

# COLLATON ST MARY C OF E (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Penny Millington

## MISSION STATEMENT

We are challenged to:

- See God in everyone
- Experience the Christian way of life together
- Be the best learners we can be

## NEWSLETTER 9 (School Year 2008/2009)

To visit Learning Platform Parents' Page go to [www.school-portal.co.uk](http://www.school-portal.co.uk) and follow link to Collaton-St-Mary.

## EDUCATION SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2009 AT 9:30 SCHOOL HALL



Each year the parish and school meet together to celebrate our distinctiveness and our school mission:

- To see God in everyone
- To experience the Christian way of life together
- To be the best learners we can be

The particular theme for this year is remembering that the world belongs to God and it provides an opportunity to reflect upon what that means for us.

**All our children and their families are warmly invited to share in our celebration and worship.**

## SPORT SUCCESS

Well done to our boys' football team who are enjoying success, currently at the top of the Small Schools' League. Our netballers have a number of fixtures arranged for the near future so watch this space. They played a very competitive game, drawing with Brixham in their last match.



## HOMEWORK QUESTIONNAIRE

The school is always looking at ways that it can improve its provision for children. To help us achieve this, from time to time, we consult with parents so that their feedback can be considered. This term, we are looking at the quality of our provision for learning and we would welcome your views on current arrangements for homework. Attached to this newsletter is a simple questionnaire and we would be grateful if you could spend a little time completing it and return it to the office by **FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**.

## PLEA FROM THE OFFICE

Please can we ask for the cooperation of all parents, to help the office staff with:

- The timely return of paperwork to the school office for consents, trips, reply slips etc. Staff are having to spend a considerable amount of time chasing these returns and payment for trips, sometimes as late as the day before the event itself.
- Orders for school dinners should be handed in by 9.00am on the Friday for meals required the following week.
- Please separate payments made by cheques into individual payments, eg two separate cheques if paying for a school trip and school dinners and not one cheque to cover everything. All paperwork and cheques should be sealed into an envelope, with the child's name and class on the front to avoid them becoming separated.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## AND FINALLY.....

Further to my comments in the last newsletter, there are still some children arriving on site and being left by parents unsupervised on the playground quite early in the morning. No children should be on the school site before 8.45am, unless attending Breakfast Club. Classroom doors open from 8.50am to enable children to enter and settle into class for the start of the school day and registration at 9.00am. Children should enter their classroom through the outer classroom door at the side of the building and not through the main entrance foyer. The office area only is accessible from 8.50am. Children arriving after 9.00am must be brought to the reception desk to be signed in by their parent.

Our school day ends at 3.15pm and children who are not attending a club should be collected promptly. There have been a number of instances recently where children have not been collected on time where siblings are attending a club and parents have been arriving later! We have spaces in our Breakfast and After School Clubs for any parents requiring these services.

If your child is attending one of our clubs (football/multi-skills, tag rugby, football and netball matches) please be mindful of the weather and in the event of heavy rain please contact the school from 2.45pm to check if the club has had to be cancelled.

Yours sincerely

Penny Millington  
Headteacher



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



29/01/09	Year 1 trip to Occombe Farm Football Match boys years 5/6 v Sacred Heart <i>now a HOME GAME</i> , 3.45pm kick off.
<b>01/02/09</b>	<b>Education Sunday</b> Service (combined with parish Family Service) 9.30am in the School Hall—all welcome.
02/02/09	3.45—5.00 Confirmation Prep Classes begin 1/14
05/02/09	Football Match Yrs 5/6 boys v. Tower House, away game at Clennon Valley Leisure Centre, 4.00pm kick off.
06/02/09	Football Match v. Brixham CE away game
09/02/09	Y3/4 IRC for Performing Arts Festival 6.00-9.45pm
10/02/09	Y5/6 Visit to Seashore Centre, Goodrington. Netball Match years 5/6 away game at Watcombe
11/02/09	Torquay United Football in Community 1st of 4 sessions 3.30—4.30pm
12/02/09	Y6 Samba Band at IRC Festival of Performing Arts 6.00-9.45pm
16/02/09	Half Term : school returns Monday 23rd February.
23/02/09	Alan slough Football, 3.30—4.30pm, 1st of 6 sessions till Easter Break.
02/03/09	PTFA Meeting at school, 7.30pm
09/03/09	Parent Consultations 1/2 early session
10/03/09	Football Match Yrs 5/6 boys home game v. St Margaret Clitheroe, 3.45pm
11/03/09	Parent Consultations 2/2 late session
21/03/09	PTFA Quiz Night
28/03/09	Swimming Gala at Brixham Pool (details to follow)
02/04/09	PTFA Disco
03/04/09	End of term

**HOMEWORK SURVEY - SPRING 2009**

Homework is intended to support your child's learning. It gives them the opportunity to practice new skills and learn new information independently or with support from you as needs be. It is always intended that homework is relevant and may often involve learning number facts, spellings or involve reading independently or to an adult. With our new curriculum, children may be given the opportunity to research areas they choose independently and in this way pursue their own interests with guidance. Children benefit enormously from a quiet time to enjoy reading and generally thrive on the interest parents show in what they are learning

The amount of homework and expectations vary depending upon the age and maturity of the children. Sometimes children get so involved in their own learning that they freely do more than expected. OFSTED recommends:

Foundation Stage	No more than 1 hr/week	Word work
		Some reading in Reception
Key Stage 1	1 hour and 30 mins/week	Reading, spelling and numeracy work
		Occasional assignments in other subjects
Key Stage 2	2.5 hours/week	Regular weekly schedule emphasis on
		Core subjects but with work over the wider curriculum

Could you please take some time to complete the survey below? We will be discussing homework as part of the school's continual drive to improve our curriculum and your views will help to inform any changes made. **Please return by FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

YEAR GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

	ALWAYS	USUALLY	SOME-TIMES	NEVER	NOT SURE
Homework helps my child's learning					
My child enjoys homework					
My child understands what's expected					
Homework tasks are clear so that I can help my child if he/she needs it					
I talk with my child about the homework he/she is doing					
Homework is a source of tension					
The amount of homework set is about right					
My child takes care and pride in completing homework to a high standard					