



TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER No. 15 - July 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has the year gone!

We come to the end of another very happy, busy academic year at school and hope your children have really enjoyed their year. As there have been so many letters and texts for you this term we have rolled events, 'Thank you's' and Goodbyes in to one bumper 'summer reading' newsletter for you!

Goodbyes:

Today we say goodbye and good luck to all our Year 4 leavers, to Villo Velich who returns to live in Hungary and to Alessia and Sebastian Newman who are moving to Yorkshire. We wish all the children the very best at their new schools and thank them for all they have offered St George's.

Mrs Edwards and Mrs Moore:

Both ladies, who have been a brilliant team in the Nursery, retire this summer. They have been so professional, conscientious, able and they always go the extra mile for every child. Mrs Edwards has supported play groups and pre-school in developing their practice as well as running the school Nursery. Mrs Moore has been the mastermind behind so much of the creative work the children do and has gently nurtured children as they have been at 'Mrs Moore's table'. They will be missed greatly. We wish them good health and great happiness in their retirement.

Mrs Clough is off to pastures new. Her adventures will include living in France for some of the year! She has also been extremely professional and committed and offered so much to the school. Alongside inspiring teaching in Year 2, her work on the Eco Flag has reaped rewards twice and the enthusiasm of the Eco team is well known. We will continue this work thanks to the help of Mrs Butt who, with Mrs Curtis, has supported Eco all year again. We will miss you but wish to say A Bientot rather than Au Revoir!

Planet Education:

We have been really committed to Planet Education adding coaching support in school and this has had a great impact on upskilling our children and staff. Sadly the school budget does not allow us to continue this sports offer next year. We wish **Mr C** a great time as he decides between a tour of Australia or some more coaching and thank him for all his work. Thanks for all your work and for getting us to the County Cricket final.

New staffing:

We are pleased to welcome **Mrs Julians** to Toucans Class for 2 days a week next term.

Lovely news:

We are delighted to announce that **Mrs Scott** is expecting a baby at Christmas time. She will start the Penguins off happily next term and parents and children will then meet the teacher covering her maternity leave during the term.

We would like to all say "**Thank you**", as ever, for the fantastic back up you give your own children, but also that you give to the school. It makes such a difference to all we do. Have a great summer!

Mrs Spencer and all the staff

PTA:

We tell our new Parents and Carers that the PTA do an amazing job but this term has been quite fantastic. **Mrs Susan Ward** has been such a committed Chair and has a super team.

The Father's Day Secret Shop was popular and beautifully organised. Tea towels with lovely self-portraits have been designed and headed home yesterday.

and last weekend was something else!

Blessed with great weather the PTA held 2 events:

Summer Ball: Over 130 guests came to The Ball. The Marquee looked beautiful and the food, music and games went down really well. **Mrs Coles, Mrs Cochrane, Mrs. Newman and Mrs Ward** did such a good job as well as other members of the PTA and lots of lovely comments were made about the evening.

Go Ballistic was also brilliant. More than 500 came along and Mrs Spencer was very sad to miss it as her husband was taken into hospital but the day went without a hitch due to **Mrs Julians** planning. Thank you to **Mr. Hydes** for running the TSG Euros Tournament - the winning football team (Sweden) loved their medals; the gym display and Irish Dancing were both very popular as were the tennis, bouncy castles and hay bales (thanks **Mr Buckingham**). Thank you also to the husbands who worked tirelessly on the BBQ on a sweltering day.

HUGE thanks to a large team of the PTA, their partners and even former pupils' parents for all that took place.

Headteachers Awards:

Headteacher Certificates for June were awarded to the following children for excellent work.



