**Trythall CP School**

New Mill, Penzance

Cornwall. TR20 8XR

🕿 (01736) 362021

email: secretary@trythall.cornwall.sch.uk



7.1.16

**Dear Parents**

**A very happy new year to you all from all the staff at Trythall. We hope you had a great Christmas.**

**Asthma – Important Changes**

The school will hold emergency inhalers in the office but you need to fill in the new updated forms to enable us to do this. We would therefore be grateful if **all** parents of children who need inhalers could collect the appropriate paperwork from the office and complete it as soon as possible.

**New Curriculum Assessment**

Along with the changes in the curriculum, the STA (Standards and Testing Authority) has changed the way in which schools make assessments of children. Children are assessed in three bands: working towards the expected standard; working at the expected standard; working at greater depth than the expected standard. Children cannot move to a new band unless they have completed **all** the requirements of the current band. This is significant because there is now a greater emphasis for spelling and handwriting in primary schools.

For example, if a child writes exceptionally well but has weaker handwriting or spelling skills they cannot be judged as working at the higher level.

 **Class 1 maths**

We have changed the routine for maths teaching in Class 1. The class will now be split between myself and Fiona for maths sessions. This will reduce the size of the maths groups and help us to ensure that all children have a level of challenge that meets their mathematical ability.

**Trainee Teacher**

I would like to welcome Jo Pipkin to Trythall, who is working as a trainee teacher in Class 2.

**Rabbits**

Betty, our fun-loving rabbit, has returned with a litter of five kits. They will live in the new rabbit area which is near the chicken house. Children should only go into this area when accompanied by a member of school staff.

**Bad Weather procedures: a reminder**

Just a note to remind you of our procedures should we have severe weather. In the event of the school having to close, the information will be broadcast on Radio Cornwall and Pirate FM. **Lucy will telephone you on the first day of closure and will send a text and email message on any subsequent days.**

The latest guide for Parents and Guardians on School Emergency Closures (distributed before Christmas) is displayed in the foyer (further copies available from the office on request).

**Christmas Fundraising**

Thank you for buying so many Christmas cards from the school and taking part in the raffle. We sold nearly 900 cards, raising £117. The raffle at Zennor Village Hall raised £107.

**Swimming**

This term the children will work on swimming for distance with certificates distributed stating the distance that each child can swim.

**Volunteer Driver Forms**

If you help transport our children to swimming etc. could you please complete a 2016 Volunteer Driver Form – available from the office. We really appreciate those of you who help with transport, as without this support transporting our children can be difficult on occasions.

**Class 1 (Juniors) Trip to Marine Aquarium**

The juniors will have the chance of an overnight trip to the Marine Aquarium on Thursday 4th February. This will be an exciting opportunity but is likely to cost £50 per child. This figure will be reduced for children in receipt of pupil premium. It would be lovely if the whole class could go. More details will follow

**Diary Dates**

Thurs 4th Feb Class 1 visit the Marine Aquarium (Plymouth)

Mon 15th Feb – Fri 19th Feb Half-term

Tues 1st March Parent Meetings in the afternoon

Wed 23rd March Easter Hats

Thurs 24th Break up for Easter Holiday

Mon 11th April Commencement of the Summer Term

Thurs 5th May School closed as it is being used for Police and Crime Commissioner Elections

Yours sincerely

**M. R. Strevens**

Headteacher