

Toddington St George CE School



Newsletter No. 11 - May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to Mrs Collins! I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Collins has been appointed to the role of Headteacher at Westfield Nursery School from September 2017. She has been a great asset to TSG as our Deputy Head for 5 years now and we shall be very sorry to see her leave. However we know she will make a super Headteacher and wish her every success in her new role.

Headteachers Awards for April: Congratulations to:

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| Swans: | Logan Grumoli, Joshua Marsberg, Freya Durgahee |
| Kingfishers: | Riley Kelly, Samuel Bates, Gabriel Sidden |
| Puffins: | Amber Dhaliwal, Harry Vickery, Anya Ojulah |
| Penguins: | Connor Jones, Lily-Rose Kane, Eva Pearson |
| Toucans: | Harvey Brand, Isabella Choosey, Charlotte Dow |
| Hummingbirds: | Grace Bennett, Dylan Robinson, Taylor Jempson |
| Robins: | Fern Bartlett, Noah Field-Hall, Sophie Goodrum |
| Wrens: | Jaida Bullock, Fynn McEvoy, Lucy Archer |
| Condors: | Liam Williams, Jamie Emerson, Olivia Austin |
| Kestrels: | Hannah Wilson, Evan Cullen, Lewis Puddick |

Pocket toys: Please can I remind you that pocket toys for playtime need to be pocket sized and not great big toys. Thanks.

Parking: Please take into consideration our neighbours, especially those who live in Manor Road, when parking outside school. **Remember that school times for parking are from 8.20 for an 8.30 drop off in Nursery, and from 8.30 for the 8.50 supervised start for the rest of the school. Gates open at 3.00 for the afternoon pick up.** Please remember gates will be locked as soon as children are on site in the morning and once parents have met with their children at Parkfields at the end of their day. For 8 a.m. morning clubs dropping off in the school car park is from 7.50 (reversing into spaces please) and children go in via the Year 4 stairs entrance.

Assessments: This half term we focus on the children's progress over the two and a half terms of this academic year. We assess their learning against national levels using the SATS in Year 2, standardised assessments in Year 3 and 4, national phonics assessments in Year 1 and the Early Years summary profile in Reception year.

We also had a super time developing the curriculum and there have been some special experiences which I have shared below. Please be assured the children's well-being is key at all times during this period and if you have any concerns do speak with the class teacher to be reassured about how the time balances for your child.

Take Home Tasks – Years R, 1, 3 & 4: You will have received information already this term showing what your child is learning in their Year group's theme. This information is also on the website under your child's class page (Wrens, Puffins etc.) if you have mislaid the sheet. Children are involved until half term in their "Take Home Tasks". Thank you for the many ways in which you support the school as we develop this work. **Year 2** do not do a

Take Home Task this term as they so busy in school. Keep the homework up please to support your child!

Great learning opportunities:

Year N: Ducklings have had a great time with Zoolab visiting us. The children loved the chance to handle and see so many 'creepy crawlies'!

Year R: They have loved the outdoor learning that we have enjoyed since it has been a bit warmer. The children have also learnt so much about chicks and ducklings. The incubator came with some eggs in and these turned into four chicks and five ducklings much to the surprise of some of the children! We were sad to say goodbye to them last week.

Year 1: What fun the children had when a steam engine arrived on site on Friday! Harry Vickery's family very kindly brought in the steam engine they own and this made the 'On the Move' theme really come to life! The teachers and children learnt a lot from Harry and his family. Thanks for a very exciting afternoon.

Year 2: We are very proud of how hard the Year 2 children are working this half term. In addition they have enjoyed a chance to grow and study some plants and are enjoying learning more about life for families who live in The Gambia.

Year 3: The trip to Verulamium (St. Albans) went very well and the children are now experts in hydrocausts, amphitheatres and Roman life.

Year 4: Their work on Egyptians has begun and they have already produced some very good work and the children know a lot about the importance of the River Nile. Sing up is sounding very good too – see below about the concert.

Walking to school - Year 4: Most children are now confident walking to school if their parents have decided they can this term in preparation for next year. Please either email the school or write a letter to inform us if your child starts wishes to start walking to school. We will ensure your child has arrived safely and we can text you accordingly for the first couple of days as they gain confidence if you wish.

Sing Up Concert for Year 4 at the Bedford Corn Exchange: Year 4 perform at the Bedford Corn Exchange on Tuesday 13th June at 6.00 pm. Please do make sure you have got a ticket as the concert was sold out last year!

On a more serious note - Attendance Information re: Term time Holidays: I am unable to authorise holiday requests in term time except in the most exceptional circumstances (eg: for those in the services leaving to go abroad or returning, specific medical needs, and very specific other family needs). Unauthorised holiday leave has to be noted in the register against your child's name and returned in a report to the DFE each term. Please do not request holiday leave in term time unless for very specific reasons.

Sun hats and sun cream, water bottles: Please be sure to send sun hats or caps in, and put cream on children before school when the weather warms up. Water bottles are an essential at all times.

Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers: Please remember to send in your vouchers as we need to send them off to order our sports goodies in the next month. Thank you for your support.

Our annual 'Walk to School week' is next week!

