



AUTUMN TERM 2017

THE ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

A Word from the Chair

Dear Parents and Carers,

The role of the governors is to support the staff in delivering the best education and learning opportunities for your children. This has been a very successful year for our school and we are proud to share some of the recent improvements with you. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Roberts, all the teachers and teaching assistants for their commitment and enthusiasm for every pupil in our school. We would also like to acknowledge the effective work our staff do in preparing the older pupils for the transition to secondary education. Also sincere thanks to the support of The Friends of St Francis for their fundraising activities. The school continues to maintain its essential links with the church and parish. There are regular class-led Sunday Masses, whole school Mass at the beginning and end of every term and on Holy Days. The sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were administered by the Bishop of Menevia during the summer term. The governing body of St Francis looks forward to continuing its partnership with all the families and staff during the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

David Burgoyne - Chair of Governors

NAME	STATUS	TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES
Mr D. Burgoyne	Chair	May 2021
Mrs J. Cole	Vice-Chair	July 2021
Mr M. Blockwell	Additional Community Governor	December 2017
Mrs J. McGuiness	Foundation Governor	October 2020
Father Paul Osuniyikanmi	Foundation Governor	November 2020
Mrs C. Bowen	Foundation Governor	February 2018
Miss C. Council	Foundation Governor	June 2020
Mr N. Turpin	Foundation Governor	July 2020
Mr R. Colwill	Parent Governor	Feb 2018
Mrs L. Williams	Teacher Representative	Jan 2018
Mrs B. Baker	Staff Representative	November 2020

Staffing

Miss Davies has now be appointed in the role of class teacher in Caldey Class. Miss Davies successfully completed the Welsh Government's Graduate Teacher Programme. Mrs Pook who is a regular volunteer here has joined us as a midday supervisor. We are always very grateful to the volunteers who come into school to help out in a variety of ways; your time is very much appreciated.

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (The Act) removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them.

Action taken by the Governing Body/School as a result of resolutions from the last AGPM

Last year was the second year that parents have the right to request up to three meetings a year. No meetings were requested.

New Ventures

- *We continue to maintain our positive reputation in the teaching and learning of Welsh. We were the first primary school within the three counties of Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire to be awarded the Silver Welsh Language Charter. We are currently working on our Gold award. Miss Mansfield continues to share her expertise with other schools and works closely with the Welsh advisory teacher. Our status as Professional Learning School has seen us host a number of visits and provide considerable amount of support to other schools. The support and hard work of Y Cyngor Cymraeg has been instrumental to the success of this venture. Diolch Miss Mansfield!*
- *Our new Nursery opened in September 2017 and we currently have ten pupils on role with more starting after Christmas and even more after Easter. A grand open day was held in the summer term which was attended by representatives from the local Authority, Diocese of Menevia, Milford Haven Town Council and, of course, our new parents and pupils. The Head Boy and Girl were involved in the design of the new uniform. Mrs Arnopp-Rees and Mrs Horn have had a very busy first term and are looking forward to welcoming the new pupils in the New Year. After Christmas we will be running two sessions, mornings and afternoons. It is still a legal requirement of parents to formally apply for a place in our Reception class. This can be done online and information has been sent to the relevant parents.*

School Ambassadors

This term we have elected two new Super Ambassadors – Mason Dolling and Amelia Allen (also known as Head Boy & Head Girl) They will work on projects within school that enable all the pupils to know more about the Children's Commissioner for Wales, what she does and how to get in touch with her office; letting children, teachers and parents know about children's rights and the UNCRC, and undertaking projects for the Commissioner. The Faith Ambassadors – Rhys Jenkins and Jack Bowen - will share the half-termly Gospel Value with the children in assemblies, introduce the Prayer of the Month and lead the classes in the parish liturgy. Our new Sports Ambassadors Mason Dolling, Ethan Dawes, Cian Davenport and Ollie Holman. They have been involved in helping to lead Foundation Phase lunchtime fitness sessions.

