



Toddington St George CE School

Newsletter No. 2: 8th September 2017

Thanks from all the staff: We were so busy trying to make sure you could get into school via the new gates that I didn't write to say a huge thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for the cards and gifts we received at the end of the year. Parents were so thoughtful and kind and some of the messages sent were very thoughtful indeed. Thank you.

Staff Changes: After 16 years with school Mrs Woolf, who was a much respected TA working mostly in Years 4 and 3, has decided it is time for a move. She has been a very conscientious TA who was noted for going the extra mile for the children, very good reading and maths support, great display work, singing her heart out at Sing Up, loving our Christmas productions and her infectious laugh. We will all miss her and wish her every happiness as she leaves us. Mrs Swan has moved to become the literacy and numeracy teaching assistant for Kestrels. Mrs Spencer, Headteacher.

Changes re buying Uniform: Uniform will now be ordered on line and all details for ordering have been sent to you as a separate document via email. The PTA has worked hard to access a good supplier with good quality uniform and reasonable rates. They have ensured delivery dates are quick. If you need to discuss ordering please contact Mrs Child in the school office (01525 872360).

Water bottles / Book bags: New bottles and book bags with the school logo are available from the office. Book bags are £4.00 and water bottles £2.50. New stock arrives next Wednesday.

Curriculum leaflets: These have gone out in children's book bags today explaining all the exciting things the children will be learning about this half term. These are also available on the school website on the year group page.

Gates and passing on information to teachers or the office:

Parents and Carers have used the new school gates system very effectively this week. The site has been much more secure as a result. Parents using the front access are coming to school as usual and dropping off information or notes as necessary. If you are using the back playground and have a message for the office or for a teacher please do not feel 'shut out' of school!

Teachers on duty before school from year 3 and 4 can take notes and messages into the office for you to save you walking around the site, and the staff from these year groups can chat with you at the end of the day as you need, or you can also ring for an appointment as before.

Playtimes on the field: Children need wellies (Years N, R and 1) or strong shoes (Years 2,3,4) and coats in case the weather is damp so they can still play on the field for as long as possible this term.

Swimming: Year 4 made a very good start at swimming this week. Please ensure they have kit on Thursday and children with pierced ears have removed /covered their earrings. Girls require a one piece costume and the boys wear swimming trunks not shorts. Long hair needs to be tied back and a swimming hat worn. Thank you.

Ukuleles Year 3 start learning their ukulele lessons next Thursday. These lessons are provided by the musicians from Inspiring Music.

Music lessons start again next week. Timetables will follow when confirmed by their peripatetic teachers. We can offer keyboard, guitar and woodwind lessons from Inspiring Music. If your child wants to learn the violin, cello or a brass instrument (e.g. Trumpet, trombone) they can. We offer drum lessons for Years 3 & 4 through an independent provider and more information will follow.

Keen to try an instrument this year? Details are all on the website - www.inspiringmusic.co.uk.

PARENTS MEETINGS:

Parent Meetings with teachers: The vast majority of children have settled into school very well this week, and any child who has found starting school, or returning to school, tricky has been given very good care by staff. Parents/Carers have been reassured accordingly on how their child has been once they have settled for the day.

I am sure you wish to know how your child is getting on in their new class. There are three times before mid-November when we look forward to meeting with you to help you know; how your child is getting on, how they are assessed in the year group, homework tips and of course their progress from September to half term.

1. Meet the Teacher

Wednesday 20th September

Aim: To ensure you have met your child's class teacher, have had a chance to check how they have settled and iron out any practical issues e.g. reading books, PE kit days, maths groups etc. This is not a progress meeting but a chance to just check all is well at the start of the year. **What do you do?** Book a ten minute slot via 'Parents Evening' system that suits you to pop into school and meet the teacher. You will receive a text next Thursday / Friday when this is open to book your appointment.

2. Parent Year group Information

Wednesday 11th October

Aim: Information meetings with tips to share with Parents/Carers on how to help your child this year and what national expectations are expected of them in their year group. A chance to meet our Treetops staff who offer additional support to specific children. **What do you do?** Come along to the meeting on the dates given. The Year R meeting is at 9.00 am in the school hall. All other year group meetings are at 7.00pm. A reminder will be issued for you nearer the time.

Year R: Reading in Year R How to support your child's reading and key words this year.

Year 1: Phonics teaching. How we teach Phonics and top tips to help your child.

Year 2: Teacher / SATS assessments. How we support you child getting ready for the KS1 SATS Timetables

Year 3: Learning Futures, continuing reading skills camping, times tables and GL assessments.

