



# St Hilary School Newsletter

"The Best we can be"

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Tel. 763324, [www.st-hilary.eschools.co.uk](http://www.st-hilary.eschools.co.uk)

## **MUST TRY HARDER!!!**

Marking and feedback in schools definitely looks a little different from the many moons ago when I was sat in front of my teachers: the days of scrawled red pen shouting at me from the page "MUST TRY HARDER" are thankfully long gone!

That said, as a school we consistently strive to improve the teaching and learning opportunities for our children. Recently this has led to us reviewing our marking and feedback policy. While the old policy had been successful, we felt it was time to respond to current educational thinking and recommendations to ensure policies work as well as possible for children and teachers alike.

To guide the revision process we consulted as a staff team, considered recent research, engaged in discussions with our local colleagues, and (some of the younger, more with-it teachers) even consulted a place known as 'Twitter', which apparently is where teacher-chat is at its most potent!

The consensus from this work suggests that in recent years teachers' time and workload has been increasingly dominated by hours spent in-depth marking, despite the fact there is little evidence it significantly impacts upon learning. In fact it seems it is quite the contrary, as the downsides of this approach, for children and teachers are well documented. A few examples of these include:

- If workload is dominated by marking, time available to assess progress and respond accordingly in planning diminishes;
- If overly detailed marking is provided, it can often be confusing and overwhelming for children, or even provide too much support – taking away suitable challenge and the need for independent development from the children;
- If teachers continually face a battle against an ever-increasing marking-mountain it is extremely demoralizing and demotivating;
- If there is an expectation that marking should be a lengthy written response, it becomes hard or impossible to consistently manage giving timely feedback – which seems daft when we know the best feedback is either immediate or follows soon after the work has been done!

Based on this, we have created a policy to help teachers maintain a healthy work-life balance, while still providing high quality, purposeful feedback to guide the children's progress. When teachers work within the guidelines of this policy, the children might notice the following changes to how they receive feedback:

**More whole class feedback** – especially with extended writing tasks;

**Less detailed written marking** – both in terms of the amount written and the frequency with which it is written;

**Clear and definite assessment against the lesson's Learning Intentions (LIs).**

Self-assessment – the children assess whether or not they have achieved the LI;

Teacher-assessment – in the core subjects, the teacher or teaching assistant will clearly indicate one of three things:  
the child has met the LI, the child needs further practice to achieve the LI, or the child will be given further adult help to progress towards the LI.

**Increased quality of 'Live Feedback'** – immediate oral feedback from adults in lessons to challenge, support, motivate and create positive independent learning.

We believe that the new policy will make our marking and feedback more:

**MEANINGFUL** - timely, high-quality feedback for children, which drives ongoing assessment to guide planning for next steps and support;

**MANAGEABLE** – brief and clear for the children, while helping our dedicated team achieve a healthier and fairer work/life balance; and finally,

**MOTIVATING** – helping children progress and enabling teachers more time do what they enjoy most – planning and delivering the highest quality learning opportunities and seeing children thrive.

As ever, our motivation for change is always the quality of provision the children at St Hilary receive and we feel confident our new approach to marking and feedback will only help to improve this!

Best regards Rob Hamshar and the St Hilary team.



## Fabulous Full-Markers

Accelerated Reader

### Prussia Cove

Azalia A

### Gwenver

Millie L  
Jenna W  
Ruby S  
Amelia A  
Elisha E  
Ruby T  
Jack L  
Archie J  
Flo P

### Kynance Cove

Poppy M  
Mazey H  
Daniel D  
Ella C  
Isabella R  
Woodie J-B

### Perran

Cecily W  
Violet S

### Porthcurno

Eloise B  
Raffy M  
Loveday McM  
Cohen R  
Ada W

### Sennen

Penny P  
Tegan C  
Caiden M  
Stanley M  
Tallula D

### Gwithian

William McA  
Rosie K  
Daisy L  
Woody S  
Emily K-B  
Grace E  
Gus H  
Freddie C

### Lamorna

Isla F  
Alice L

## Class Attendance

This week's attendance hot spot goes to Sennen with 98.6% Well done all.