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| Swans: | Felicity Read, Lily Reynolds, Joseph Curl |
| Kingfishers: | Ella Baines, Bronwyn Kenny, Finlay Lawrence |
| Penguins: | Jude Lucas, Taylor Jempson, Jemiah Wilson |
| Puffins: | Dillan Wright, Zoe Gray, Isobella Choosey |
| Toucans: | Lara Hastings, Sebastian Newman, Alfie Hunter |
| Hummingbirds: | Jaida Bullock, Oscar West, Charlie Gadsden |
| Robins: | Grace Lydon, Olivia Sharpe, Amelia Porzio |
| Wrens: | Michael Phelan, Jack Spyrou, Olivia Austin |
| Condors: | Micky Ustun, Cian Thomas, Finley Hayes |
| Kestrels: | Niamh Tillin, Elise Walker, Joey Seamarks |

And for July: Congratulations to:

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| Swans: | Samantha Walker, Abbie Kirby, Conor Hayes |
| Kingfishers: | Connor Jones, Bella Stewart, Lily-Jayne Stonnell |
| Penguins: | Sophie Cooley, Ben Williams, Oliver Stack |
| Puffins: | Bobby Whiting, Louie Seamarks, Daniel Barnish |
| Toucans: | Imogen Collins, Owen Russell, Isobel Tillin |
| Hummingbirds: | Zach Collins, Isobel Squires, Jaden Fraser |
| Robins: | Samuel Dobbs, Louise Evans, Georgia Brown |
| Wrens: | Daniel Murphy, Clara Roberts, Emily Stratford |
| Condors: | Samara Burns, Grace Laird, Lily Agnew |
| Kestrels: | Florrie Hydes, Iona Dow, Charlie Ward |

Year N: Ducklings ended term with a Teddy Bears picnic and despite it being the hottest day this year, teddies and children enjoyed themselves! Thanks to Mr Mitchell one of our Governors, a Police van visited on Thursday. The children loved dressing up and trying out the van.

Year R: Following on from their successful trip to Woburn Reception children have enjoyed making wonderful 3D box models of safari animals and have played a range of instruments from different parts of Africa.



Year 1: Both classes had a good day at Whipsnade and were full of discussions about the animals they enjoyed the best when they came back. Recently a giant has been spotted in Year 1 and Jack has been seen climbing the beanstalk!

Year 2: With SATS safely over Year 2 have been having a good time; Africa Day and learning African drumming have been popular and a great trip to Ashridge Forest went very well. Fire Engines came to visit and the children loved finding out about fire safety and being a fire fighter.

Year 3: Learning Futures went really well and we were very impressed by the children who had organised campaigns to protect endangered species. We then had a great two day Island Adventure with land art, green man clay faces, filtering dirty water, mapping, tent pitching and other events. This culminated in Camping on the field in the marquee which was great fun! Thanks for organising this **Mr Harrowing, Mrs Cornelius and Mrs Taylor** and to all who helped make it happen!

Year 4: Egyptian Day ended the Tombs and Treasures theme really well. A drama in which the Pharaoh had to decide on a court judgement was really well enacted. The Sing Up concert at The Grove Theatre went well and TSG led the singing in the two and three part songs. Mill Rythe Residential went very well and we celebrated all the children's individual achievements and enjoyed a super assembly led by **Mrs Collins** on Tuesday. We are so grateful to staff who gave their time to go: **Mrs Collins, Mrs Wood, Mrs Kemp, Mr Harrowing, Mrs Vickers, Mrs Imelda Taylor, Mrs Julians, Mrs Voyce and Mrs Swan (and their families for letting them go!)**.

Move Up Day, Open Evening and Parents Year Group Meetings:
All the children have visited their news classes or school and we have also enjoyed meeting the new Reception and Nursery children who will join us in September. It was good to be able to have parents then visit the new classrooms and new teachers their children will have during our Open Evening. You may have spotted the Lego programmable models made by the Year 4's. Thanks to **Mr Davis** and to the **PTA for funding the kits and Mrs Vickers for organising us!** Parents Information meetings have also taken place and so we hope everyone can feel excited and assured about their class or school next year.

Additional Support: **Mrs Taylor's HI team, the Nurture group staff, Treetops team** (Play Therapy, Art therapy and the Social skills group) and the **SEND learning support team**, all ably led by **Mrs Mallett** have been very busy this year and we are grateful to them for the work they have done to ensure all children can settle and learn happily in school getting any extra support they may need. **Mrs Butt's Well-being Club** has also helped a number of children have happier days in school. Thanks go to all.

