

Kennall Vale School
 Ponsanooth, Cornwall TR3 7HY
 Headteacher ~ Mrs Louise Northern
 Tel/Fax: 01872 863672
e-mail: secretary@kennall-vale.cornwall.sch.uk
website: www.kennall-vale.cornwall.sch.uk

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Newsletter

Dear Families,

The stage has gone up, it is dark outside when we leave school and Christmas is almost upon us! Exciting for the children, slightly panicky for us. We are madly preparing the children for their various productions, my secretary is nowhere to be seen because she is singing in classrooms with groups of children and TA's are fretting about costumes! All that said, there is a real buzz around school. Please note dates and times of performances. There will be a raffle – so please, please send in Christmas hamper donations – bottles are good! (These need to be brought in by adults!) The raffle is traditionally drawn once the performances are over. **Raffle tickets will be attached to hard copies of this newsletter.**

Congratulations....

To both Thomas Dormer and Abi Rice for achieving the **Courtesy Cup**. Well done to Florrie, (Piskies), Elliott, (Cormoran), Thomas (Morgawr) and Tallulah (Bedruthan) all of whom were chosen by Carol and Mandy, in the kitchen, to join me on the Captain's Table last Friday. Lily (Piskies), Bessie (Cormoran), Thomas (Morgawr) and Tom (Bedruthan) joined me the previous week. Well done to Lizzie and Isabelle from Cormoran for their gymnastics achievements

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you so much to you all for taking the time to fill shoe boxes for distribution to children who are disadvantaged. The boxes were collected on Friday and will be sent to some of the most needy children internationally. We have been given a certificate which is on display in the school foyer.



Phonics and new books.....

You will be aware, particularly parents of younger children, that we now teach reading through phonics and that there are very specific phases that children need to work through. The expectation is that by the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) most pupils will have completed all 6 phases and should be ready to read books that are not so phonically aligned. For some pupils however, they need further support in order to strengthen their reading skills. Reading underpins everything we do in school and it is vital that our children learn to read competently and confidently. To that end, we have carried out a full audit of our reading books and decided that, in order to ensure our children are taught to read using high quality materials, I have allocated £5,000 to reading books. This means that from reception onwards your child will have access to the very best reading materials which should



accelerate their progress and support both writing and spelling. I hope to launch these books before Christmas and will keep you informed.

Rapid Response

This is a new initiative and has proved a highly successful strategy in responding to pupils who are having difficulty in grasping a new concept. It works for all children because it is brief, intensive and immediate. Specifically, the way in which this works is as follows: Through marking and working alongside children in class, it becomes apparent when a child is struggling. This is indicated in their book and during the afternoon a teacher or teaching assistant will address the issue. It typically takes only about 10 minutes and is inclusive in that most children, of all abilities, receive this intervention. This has enabled pupils to make accelerated progress and has the benefit of ensuring no child slips through the net with any aspect of learning he or she may find difficult.

Attendance Bear

In an attempt to improve attendance and, in particular, to focus on punctuality, each month I look at the class with the highest rate of attendance and that class will host our new Attendance Bear! For the month of October Piskies class will be hosting the bear. It really does appear to be an incentive and I thank parents and families for ensuring their children do arrive on time, it makes such a difference to the beginning of their day and sets them up well to feel confident and enthusiastic.

Nuts

There has recently been some discussion about whether pupils can bring nuts into school as part of their packed lunch. They can have a devastating effect on any pupil with a serious nut allergy. However, having looked at this carefully, there is no reason, at present why nuts cannot be consumed in school. They are nutritious and an excellent source of energy. I would ask though, that you speak with your children about **NOT** sharing foods from packed lunches. We do have pupils with allergies but they won't come to harm unless they actually eat nuts. If this should change the policy will have to change and I will notify you.