Amelia & Mason with Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner



Significant Visits and Visitors

- We continue to be supported well by our local community services. We receive regular visits from our PCSOs Jess and Bethan and WPC Jenny Thomas. The Fire Brigade visit frequently to raise fire safety awareness. The annual trip to Crucial Crew always goes down well with the pupils who enjoy experiencing first-hand the role of our local emergency services and support agencies such as e-safety.
- The trips to the Urdd centres in Llangrannog and Cardiff have proved very successful and have certainly enhanced the provision for cultural and adventurous activities. These are always very popular with the pupils and as well as cultural and academic advantages it also gives them the opportunity to interact with each other on a social level.
- Our boys' reading club continues to be very successful and has had a positive effect on the attitude of boys towards reading. The visiting soldiers are always very impressed by the children's reading ability and their high standards of behaviour.
- Our Young Ambassadors attended a conference with the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Sally Holland. This was held at Trinity St David's University in Carmarthen in September and was well attended by schools in West Wales. The focus of the conference was children's rights and the pupils undertook a range of different activities to highlight these. They were then tasked with sharing them with peers on their return to school.

Designed to Smile is a national Oral Health Improvement programme to improve the dental health of children in Wales. It is funded by the Welsh Government and was initially launched on the 30th January 2009. This involves the delivery of school based tooth brushing programmes for children aged 3-7 helping establish good habits early on. Children aged 6-11 will receive a fissure sealant programme as well as preventative advice on how to look after their oral health. Pupils in Starfish and Dolphin classes brush their teeth twice daily. The project co-ordinator, Tara Gover, visits us regularly to monitor the children's brushing techniques and answer any questions that the staff may have.



ATTENDANCE

We remain diligent in working towards the local Authority's target of 95%, and although we reach it frequently, as you can see in the weekly newsletter, when averaged out over the year we fall short. Our attendance for the year 2016/17 was 94.2%. Pupils being taken on holiday during term time are now mostly recorded as unauthorised. We hope that you can arrange your holidays around the existing 175 days the schools are closed through weekends and school holidays and help us support your child in achieving success in school. From January 2016 legislation has meant that parents will be fined when their child's attendance falls below a certain percentage. This applies to all pupils. The fines have been confirmed as being £60 per child. However, where attendance is particularly poor this fine can be as much as £1000. Fixed penalty notices will be enforced where attendance falls below 90% with the inclusion of ten or more unauthorised sessions.



Funding

We were fortunate enough to be successful with our application for a community grant in the summer term. The £1000 awarded will help towards the purchase of new ICT equipment for use in all classes. We were also successful, once again, in the annual LNG calendar competition and won the opportunity to have a nature area created by the National Park ranger along with £200 to spend with the RSPB. This has really enhanced the outdoor area at the back of the school and will become a natural home for wildlife as it becomes more established. We are always grateful for the work done by Mrs Harding and the gardening club in keeping our gardens looking so attractive. We continue to be well supported by the Friends and their fundraising activities. They help to pay for classroom equipment and help out with the cost of the Torch Theatre trip every year.



This year on June 25th we celebrated both First Holy Communion and Confirmation with our pupils in the parish church. These two sacraments were administered by



Bishop Tom Burns, Bishop of Menevia.

RESULTS

Our end of phase results were once again very pleasing this year. In fact, they were our best yet in many areas. Every school is obliged to publish these during this term, so the information is publically available for all parents to see. We achieved 100% success at the end of Key Stage 2 and 93.8% at the end of Foundation Phase. Our pupils worked hard to attain at higher levels too.

Copies of the Full Governors' Report to Parents is available from the school office; please feel free to ask for a copy if required.

THANK YOU!

- To the Friends of St Francis whose tremendous fund-raising efforts have, since last year's report, contributed to the cost of the pantomime trip, purchase of outdoor equipment and classroom resources. As well as raising so much money for all of these, and the School Building Fund, they have provided some really enjoyable events for the children and parents alike. I think our Christmas market is well and truly on Milford's social calendar!
- To all of our volunteers who have made such a difference to school life; you are very valued and greatly appreciated.
- To our Challenge Adviser, Sian Rowles, who has both supported and challenged us over the year in terms of pupil outcomes and staff performance. Her sterling advice has helped us to move on in a positive way.
- To all who continue to support concerts, Masses, school trips and all of our fund-raising events.
- To Father Paul who welcomes us at Thursday morning Mass and supports our school's religious life.
- To the wonderful staff who have worked very hard to ensure that all of your children receive the very best possible education, and who put in long hours both at home and school.
- To all of our children whose enjoyment in all they do is very evident.

Thank you all; we're very grateful!



Some of 2016/17 charity fundraising.