Year 4: Continuing reading skills, Transition to PFMS / middle school, continuing reading skills, GL Assessments for PFMS.

3. Parent Consultations

Monday 13th or Wednesday 15th November

These ten minute evening meetings with teachers are when you have time to discuss how your child is progressing, hear if they are meeting expectations for the year group at this stage in the year and gain advice on how they can be helped as necessary. **What do you do?** Parent Consultations times will be offered by 'Parents Evening' and you book a time that suits you.

Consider what you want to know and want to discuss before the meeting.

School Office and Site Contact

Who do I talk to about what?

The staff in the 'front office' - Mrs Pettitt and Mrs Voyce

These ladies can help you with for all those very important things that come up through the day; getting in the front gate!, delivering forgotten PE kit or lunch boxes, buying book bags / water bottles, PTA forms, Holiday forms (these are also on the website) School Lunches queries, Trips and visits queries, changes you might need for your child's medicine, help with forms, advice if your child has an infectious disease, pick up for appointments for your child, ensuring children come safely from taxis and buses each day and everything else that happens in a day!

They also complete daily answerphone and register checks.

Staff leading on other administrative areas you may need to contact at other times.

Mrs Child:	School Office Manager
Mrs Tillin:	School Business Manager
Mr Dudley:	Site Agent and Site security
Mr Davis:	E-safety questions
Mrs Hicks:	SEND and safeguarding administration

Changed your phone / moved house? Please be sure we have up to date records for emergency contact numbers, medical information and transport arrangements for your child. If you need a new contact sheet please come to the office as necessary or visit the website.

Ringin school: The school has good systems for reporting children's safety. ***Please make sure you ring by 9.15 am*** to let us know if your child is unwell and then send a note on the day your child returns to school. We do have to report any infectious diseases so please let us know as early as possible if your child has an infectious illness. You can leave a message on the answerphone or by email. Many Thanks. **01525 872360** toddstg@cbc.beds.sch.uk

Leavers Trophies:

At the end of the academic year in July we awarded the Year 4 Leavers trophies. The children who received awards were:

Sports Award	Scarlett Miles / Lewis Puddick
Performance Award	Holly Conway / Isla Macleod-Irvine / Rose Cozens
Services to the School & Community	Samuel Dobbs / Amy Davis
Most Talented Author	Tilly Cornelius / Liam Williams
Art Award	Ayla Kiamil / Matthew Hall
Academic Award	Daniel Murphy / Evan Cullen / Emily Scholes
IT and Electronics Award	Louise Evans / Leo James
TSG Values Award	Archie Adams / Emily Stratford

Congratulations to all those who received an Award.

Lunchtime and After-School Clubs

Lunchtime Clubs:

Day	Club	Year Group	Drop off/Pick up
Monday	Choir Signing	1 & 2 tbc	
Tuesday	Choir Signing	3 & 4 tbc	
Wednesday	French Signing Electronics Hooked on Worship	1-4 tbc 3 & 4 1,2,3,4	
Thursday	Lego Club	3 & 4	
Friday	News bloggers School Council	3 & 4 SC 1-4	

After school Clubs:

+External provider

*School provider

Day	Club	Year Groups	Drop off/Pick up
Monday	Netball *	3 & 4	Yr 4 stairs / wooden gates in car park
	Art*	2,3,4	Yr 4 stairs
	My Theatre Drama/Dance	2,3,6,8 & Adults	Yr 4 stairs
Tuesday	Karate+	1,2,3,4	Yr 4 stairs
	Basketball+	3 & 4	Yr 4 stairs
Wednesday	Streetdance+	1,2,3,4	Yr 4 stairs
	My Theatre (Drama)+	4-8	Yr 4 stairs
	Tennis+	2,3,4	Yr 4 stairs if in hall Wooden gates in Car park if outside
Thursday	LTFC+	R-4	Wooden gates in car park
	Hotshots trial session +	3,4	Yr 4 stairs
	Pilates (Adults)+	Adults	Yr 4 stairs
Friday	Irish Dance+		Yr 4 stairs
	Basketball+	3 & 4	Yr 4 stairs
Saturday	My Theatre (Dance)+	N - 7	Yr 4 stairs
	TRFC+	R & 1	Playground – back gate to pathway

Art & Electronics Club is by invitation only

ECO Club – day yet to be decided

Pick up and drop off is at Year 4 stairs at the rear of the car park unless otherwise notified.