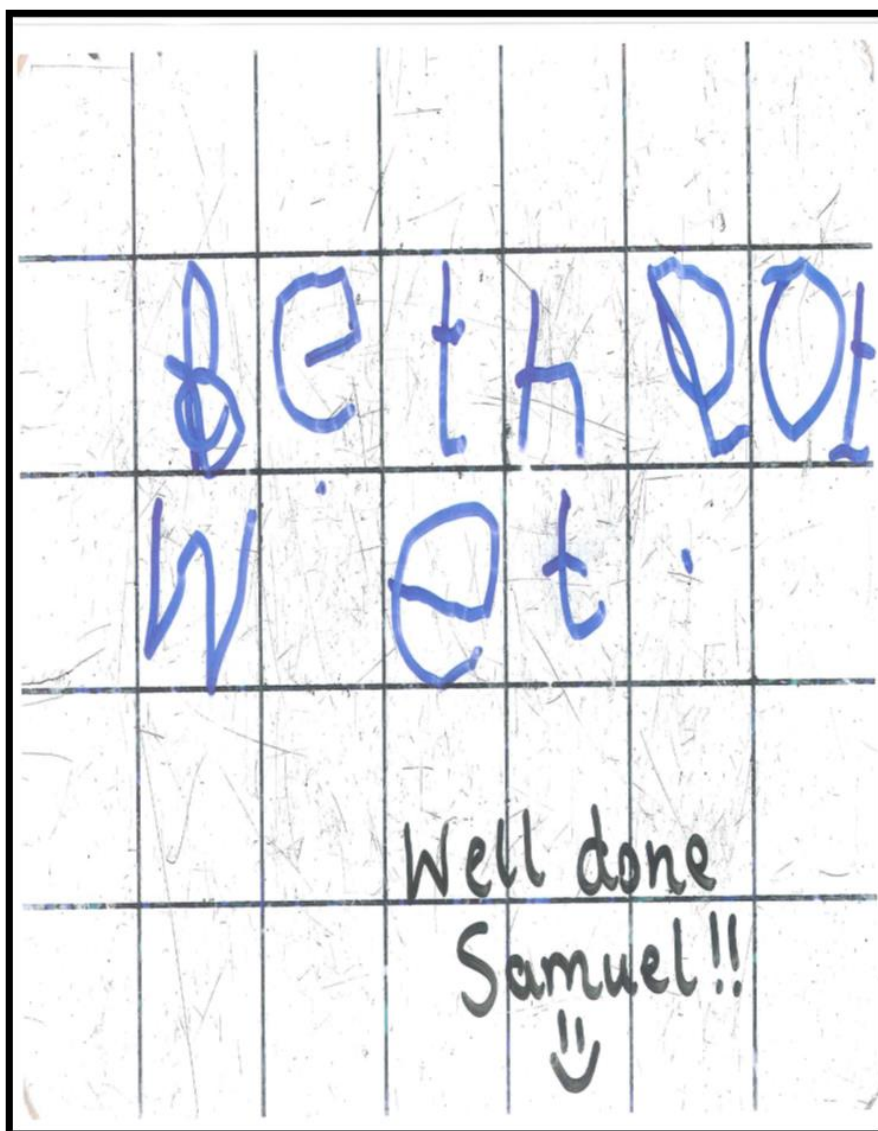
Dates for your diary

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Class</i>
<i>Piskies Class Assembly</i>	<i>20th November</i>	<i>Piskies</i>
<i>Bedruthan Class Assembly</i>	<i>27th November</i>	<i>Bedruthan</i>
<i>City of Lights: Truro</i>	<i>Wed 18th November</i>	<i>Bedruthan</i>
<i>Piskies Christmas Play</i>	<i>Mon 7th Dec at 1.30pm</i>	
<i>Cormoran Christmas Play</i>	<i>Tuesday 8th Dec at 1.30pm</i>	
<i>Morgawr Christmas Play</i>	<i>Wednesday 9th Dec at 1.30pm</i>	
<i>Bedruthan Christmas Production</i>	<i>Thursday 10th Dec at 6.15pm</i>	
<i>Christmas Shopping Day and Santa's Grotto</i>	<i>Mon 14th Dec – all afternoon in the school hall</i>	
<i>Christmas Lunch</i>	<i>Wed 16th Dec</i>	
<i>Class Christmas Parties</i>	<i>Wed 16th Dec – all afternoon</i>	
<i>Break up for Christmas</i>	<i>Friday 18th Dec</i>	
<i>Return to School</i>	<i>Monday 4th January 2016!</i>	

