — every adversity — contains within it the seeds of opportunity and growth.”

Which leads me nicely on to the highlights and key changes at school.

The first was truly a one off, the first time ever that I and the rest of the governors were delighted to accept a resignation. Delighted? Yes, because it meant that Mrs Butcher had been appointed as CEO to the our Multi Academy Trust.

This in turn opened the door for Mr Hamshar to apply for the position as substantive head, a job he had been doing incredibly well on a temporary basis in the most difficult of circumstances. Obviously, everyone was delighted when he accepted the post.

Then last but not least, it then became possible for Mr Larter to move into the (permanent) role of Deputy Head; a well-deserved step up the ladder for Ashley!

On the other hand, we have a few staff leaving us at the end of term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all they have done and wish them well in whatever comes next.

Also, the governing body are sadly losing a key member of the team; he has served the school impeccably during his years of service and will be a big loss. Thank you Joher.

(Parents! Please read the next three sentences to your school leaver, if relevant.)

To our year 6 children moving on to a new exciting chapter in their lives, I have a quote just for you:

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.”

Please keep in touch and let us know what you are doing.

I’ve left the hardest bit till last; so hard to say goodbye and thank you to someone who has been “front of house” at St Hilary for **thirty-two** years! Of course, I am referring to Mrs Whipp, known to all as Dot. Think of all that is good about St. Hilary and you will also be thinking of Dot. The professionalism, the calmness, the matter of fact way she gets things done, the friendly voice on the telephone, the caring nature and of course the warm smile as you enter reception.

Dot, on behalf of the governing body many many thanks for all the years of dedicated service to St Hilary school. You will be missed. Enjoy your well earned retirement, I know you are looking forward to spending quality time with your family and friends.

In signing off I would like to wish each and every one of you a warm, relaxed and safe summer. Enjoy all the beautiful things this wonderful County has to offer.

Dave Sharp, Chair of Governors

DINNER MENU FOR FIRST WEEK BACK IN SEPTEMBER 2021

Lunch Menu Week 2 - Mains

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Main Dish	Veggie Bolognese ** (V) Penne pasta in a yummy tomato and Quorn sauce	Allegra's Chicken Katsu ** Served with Wholemeal Rice	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes and Gravy Succulent roast turkey with fluffy roasties and tasty gravy	Cottage Pie ** A classic cottage pie with veg and gravy	Golden Fish Fingers and Chips Crispy Fish Fingers and scrummy chips
Alternative Dish	Cheese and Tomato Pizza ** with Dough Balls (V) Cheesy Tomato Topped Pizza Slice	Allegra's Oodles of Noodles (V) Veggie Noodles	Creamy Vegetable Pie (V) with Roast Potatoes and Gravy Creamy vegetable pie with a cheesy shortcrust topper	Mild Chickpea and Potato Curry (V) ** Served with Wholemeal Rice	Tomato Veggie Burger with Chips (V) A delicious homemade veggie burger
Salads	A Selection of Fresh Salads Including Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, Grated Carrot.				
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato With A Choice Of Fillings				
Pasta	Tomato Pasta ** (V) A delicious fresh, homemade tomato sauce with penne pasta				
Vegetables	Carrot Sticks Cucumber Sticks	Peas Broccoli	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Peas
Desserts	Flapjack with Fruit Slices*	Peach Shortbread Pudding* & Custard	Raspberry yoghurt cake	Fruity Chocolate Brownie	Vanilla Ice-Cream
Cool Water, Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread and Yoghurt available daily					
*Fruit Based **Wholegrain ***Oily Fish (V) Vegetarian					

BREAKFAST CLUB & FUN ZONE

We are really pleased that parents are using our breakfast and after school club facilities and hope this provides a useful service for you.