Art Exhibition: Thank you for visiting the Art Exhibition at Poplars. Our Queen Elizabeth II 90th birthday display was well received and it has been back at school for the last few weeks of term. A photo of it is going off to the Palace! Thanks go to **Mrs Gaskin and Mrs Millen** for inspired planning and to **Mrs Lay-Flurrie and Mr Dudley** who helped them get it safely displayed

Choir Assemblies: Congratulations to KS1 and KS2 Choir for their super singing assemblies this week. The children grow in confidence so much as they perform and really seem to enjoy the range of music they learn. Thanks again to **Mrs Archer and Mrs Doerr** for all those lunchtime choir sessions this year.

School Council: **Mrs Soor supported by Mrs Davis** have led a great team. They have completed their work for the year and have helped us pack over 100 Christmas shoeboxes, sold toys and books to support Micah's education in Zimbabwe, collected over 400 toothbrushes for Mercy Ships, led us 'Walking the Mile' for Sports Relief, got us 'Wearing spots to raise lots' for the RNIB, led their Christmas Fayre stall, organised us to wear Christmas jumpers, checked our class coat areas and awarded 'Henry' tidy awards and managed the Lost property (**for which they deserve a medal!**).





Sports leaders: Mr Fisher from Parkfields came and led an assembly to thank our PFMS sports leaders for helping our KS2 pupils this term. Their leadership skills have helped our own play leaders. The new **Sports Council** has led on PE and sport development at TSG and they were also awarded certificates for their effort this year. **Mrs Scott** has led these initiatives and is thanked for her work.

TSG hosted inter school kwik cricket, rounders and cross country competition: Mrs Julians organised an inter-school sports event and we were glad Harlington lower could join us. Events were evenly matched and winners came through from both schools. A great afternoon of competitive sport.

Sports Days: Led by Mrs Scott the Year 1-4 Sports Day was one of our best yet with some really close fought races. The winning team was **Spain** and was captained by Louis Elliott and Alessia Newman.

The Foundation Unit Sports Day was a lovely morning and helps the children learn about being in a team and trying out an event or skill. The **Early Years Team** were all very pleased with how the morning went.

Year 4 Leavers have enjoyed a busy week after Mill Rythe, and our thanks go to the Year 4 teachers **Mrs Wood and Mrs Kemp** and all the learning support staff who help organise the Leavers' Assembly, Poem presentation to Year 3's, Leavers' Book and the Leavers' Tea and Games evening. This is a super end to the childrens time at TSG. **We will miss you all!**

Thank you to: Our Librarians in Year 4, our Worship team leaders from Year 4, our Eco team all who have led Hooked on worship Assemblies, Querk contributors, Monday Musicians and Website Wednesday people, who have all led events in school this year.

School Dinners; Meals to be ordered by Wednesday 24th August or your child won't have any lunch the first day back! Instructions on how to change your child's class have been emailed out to all parents.

Summer ideas

Sadly we can't offer a club from school this summer as we have 3 major bits of building work happening so we found a few ideas that might help you enjoy the summer.

If your child tries 'Pokémon Go' please be aware of the safety advice being given about

- **Definitely not going off alone**
- Watching out all the time for traffic and trains
- Really taking care to look as well as walk

Keep an eye on the Central Beds Council website and the Toddington Village website for some great events to keep everyone happy and busy

- Toddington Library Summer Reading Challenge - Roald Dahl
- Toddington Library Animal visit
- Toddington Child Care Summer holiday Club
- TACTIC activity days
- Pebble Music in Dunstable
- TADS Summer school
- Kite flying or dog walking on the Downs
- Zoorasic Park at Whipsnade
- Angry Birds and The Secret life of Pets at the Library Theatre or local cinemas
- Swimming or the climbing wall at Flitwick
- Cycling and Forest events at Ashridge, Marston Country Park and Ampthill Park
- BFG

Have a great holiday! School re-opens on Tuesday 6th September

