

## Toddington St George CE School Newsletter No. 10 – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

### New building

The new building is really taking shape now and I hope you are as excited as I am to see this development. This will be a much better space for teaching and learning than our current mobile huts at the back of school. I would like to thank all parents and carers who are putting up with the arrangements for dropping off and collecting. I do appreciate they are not terribly convenient for people. Thank you for your forbearance. We hope to have our canopy walk way back in action in a few weeks' time.

It has been a very short, very busy term and this week is not an exception!

### Sports Relief -Friday March 18th

We will all walk a mile (three times around the school perimeter) next Friday for Sports Relief. Children can wear sporty clothes, including something red, for a £1.00 donation. They can also buy a slice of cake for 20p (instead of Fruity Friday) – any donations of cakes will be gratefully received.

### Parents Meetings this week

#### **Parents /Carers of New Nursery children Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00 pm**

Children who start Ducklings after Easter have been for their first visit. We look forward to welcoming them to TSG. Parents and Carers will join us on **Tuesday at 6pm** for a meeting about the routines and curriculum offered in Nursery.

#### **Year 2 Parents - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> (9am) and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> (at 2.45pm)**

An important additional meeting with information about new arrangements for Years 2 SATS. Please come if you possibly can.

### Big Litter Pick - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> In the morning from 10.00 -12 noon

Before you rush to AJs show or pop into the village hall for coffee and to browse the village indoor market don't forget we have our annual Big Litter Pick on Saturday morning. This is when we clean up the school site and the village to make Toddington a cleaner, greener place. This year this is our effort to support 'Clean for the Queen' so pop in, grab a litter picker and a bag. In just half an hour you can make a big difference to your community. Every year we clear up at least 20 bags of rubbish, plant bulbs / plants and generally tidy up the school and the village. Bring a friend and give a hand if you can.

Don't forget to check ahead on the Key Dates about the Year 3 Easter performance and their Learning Futures work – all before we break up for Easter.

Jane Spencer- Head teacher

### **Headteacher Awards:** Congratulations to the following children who received awards for February:

Swans:	Alfie Saunders, Anya Ojulah, Ellie Borgars
Kingfishers:	Finley Knight-Downing, Eva Pearson, Harry West
Puffins:	Harrison Greene, Harry Randlesome, Amy Michael
Penguins:	Ewan Phelan, Sean Weedon, Austin Wood
Toucans:	Seth Massink, Fern Bartlett, Emma Laird
Hummingbirds:	Jemima Cornelius, Hannah Keith, Georgia O'Donnell
Robins:	Luca Evans, Aleena Khan, Matthew Hall
Wrens:	Chayse White, Rose Cozens, Siobhan Brown
Condors:	Megan Walker, Abi Davis, Frankie McCann
Kestrels:	Mary Bishop, George Wills, Megan Usher

### Learning experiences for the children:

**Ducklings children** have been for a springtime walk admiring the daffodils and blossom appearing on the trees, learning all about Spring and new animals on the farm.

**Reception Classes** have been learning all about healthy eating – they have been tasting healthy snacks, made some popcorn and dancing to keep fit!

**Year 1 FA Football Skills:** A wide awake start to Mondays for Year 1. Our super coach has challenged the children to practise new football skills and they are gaining confidence every week. Year 1 have also had a great time reading **Katie Morag** stories and learning about Scottish islands. They have produced some great stories and have enjoyed playing in their own seaside huts and boats too.

**Year 2** have been discovering the history and geography of The Seaside!

**Year 3: Roman Myths and Legends and a very cold and wet trip to Verulamium!** Year 3 showed how much they had learnt about the Romans when they answered many questions at the Museum on their trip out. Equally their comments and writing about what they had learnt on their visit proved it was a very worthwhile day. Children, volunteers and staff are thanked for tolerating the weather!

**Year 4** have been exploring mythical creatures and the world of water!

### School Events

**Swimming Gala** – A record result for us! The teams took us to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place respectively! Well done to all who swam. Well done to the 24 children who represented the school so well – you know who you are!

**HAST Inter school event - Bake Off Competition:** Alessia Newman and Riley Brennan represented the school at this event at Harlington Upper School. They were given the challenge of making cornish pasties, profiteroles and a lemon meringue pie. They both received certificates for participating; Riley's won an award best technical skills and Alessia's team for presentation. The HUS sixth formers did a great job arranging this HAST inter schools event for the lower schools and middle schools in our area Trust. Thank you to Mrs. Newman for escorting the children and staying with them.

**World Book Day:** Thank you to those parents and grandparents that were able to come in and read with the children. The staff and children really enjoyed having you in their classes. The children who decided they were keen to dress up looked the part and it made the day a memorable one.