## Star Writers

This week's 'Star Writers' were awarded with their special stickers in this morning's assembly! Check out their amazing writing on our writing display in the main school corridor.

Prussia Cove - Coby M  
Porthcurno - Oliver C  
Gwithian - Tilly-Rose S  
Lamorna - Sam B

Huge well done children - keep up the fantastic writing! Miss J :-)

## CLASS CERTIFICATES WEEK ENDING 17TH JANUARY 2020

|              |   |                        |
|--------------|---|------------------------|
| Perran       | - | Erin G & Arthur C      |
| Prussia Cove | - | Warwick M & Oliver D   |
| Porthcurno   | - | Tressa A & Oliver R    |
| Sennen       | - | Ben F                  |
| Kynance Cove | - | Ella C & Poppy M       |
| Gwithian     | - | Rosie K & Isabella P   |
| Gwenver      | - | Savannah G-W & Jenna W |
| Lamorna      | - | Sonny M & Millie K     |

## MATHS SHED

Mathstronaut - Bella C  
Top Class - Sennen



## SPELLING SHED

Speller of the Week - Stella R  
Top Class - Sennen



## This Week's Hot Chocolate Friday Winners!

**Stella R** was nominated by Mrs Osmand because she is so polite "all" of the time and has the best smile.

**Isla F** was nominated by Mrs Reeves because she has worked hard at her reading and made good progress.

**Oliver R** was nominated by Mrs Gardner because he opened the door and asked how she was every time she saw him - what a gentleman.

**Haiden S** was nominated by Mr Wright because he is a lovely polite young man.

**Emily M** was nominated by Mrs Bettens because she has taken the young children under her wing!!

**Sophie S** was nominated by Mrs Greygoose because she is always smiling, polite, helpful and happy to stop for a chat.

**Lilla P** was nominated by Mrs Davies because she is working so hard in drama club.

**Archie B** was nominated by Mrs Cane because he is always such a gentleman by holding the door open for myself and all the reception children and always with a smile. Thank you Archie.

**Oscar P** was nominated by Mrs Ellis because he always demonstrates impeccable manners and the core values of rugby.



## World Book Day 2020

How does World Book Day come around so quickly? Last year's Little Miss and Mr Men theme for the staff seems like yesterday!



As yet, plans for this year have not been completely confirmed, but I wanted to flag a few things for you in preparation.

Firstly, this year's aim for WBD is to 'share a million stories' across the UK. You can take part in this by registering using the link below and recording how many stories you share throughout the month. We'll be encouraging the children to do this at school, but it would be fab to keep it going at home as well!

<https://www.worldbookday.com/share-a-million-stories/register/>

### Book Fair

This year's Book Fair will be open in school between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> of February; we'll update you with exact dates and times nearer the time. Each child will have a £1 WBD voucher to use and there are lots of ways for you to order your books even if you can't attend.

Many thanks in advance.

Miss Jelbert

### **FUNZONE**

Please could any parents who wish to book their child(ren) in to Funzone do this via the school office and not in the planners or via class teachers. Also if you have booked your child(ren) in and then find you are able to collect or have someone else collect at the normal time, please ring and cancel the booking to free up the space for other parents.

Thank you.

### **SCHOOL MEALS 5 FOR 4**

Chartwells, our school meal providers, are continuing with their promotion that if your child has 4 meals Monday to Thursday, then the 5th meal is free.

# CHINESE NEW YEAR

MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020

Sweet & Sour Chicken

Chinese Veggie Rice

Stir Fried Noodles &  
Wok Tossed Vegetables

Mango Fro Yo



2020 Year of the Rat

Children receive lucky money in red envelopes

The Chinese decorate everything red during New Year

'Gong Xi Fa Cai' means 'Have a prosperous new year'  
(try to pronounce it as Gong-she-faa-tsai)

