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As we approach the end of another term at St. Mary's, we pause to reflect on the joy, hope, and sense of community that have been so evident in every aspect of school life. Our school vision, "You're never too young to make a difference," has shone brightly this term, as students, staff, and families have worked together to create a nurturing environment where every child can thrive and grow.

One of the highlights of the term was our Nativity play, where our youngest pupils reminded us of the true meaning of the season through their heartfelt performances. Their courage and enthusiasm were inspiring, and their efforts embodied the school values of joy and trust.

Our end-of-term church service brought the entire school community together in a moment of gratitude and reflection. The children's beautiful singing, thoughtful readings, and shared prayers demonstrated their compassion and friendship. It was a powerful reminder of the strength we find in coming together as a community.

This term, we also extended our hands beyond the school gates, engaging in initiatives that supported local causes and brought smiles to others. From our food bank drive linked to the Harvest Festival to the seasonal charity events, the children have embraced opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others, living out the value of hope in a meaningful way.

As we look ahead to the new year, we carry forward the memories of this term's events and the impact of our shared efforts. Together, we are shaping a school where every child feels valued, inspired, and empowered to play their part in changing the world for the better.

Thank you for being a part of the St. Mary's family and for supporting the vision that guides everything we do. We wish you all a restful and joyful holiday season.

With gratitude,
Louise Stevenson



You're never too young to make a difference.

1 Timothy 4:12

Christmas Support

We want to remind our families that you are not alone this Christmas. While it can be a joyful time, we understand it can also bring challenges for some. If you find yourself struggling, please know that our staff are here to support you.

Whether you need assistance with foodbank vouchers, a kind ear to listen, or any other form of support, we are here for you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us by emailing parents@st-marys-truro.cornwall.sch.uk, and one of our team will get back to you.

You are part of our St. Mary's community, and we are here to help. Alternatively, there are many groups and charities around the local area who will be able to offer support during the festive period and beyond.

Truro Homeless Action Group - Based at the Church Hall of St. John the Evangelist in Strangways Terrace, Truro.

No One Goes Hungry - Probus and Surrounding Area -
Nochildgoeshungryprobus@gmail.com

Citizens Advice Cornwall - 0808 812 7156

Samaritans of Cornwall at Truro - 116 123 free from any phone or 03300945717 (local call charges apply)

St. Mary's Staffing

We would like to express our biggest thanks to Mr. Jane for stepping in for Mr. Pritchard while he was on shared parental leave. Friendship Class and the wider school community will miss him very much and wish him all the best in his next adventure.



We also wanted to take a moment to confirm the staffing arrangements for the Spring term and beyond. As you know, Mrs. Spencer has also returned following her maternity leave and will be leading on SEND alongside Miss Vowles. Mrs. Spencer will be teaching in Joy Class on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with Ms. McNamara covering Mrs. Spencer's Leadership time on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Additionally, Miss Williams will be heading on an adventure in the new year. As part of her apprenticeship, she will be working at another school for four weeks and will return on 3rd February.



Community Links

Throughout this term, we have been so fortunate to link with our local community, invite parents to come into school, hold event days, welcome people from the community into school, and raise funds both for charities and the school. Some of the wonderful things we have been up to include our Harvest Festival, during which our families very generously donated cupboard items to give to Truro Foodbank.

We also welcomed volunteers from "Open The Book" to bring stories of the Bible to life with the help of our eager children. Additionally, we took part in the Run Pudsey Challenge for Children in Need and wore odd socks for the Anti-Bullying Alliance (we have been informed that there is a delay in getting the 2024 Run Pudsey medals out due to supplier issues. The children in Key Stage One acted in our Nativity play, "Christmas with the Aliens," which was a great success. As a result of your generous donations, we raised over £240, which will be used to purchase exciting resources for the school.

Friendship Class visited Kenwyn Care Home, where they spent time with the residents and sang some beautiful carols as well as much more. More information can be found on the class blogs on our website.

Thank you to everyone who helps us shape a wonderful community here at St. Mary's!

Thank You!



Lantern Making

This week in Hope Class, the children have been busy in DT making the shell structure for their Christmas lanterns. They used straws and masking tape to carefully construct the frames, following the designs they had created earlier using computer-aided design software. It was incredible to see their digital ideas come to life as 3D structures.

While building the lanterns, the children thought carefully about how to strengthen any weaker areas of their designs. This process required teamwork, problem-solving, and a great deal of perseverance. The shell structures are now complete and ready for the next exciting step: covering them with tissue paper to make them look aesthetically pleasing as festive Christmas lanterns.

Throughout the week, the children have worked on their lanterns to create beautiful masterpieces which they have taken home to display over the Christmas break. Well done, Hope Class they are fantastic!