The displays in Hall and foyer are well worth a look at:

**Year 4** displayed great take home tasks made by the children to re-tell Greek Myths.

**Year 3** illustrated Romulus & Remus and re-told Roman Legends.

**Year 2** chose the story Indira and the Peacock to re-tell, producing a beautiful peacock display.

**Year 1** performed a drama about two traditional tales in our special assembly - Three Billy Goats Gruff and The Enormous Turnip

**Year R** had a wonderful time reading and re-enacting Goldilocks and the Three bears.

**Our Nursery** children thoroughly enjoyed their Jack and the Beanstalk day.

All the display reflects what a worthwhile event World Book Day is in promoting children's engagement with a range of texts and genres.

### More books to enjoy....Travelling Book Fair:

The fair will be here in school (in the library) until **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Remember, you can use your £1.00 World Book Day Voucher against any of the books.

#### **Music Events:**

**KS2 & KS1 Choir Assemblies:** The School Choirs performed really well and parents/carers and the school all enjoyed the great range of songs, the super singing and the confidence of the children in both the choirs. Thank you for coming and thanks to Mrs. Archer for the excellent assemblies.

#### **Sing Up!**

Year 4 children have been enjoying their singing lessons with Inspiring Music. They will perform in a short concert with other schools to St Georges at TSG on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Please see 'Save the Date' section below.

#### **For Families:**

**Special Ladies / Thank You Secret Shop:** Thank you, as always, to the PTA for organising this event. We hope that all the special ladies that children bought gifts for enjoyed opening their carefully chosen gifts on Mothering Sunday.

**Little Treasures Photographs:** The two sessions after school ran smoothly and to time – we look forward to receiving the proofs very soon and hope you will be delighted with your photographs.

### **Save these dates!**

#### **End of Year Extravaganza weekend!**

**The Summer Ball - Marquee on the Lawn. Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July.**

Details for booking tickets will be distributed this week.

#### **Go Ballistic!**

This great day of fun and activity after the excitement of  
The Summer Ball on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July

#### **SING UP CONCERT at THE GROVE THEATRE**

**SOPO Concert - The Grove Theatre - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 6.00pm**

The main Sing Out Play Out Concert (Year 4) at The Grove Theatre will be on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 6.00pm and parents and family are welcome to attend. A letter will be distributed once tickets become available and you can order these from The Grove Theatre Website.

#### **Current Collections in school:**

**Mercy Ships Toothbrushes:** We have now collected just over 260 toothbrushes for this valuable charity. The collection box will remain in the foyer for another two weeks. We are aiming for to collect 400 toothbrushes. Thanks for all your contributions.

**Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers:** Please remember to bring your vouchers into School – they are being issued until the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**Parking:** We are constantly receiving complaints about the inconsiderate parking and abuse from parents/carers, outside and around TSG. The main areas for concern are double parking, blocking drives and parking on/near junctions. Bedfordshire Police have stated in the past that it is illegal and/or dangerous & inconsiderate to park or stop....

- **Near a school entrance**
- **Anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services (double parking)**
- **Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction**
- **Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users**
- **In front of an entrance to a property**
- **Parking on zigzags or double yellow lines**
- **On a bend (especially Cheney Close)**

**For the safety of all the children PLEASE PLEASE adhere to these guidelines**

## Key Dates

Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	New Nursery Intake Meeting for parents at 6.00
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief Day
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Big Tidy Up 'Clean for the Queen / Toddington Spring Festival – Indoor Market in Village Hall
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 3 Easter Performance to parents at 2.00 pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Year 3 Learning Futures pm – children only
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Learning Futures Assembly to Parents at 9.15 am Easter Assembly / End of Spring Term

## EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	School closed - Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Children back to school for Summer Term
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Chicks to arrive in Reception Classes
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	St. Georges Day Dancing Dragons Concert – 2pm (part of Toddington Festival)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Class Photographs
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	PTA Quiz Night
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 Africa Day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Performance to parents at 2.00 pm Year 4 Kwik Cricket Festival
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Healthy Heart & Mind Day / Year 4 Bikeability Residential Meeting for Year 4 parents at 9.00 am

## HALF TERM

Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Fathers Day Secret Shop
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 visit to Ashridge
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Fire Engines to visit Year 2
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 4 SOPO Concert at The Grove Theatre at 6.00 pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day for Years 1 – 4
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day for Years 1 – 4
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day for Reception & Nursery classes
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Parkfields Open Evening for year 4 parents
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	MOVE UP DAY / New Nursery intake meeting at 1.15 pm
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	New Nursery Intake meeting for parents at 6.00 pm
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 children to Mill Rythe for two nights
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Open Evening at school 3.30 – 5.30
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 Camping on the field
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	The end of year PTA Summer Ball
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Go Ballistic!
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Residential Assembly to parents at 9.20 am
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 4 BBQ after school
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 4 Leavers Service at 2.00

## SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	School re-opens for Autumn Term
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