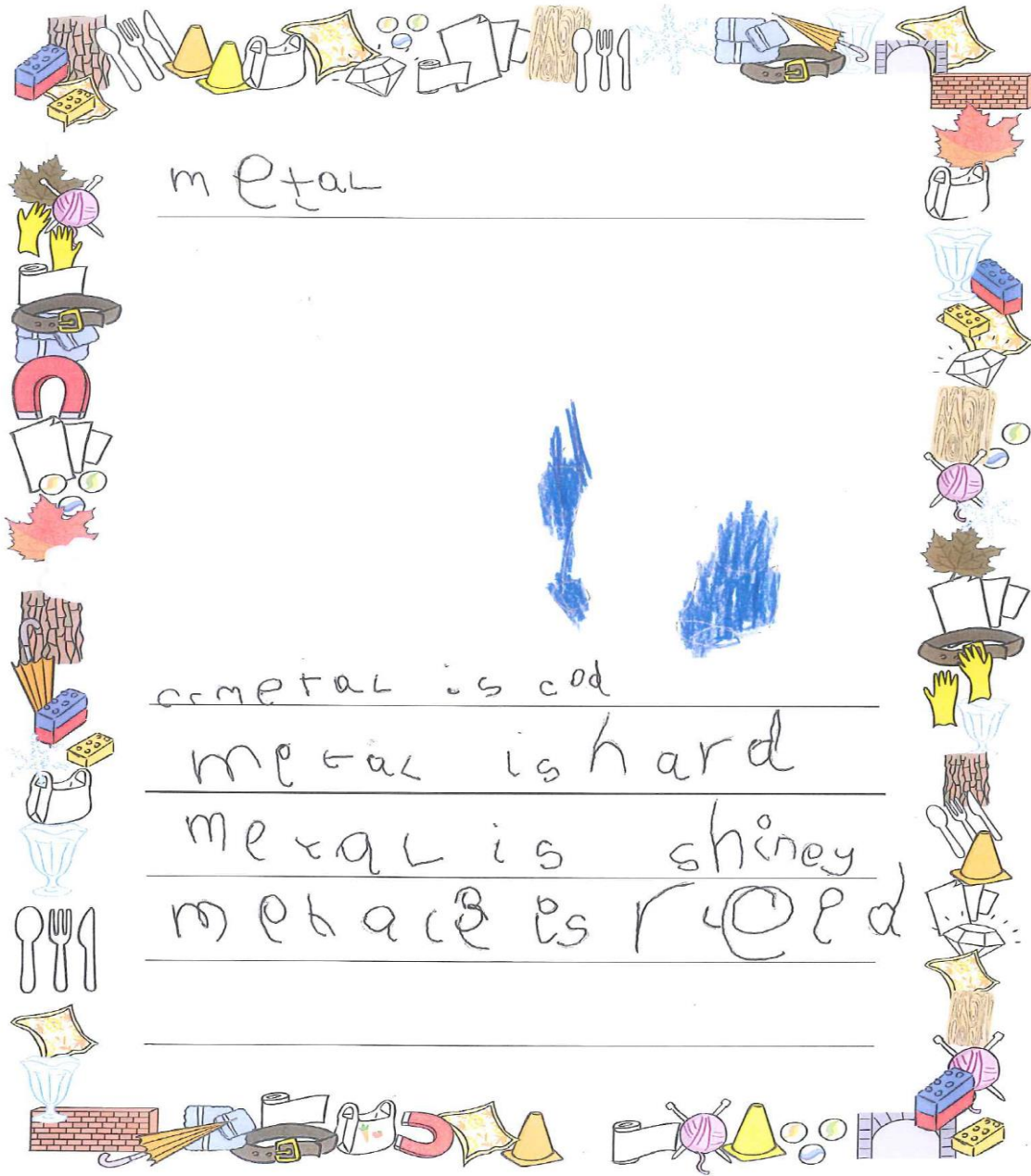
And finally.....

Over to the
children.....

Miss Wright and Miss Gardner were really proud of Samuel for producing this writing all by himself. Well done Samuel – you are clever! I wonder how Beth got wet?



Miss Powell came to see me yesterday to ask if this beautiful piece of writing from Dylan in Cormoran could be included in the newsletter. Dylan has been working so hard on his writing and has made wonderful progress. We are all very proud of you Dylan!



Kind regards,

Louise Northern

