

Welcome back. You should receive this Newsletter whilst I, Miss Kelsall, Mrs Spinks, Mrs Grabiec and Mrs Lawless are sunning ourselves in sunny St Austell!! with 36 year 4 and 5 pupils. We trust everyone had a good Easter break. We look forward to the final third of this academic year and the normal busy summer term programme. This will be supplemented this year with a special celebration day for the children on May 24<sup>th</sup> to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Clearly for her family the Easter period was saddened by the loss of the Queen Mother. As a family we will keep them in our prayers along with Elsie Atkins, the long serving Parish Secretary at St Andrew's, who too passed away at the end of last term. May they rest in peace.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS MCGILLYCUDDY**

Many of the staff and I were privileged to be present at the marriage of Miss McGillycuddy to Dr Michael Smith on Easter Sunday. We wish them every future health and happiness together. She, like the staff in the opening paragraph of this Newsletter, will be back at St James the Great on Monday next.

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**MANY TALENTS**

The parable of the talents struck home to me at our end of term assembly last term. Your children came forward to receive a range of certificates and awards too numerous to mention individually but including: Cross Country, Netball, Swimming, French, etc. In addition children who took part in the Music Festival sang to bring the assembly to a close with a reminder as to the real meaning of Easter. My congratulations to all of our pupils. I am hopeful you will get a sense of all this if you join us for our Easter Assembly on **FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT 2.15 PM.** All are welcome.

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**200 CLUB**

Congratulations to the winners of the two recent draws which took place at the end of term assembly. The winners were:-

<b>Prize</b>	<b>Draw 1</b>	<b>Draw 2</b>
£150	Mrs Afam	Mr and Mrs Lopeman
£50	Mrs Faircloth	Ms Nunn
£20	Mrs Barrington	Mrs Marchant
£20	Mrs Goldsmith	Mrs John
£20	Mrs Munroe-Nedd	Mrs Turner
£20	Mrs Willis	Mrs Dolan

The children enjoy the excitement of these draws which generate a significant regular income for the school via the Friends Association. It is a good opportunity for those who are unable to directly support

events to participate. If you are not currently a member please consider joining (see attached details) or if you are please consider recruiting an additional family friend or relative to join!! The odds of winning are not at all bad – so I am reliably informed!!

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**SUMMER TERM PROGRAMME**

We will be issuing a separate date list covering this term within the next 7 to 14 days. Please join us for as many of the events as you can.

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**WATCH THIS SPACE – EARLY NOTIFICATION**

**a) COMMUNITY USE – KITEMARK AWARD**

The local authority has advised me that St James the Great School is to receive a kitemark award for the current strong community element allowing use of our school premises. I would record my appreciation to all who make this possible not least our Premises and catering staff and the teaching staff who work their programmes around some of the external users.

b) **DfES APPROVAL** has been received to enable us to proceed with proposals to develop a curriculum cooking area in our Nursery. This will entail some small-scale building works to provide our Nursery with some much needed additional teaching space. I would also record our thanks to the local authority for agreeing a financial contribution to the project in order to meet their liabilities. It is hoped these works will be completed in time for next September’s intake. I will keep parents advised accordingly.

**c) NOF FUNDING FOR SPORT**

Many parents will have noticed Mrs Berkeley-Agyepong and myself looking around the external site with a group of clipboard carrying visitors at the end of the school day on Tuesday of the last week of last term. This group included Croydon’s PE Inspector whose visit had been pre-empted by the school’s four submissions for inclusion in Croydon Sports Development Programme following allocation to Croydon of some 2¼ million pounds under the above scheme. Whilst they are intending to support some large secondary bids, there was cautious optimism that one of our bids for enhanced Netball facilities which could include resurfacing of our infant playground and extension of the current hard play area for juniors may well reach the final list. We will await further developments.

**d) LOTTERY FUNDING**

Our application to this fund to deal with the drainage issues on the football field and possible adult changing facilities is soon to be lodged. As in (c) we will keep trying.

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**CHANGE OF DATE**

Please note the date for Class 5.2’s Mass has had to be changed as Fr Michael will be away on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. It will now be held at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.