



2017-2018

Number 24

20 March 2018

An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

Dear Parents

Thank you again for your understanding with yesterday's return to winter. I think we made the right call, although I am sorry that for some reason there was quite a gap between my reporting the late opening and the county adding it to their website (in the end I think I got on their nerves by sending it four times!). Pirate FM posted straight away and it was on our website by 07:50, so please do refer to these (it is very difficult to man the phones for individual calls when trying to put out general messages to everyone). Having made the decision to open, the afternoon session has to be included in attendance figures so whilst the morning can be recorded as only partially open, I am unable to authorise absences for those who stayed home to enjoy the snow for the afternoon.



Various different sports activities are taking place this week and I'm sure you've noticed the instrument of torture in the hall for staff who are taking part in the static cycling event to 'cycle the

Cornish coast'. Don't forget to **"WEAR YOUR SPORTS KIT TO SCHOOL" on Friday** and bring

£1 donation for the charity. Thank you. Well done to Lilia who finished 28/49 in the Cornwall X-Country final.

Home Learning – Reading and the School Library

As I've mentioned previously, following our Instead Review, a plan to revise our home learning statement to help parents and pupils understand clear expectations and encourage children to take appropriate personal responsibility is being finalised. Whilst there is no intention or desire to increase formal 'homework' tasks, there is a need to maintain a commitment to supporting *Reading* out of school – in some cases there is a clear need to revitalise regular reading at home and it is important that everyone sets aside time on a daily basis. The teaching staff are currently putting together a framework of appropriate expectations which, addressing the straightforward question *why can't I skip my 20 minutes of reading tonight?* will be with you straight after Easter, along with some firmed up ideas for using the red Exploring Reading books. We're eager that this special Reading Newsletter has a big and lasting impact as staff are acutely aware that with so many other activities and time pressures some children's progress would benefit from a little more focus to this core skill.

The parliament learning group will also have a questionnaire about wider aspects of home learning but it is an inescapable fact that Reading will always lie at the heart of supporting children at home with their learning in class. Like anything practice makes perfect – but essentially increased fluency and success also massively affects enjoyment and that, after all is our chief, objective. Please look out for the Reading Newsletter and pin it up at home!

We will also be seeking some enthusiastic support for helping to put together an ambitious fund raising event to help us improve the Library so that the way that we value literature is made very explicit to everyone, at the heart of the school.

Rogansier

Packet Points						
Last Week				Total		
1 st	Chichester	29	7	1 st	Swiftsure	47
2 nd	Pelham	26	5	2 nd	Walsingham	39
3 rd	Freeling	24	4	3 rd	Chichester	33
	Walsingham	24	4	4 th	Pelham	29
5 th	Swiftsure	23	2	5 th	Freeling	24
6 th	Fox	20	1	6 th	Fox	21

<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>

