



TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NO. 7 – 8th JANUARY 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back - We wish you a happy 2016!

(If your child is in year 3 or 4 ask them if they know what 20 + C+B + M + 16 means!)

Parents and Carers were incredibly generous in their gifts to staff and in the kind words which were shared in cards this Christmas. Thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for the generosity shown. It has been much appreciated. The term has started very positively with a lot that has already happened! The children have been eager to see their friends again and we have had a positive learning atmosphere.

Here is a brief summary of a few events this week.

Nursery –14 new Ducklings have joined us in the afternoon and have made a super start. The morning children have settled happily into their new routines well too.

Year R – Little Diggers: All the children returned happily and were very eager after Christmas with lots of lovely stories to share with each other.

Year 1 – Through the Keyhole: Year 1 are busy finding out about houses and homes and should be able to name and describe detached, terraced and semi-detached houses, bungalows, caravans, flats and even houseboats already! 'I am the Music Man' has been a hit too!

Year 2 – Turrets and Tiaras: WOW! The excitement when two golden eggs were found in school was unbelievable. The footprints found and the egg nest caused a real stir. Much more to follow this term!

Year 3 – Invaders and Settlers Through the Ages: Stunning start begins next week with cooking and a banquet.

Year 4 – Miss Creed welcomed to school and Food Glorious Food begins! Miss Creed has joined Condors this half term to train to teach with Mrs Kemp and Mrs Wood. We hope she will really enjoy learning what a varied job teaching is. The children started the week tasting a range of fruits and other foods from around the world and then, as keen geographers, used the world map to find the location of where the food came from and the miles that food travelled.

As ever I am grateful to teachers for their excellent preparation during their 'holidays' for the new term.

Mrs Spencer

What is my child learning this term?

Curriculum leaflets - the information about what your child will be learning this half term and important class information (such as PE days, Library days etc.) are currently being sent out. These will also be available on the school website.

Key Dates this term

Key Dates including those for trips and visits are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Parent Consultation Meetings this term are Monday 8th and Wednesday 10th February.

Letters about these meetings will be sent out in **2 weeks so please make sure to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher.**

The focus for these meetings is to discuss children's progress to date this year and the relevant next steps for them. Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. Mallett (SENDCo) are also available for appointments if you would like to make one. The PTA will kindly offer refreshments and will be selling new and used school uniform in the Hall.

School Admissions: Nursery and Year 4 Parents. Further to previous information sent to you regarding admissions, the **national closing date for applications to go to Middle School (Parkfields) and Starting School in September 2016 is 15th January.** Applications to the Harpur Trust schools in Bedford are individual to those schools (please check their websites accordingly). Any applications received after that date will be processed in the late application round. You will be notified officially of your place on Monday 18th April.

Pupil Premium Funding. If you think you are entitled to this funding you need to apply **ASAP** to the local authority. Please come and see Mrs Child for more details or ring school on 872360. You should have already received a new PP booklet by email or in the bookbag.

Lateness Reminder: A small number of children are disturbing the start of the school day for others as they are arriving late. **The start of the school day is 08.50.** Late letters will be issued from Monday 18th January for children who are late **on more than one occasion next week.** Parents should make sure their older children (KS2) are sent to class first if they have missed the year group line in the back playground, as a number of Year 3 and 4 children are even later when Parents and Carers take their younger children to classes first. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Exciting new opportunities for the children this term:

Sing Out Play Out: Year 4 have begun Sing Up with Anna our Inspiring Music teacher. They really seemed to enjoy their first session. The series of lessons will culminate in a concert at the end of the 10 weeks of lessons offered and they will gain a lot of musical knowledge as well as learning their songs.

Pentatonic Percussion: Year 1 had great fun beginning to learn the pentatonic scale with Inspiring Music. We are delighted to have Anna visiting us to lead this again.

Cooking Club: We are really keen to start an after school cookery club but really need 2 volunteers to help us (Their children could obviously attend!) If you can help please contact the school office accordingly.

Inter school fixtures: Mrs Julians really enjoys the clubs she runs in school and is organising some fixtures for after half term. She will contact you with details, if relevant to your child, in the next few weeks.

Reminders about other opportunities outside school:

TRYFC Toddington Rovers provide football for our local children and they have produced a regular newsletter. A copy of the latest newsletter was emailed out recently. If you wish to try out football with your child the contact details are on their newsletter or on their website.

Beds Music School. Also don't forget that both Redborne Upper School (Amphill) and Leighton Buzzard (Van Dyke Upper School) host great Saturday morning Music Schools your child might enjoy. **Inspiring Music** have the details on their website.

KEY DATES to EASTER

Monday 11 th January	Year 3 Super Start to new topic – cooking & banquet
Wednesday 13 th January	Year 4 Faith Tour to Bedford / 8 x Year 3's to HUS – Music
Tuesday 19 th January	Bags2School Collection / Year 1 to Bedford – Higgins Museum
Thursday 21 st January	Sportshall Athletics Festival – some Year 2 & 4 children / SCHOOL CENSUS DAY
Monday 1 st February	Sir Teachalot to visit Year 2
Monday 8 th February	Vision Screening Tests for Reception children
	Parents Consultation Evening 4.00 – 7.00
Wednesday 10 th February	Parents Consultation Evening 3.30 – 5.30
Friday 12 th February	Healthy Heart & Mind Day RNIB Day Wear Dots– Raise Lots!
15th – 19th February	HALF TERM
Tuesday 23 rd February	Height & Weight checks for Reception children
Wednesday 24 th February	Year 4 Swimming Festival
Friday 26 th February	'Little Treasures' Photographers after school
Tuesday 1 st March	2 x Year 4 children to HUS for Bake Off Competition
Wednesday 2 nd March	Year 3 Visit to Verulamium in St. Albans / 'Little Treasures' Photographers after school
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Saturday 5 th March	TSG Big Tidy Up 'Clean for the Queen'
Wednesday 9 th March	Travelling Book Fair arrives (can use £1.00 World Book Day token)
Tuesday 15 th March	New Nursery Intake Meeting for parents at 6.00
Friday 18 th March	New Nursery Intake Visit for children at 1.15pm
Saturday 19 th March	Toddington Spring Festival – Indoor Market in Village Hall
Tuesday 22 nd March	Year 3 Easter Performance to parents at 2.00 pm
Wednesday 23 rd March	Year 3 Learning Futures pm
Thursday 24 th March	Year 3 Learning Futures Assembly to Parents at 9.15 am
	Easter Assembly / End of Spring Term
Monday 11 th April	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 12 th April	Children back to school for Summer Term