Hospital Radio

This week, our children were recorded during a whole-school assembly as they joyfully sang carols, to be featured on CHBN's radio station. Some of the carols were from the Nativity, while others were from the carol concert held at Kenwyn Church earlier this week. This special recording will be featured on Steve Bailey's Christmas Show on Monday 23rd December, between 6pm - 8pm.

If you miss the live show, don't worry! You can listen again anytime via the 'listen again' link on the CHBN Radio homepage at www.chbnradio.org. CHBN Radio can be heard in Truro and the surrounding areas on 100.8FM or through the CHBN Radio app, available for download from both the App Store and Google Play. Alternatively, you can always listen online at www.chbnradio.org.



Donation Request

We are looking to see if any of our families have any roof felt they would be able to donate to the school so that we may re-felt our shed roofs. The roofs are showing signs of age, and the recent weather has not been kind!

If you have any roof felt you can donate, please contact the school office. Your support would be greatly appreciated!

Pupil Achievement

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news about Freddie! Last night, he won an award at Taekwondo for his lateral thinking and confidence in himself. This achievement reflects his hard work and determination, and we couldn't be prouder of how much he has grown.



Taekwondo is a wonderful activity for children as it helps develop important life skills such as discipline, focus, and resilience. It also encourages physical fitness, builds confidence, and teaches the importance of respect and teamwork. Freddie's success is a great example of how these qualities can shine through. Well done, Freddie - we can't wait to see what you achieve next!

Diary Dates

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January 2025	Christmas Break
Monday 6th January 2025	Inset Day
Tuesday 7th January 2025	Inset Day
Wednesday 8th January 2025	School Opens
Tuesday 21st January 2025	Parent Group - 2pm
Friday 7th February 2025	NSPCC Numbers Day
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term
Tuesday 11th March 2025	Parent Group - 2pm
Tuesday 1st April 2025	Easter Service at Kenwyn Church - 1.45pm
Monday 7th - Thursday 17th April 2025	Easter Break
Friday 18th April 2025	Good Friday Bank Holiday
Monday 21st April 2025	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
Monday 5th May 2025	May Bank Holiday
Monday 26th May 2025	Spring Bank Holiday



Reading Awards



This term, our wonderful readers have earned well-deserved Gold and Head Teacher awards, and we want to extend a huge congratulations to each and every one of you! Your hard work, dedication, and love for reading have truly shone through.

As we approach the end of the term, we're wiping the slate clean and getting ready to start fresh in the new term. So, keep up the fantastic reading, and let's make next term even more amazing!

Keep up the great work, everyone!

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

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|--------|------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Year R | Sunrise | Niamh Whitehouse | For always trying her best in everything she does |
| Year 1 | Joy | Jowan Pill | For being a kind and caring friend, considering and supporting the needs of others |
| Year 2 | Trust | Bee Aucott | For giving a super reading during our History of Communication Museum |
| Year 3 | Hope | Ruby Whaley | For being a superstar and stepping in last minute to read during our church rehearsal |
| Year 4 | Friendship | Reggie White | For concentrating and programming three sparkles on his crumble |
| Year 5 | Compassion | The Whole of Compassion Class | For exemplary behaviour and beautiful singing at the Christmas church service |
| Year 6 | Courage | Isaac Shirley and Ahdia Afshen | For having the confidence to stand in the pulpit and read excellently during our Christmas service this week |

TT Rockstars!

A big congratulations to our TT Rockstars of the Week! These top performers have been smashing their times tables with speed and accuracy. Well done to everyone for their hard work and dedication. Keep practising, and let's see who will rock the charts next week!

Hope Class

Sam

Ruby

Xymon

Friendship Class

Zane

Bethany

Lowenna

Compassion Class

Prisha

Isabella

Isla

Courage Class

Chad

Freddie

Well done, everyone! Keep practising!



Truro Nursery Community Pantry



Truro Nursery has recently set up a community pantry in their cloakroom, stocked with a variety of non-perishable food items and toiletries. The aim of this pantry is to support families in need within the local community, and they would love for as many people as possible to benefit from this resource.

If you or someone you know could make use of the pantry, please feel free to visit and help yourself. The

nursery is committed to providing support to those who need it most, and spreading the word is key to reaching as many families as possible.

Magic Light on BBC One

ROOM on the BROOM™ 23rd Dec 9:00am

THE GRUFFALO™ 23rd Dec 9:25am

STICK MAN™ 24th Dec 1:50pm

SUPERWORM™ 25th Dec 9:20am

THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD 25th Dec 9:50am

Tiddler™ 25th Dec 2:35pm

The Snail and the Whale 26th Dec 9:00am

ZOG™ 26th Dec 9:25am

The Smeds and The Smoos 26th Dec 1:20pm

ZOG™ and the FLYING DOCTORS 27th Dec 10:30am

The Highway Rat 27th Dec 10:55am

Tabby McTat™ 1st Jan 1:30pm