However, can I please remind all parents to ensure they book children onto the system in advance for using wrap around care using the School Gateway app. (Pay on the parent pay app as usual.) This will ensure we provide enough staff, food as well as follow appropriate safeguarding procedures. **If you need to make cancellations you are now able to do this yourselves**, but if you need assistance please ring the school office on 01736.763324.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Kind regards,

Mr Larter

Deputy Head



AMENDMENT TO DATE IN SUMMER TERM 2022

Please note that the date the children return to school after the additional days holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is Tuesday 7th June and not Wednesday 8th June as previously stated.

Music Instrument lessons at St Hilary School



Each week at St Hilary School, many children have lessons with visiting teachers to learn various musical instruments. Learning an instrument is not only a wonderful, rewarding thing to do with the potential for life-long enjoyment, but has been proven to help develop concentration and motor skills and to create links in the brain which help to improve ability in communication and maths.

If your child would like to learn to play the **keyboard** (piano) or **guitar**, lessons are arranged and paid for directly with the teachers: Jenna and Morwenna Matthews for keyboard and Darren for guitar. Ask at our school office for further details on these lessons.

We also offer the following lessons from the **Cornwall Music Service Trust (CMST)**:

Violin – with Anna Brown

'Cello – with Lindsay Eddy

Brass (cornet, trombone, trumpet, euphonium) with Kirsten Burden

Woodwind (flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, recorder, fife, saxophone) with Sophie Andrews



Prices for lessons vary and subsidies are available – please visit the website **cornwallmusicservicetrust.org** to find out more or to sign up for violin, 'cello, brass or woodwind lessons. Some instruments are available for your child to borrow from school, but you may need to hire an instrument. Mrs Eddy can advise you about this.

Do ask or email Mrs Eddy (leddyccc@gmail.com) if you would like any more information, or return the form below to the office at school.

My child _____ in _____ (class) is interested in learning to play:

Violin

'Cello

Keyboard,

Guitar

Brass (cornet, trombone, trumpet, euphonium),

Woodwind (flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, recorder, fife, saxophone)

I understand that there may be a waiting list for lessons and there will be a fee to pay for lessons unless I am eligible for a subsidy. I may need to hire an instrument for my child.

Signed: _____

Email address _____



CORNWALL MUSIC SERVICE TRUST

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~ CREATIVITY ~ EXCELLENCE ~ UNDERSTANDING ~ INCLUSIVITY ~ DIVERSITY ~



FROM BAROQUE TO BAND FACTORY,
RENAISSANCE TO REGGAE, CLASSICAL TO CREATIVE
IMPROVISATION,
OUR MUSIC LEADERS CAN TEACH IT ON THE
INSTRUMENT OF YOUR CHOICE

For more info or to sign up please visit www.cornwallmusicserVICetrust.org

PRICES FROM £15 PER
MONTH - CERTAIN
BENEFITS = REDUCED
COST OR FREE
LESSONS - 34
SESSIONS PER YEAR

Our highly trained, experienced music leaders

- teach in all styles
- incorporate the fundamental building blocks of music
- encourage improvisation and performance
- are safeguard trained and DBS checked
- deliver to the whole of Cornwall and beyond
- pride themselves on being diverse, inclusive and creative

Your School Nurse

Your child can have access to a School Nurse at any time if you have any health concerns, in addition your School Nurse offers a full health assessment in reception and year 6.

The School Nurse can check:

- Your child is growing healthily and support with healthy eating
- Support with access to dental care and general support for dental hygiene
- Help with day / night time wetting or soiling
- Provide information about immunisations
- Guidance re healthy lifestyles
- Support with general hygiene issues including head lice and worms
- Support with general emotional health issues
- Support to access other health professionals
- Routines, including sleep

Additionally in Year 6:

- Friendships
- Relationships
- Development, including periods and puberty
- Access to specialist services – including dietician, healthy weight programmes and voluntary services
- Developmental issues
- Transition to secondary school
- Healthy lifestyles



Referrals via the Early Help Hub
www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelp
Tel: 01872 322277
Client advice line: 01872 322779

 www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolnursing

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