

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

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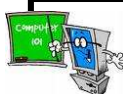


## MISSION STATEMENT

We are challenged to

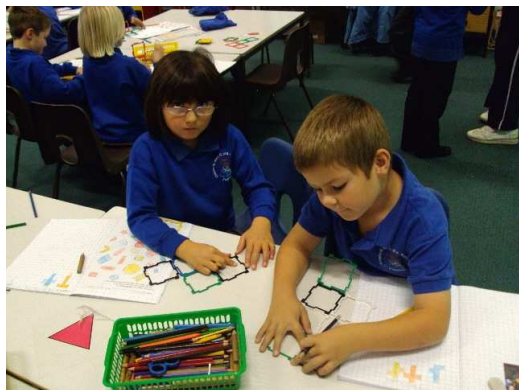
- See God in everyone
- Experience the Christian way of life together
- To be the best learners we can be

## NEWSLETTER 4 (School Year 2009/2010)



Mislaid a newsletter? Need to refer back? All newsletters are published on our learning platform. You can visit our Parents' Page by going to [www.school-portal.co.uk](http://www.school-portal.co.uk) and following the link to Collaton-St-Mary.

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope you and your children had a really good half-term break. There is much to look forward to this half of term as Christmas moves ever closer. Events and activities that are coming up are listed in the diary dates at the end of this newsletter. We hope you will be able to come along to our community events: Christmas Fayre, Christingle, Carols Around the Christmas Tree and all of the others to which you are cordially invited. The PTFA are currently busy planning the Christmas Fayre and welcome any help you can offer- more to follow; and KS1 children are beginning their nativity rehearsals.



### Problem Solving in Maths

Years 2, 3 and 4 have been working together on a joint Mathematical problem solving investigation. The children were set the question: How many different ways can you make and record a net of a cube? The children worked in pairs and used Polydron to make their cubes. They then recorded their findings in their book. The children enjoyed the challenge of seeing how many different ways they could make a net and it was lovely to see Year Groups supporting and learning from each other.

### Attendance News

Attendance is recognised as a key factor in a child's success at school and irregular attendance or sustained periods of absence can have a considerable impact upon a child's progress and social groups. We have made a really good start this year, with attendance for the first half of the Autumn Term at 97.6% which, by OFSTEDs criteria, is high! Our target for this year will be agreed with the local authority in the next few weeks.

### Holiday dates 2010 - 2011

Following the parent, staff, governor consultation about holiday dates; at the last full meeting of governors, holiday dates for 2010 - 2011 were agreed. After careful consideration, governors agreed to a change to the recent practice of appending the five non-pupil days to the autumn half-term break. The new arrangement allows for non-pupil days that are intended for professional development to be spread over the course of the year. The new dates are attached to this newsletter for your information.

### Values Project

As you probably know by now from your child's weekly class letter, over the course of this half of term, we will be looking at values as part of our enquiry 'Who am I?'. The aim is to find the five core values that our community considers most highly. As well as supporting your child as he/she explores this area, you will be invited to participate in the process through a questionnaire. There are more details on our learning platform homepage and a link to the National Society's Christian Values web site. [www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk](http://www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk)

### Hi 5 Netball Club



This club is thriving and has over 20 pupils from years 4, 5 and 6 attending each Tuesday after school. This is great to see and all the pupils are developing their knowledge and understanding of the game. The first game of the Wednesday league took place on the 4th November where we were host to Homelands Primary School. The game was a very close with end to end play which resulted in our team narrowly losing by 6-4. Well done to Joel (player of the match), Lewis, Alex, Emily, Orla, Alice, Bess and Mhari who played in the at game.

### Parking Reminder

The Parkers Arms car park is available at the beginning and end of the school day. Please do your bit to avoid congestion and hazards outside of school by parking there if you can and walking the remaining distance to school.



**Answer Phone** The school office has recently installed an answer phone. This will be in operation from 3.45pm each day until 8.30am the following day. There may also be times when the answer phone is in operation for the brief periods e.g. part of the lunch hour or at pressure points/meetings for the admin team. Please be reassured that your message will be dealt with promptly.



### Salsa Evening

To celebrate our Peruvian links, Churston Ferrers are organizing a salsa evening at their school on **20<sup>th</sup> November**. They have invited all primaries in the Humanities Partnership. Tickets on sale in the school office. Why not get a group together to learn to salsa, have some fun and support our links with other schools?

### Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to those who have generously supported Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoe box, your contributions are greatly appreciated.

#### Christmas Dinner

If your child would like a Christmas dinner please could you place your order before Friday 13th November

#### School Photographs

Please could you return your orders by Thursday 12th November for delivery of photos before the Christmas Holidays.

#### Colder Weather

As the weather is turning colder please could you ensure that your child wears a coat into school every day.



### School Disco

Thank you to our PTFA for organizing the recent school disco. Not only did the children have great fun, the event managed to raise £313 for school funds!



### Coffee in the Community Room

Avoid the cold and wet weather and join us for a coffee and a chat every Friday morning from 9.00am - 10.00am in the Community Room all welcome.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **Children in Need — Friday 20th November NON UNIFORM DAY (50P DONATION RECOMMENDED)**
- Christingle Services — Tuesday 24th November—KS1 9.15am—KS2 2.15pm
- Christmas Fayre — Friday 4th December
- KS1 Christmas Play — Tuesday 8th December and Thursday 10th December 2.15pm
- Eucharist Service — Wednesday 9th December at 2.15pm in the school hall
- KS1 Christmas Dinner — Tuesday 15th December
- KS2 Christmas Dinner — Wednesday 16th December
- KS1 Christmas Party — Wednesday 16th December 2pm
- KS2 Christmas Party — Thursday 17th December 2pm
- Term ends — Friday 18th December
- Carols around the Christmas Tree — Sunday 20th December in the church