

Toddington St George Church of England School Newsletter No. 13 – May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Do you fancy a picnic?

To celebrate the Queens 90th birthday we are opening up the school grounds on Sunday 22nd May for a picnic between 2.00 and 4.30 pm. Mrs Curtis (MBE) has organised Maypole dancing, Smart Arty entertainment and some great games on the field led by Mrs Julians. Do bring a picnic and join in the fun. Access will be via the back gate (Parkfields walkway entrance) only. We hope it will be a lovely sunny day.



New Building

We are delighted to have the keys to our new building. We will open the classrooms later this term. Thank you for your patience while the building work has been taking place.

From next **Monday, 16th May**, dropping off and picking up **will continue as currently. However any parents/carers then needing currently to go through school to other classes to collect or drop off children can use the canopy walkway.** These arrangements should make the movement around school much quicker than before for everyone.

New Nursery offer - September 2016

From September we shall be offering 3 hour (8.30-11.30 am) and 3 hour (12.30-3.30 pm) sessions all year. This means we can expand our offer of excellent pre-school learning for all children during the school year in which they turn 4 years old. Spring and Summer born children will be able to join us from September rather than wait till later in the school year. We will continue to align with our excellent on-site child care provider (Toddington Childcare) for lunch. If your child is not currently on our waiting list, or you are unsure whether they are, please pop into the school office

Please join us on either **Tuesday 7th June at 6.00pm or Friday 10th June at 9.00 am** to hear more about how your child can access this opportunity.

Celebrations at Toddington Childcare (TCC)

We would like to congratulate TCC for their Outstanding Ofsted. This is a great achievement and we are delighted for all of the TCC team and the families who attend there.

Jane Spencer, Head teacher

Head teacher Awards:

Congratulations to all those who have been awarded Head Teacher Awards for April.



Swans:	Phillip Spalding, Harry Vickery, Amber Dhaliwal
Kingfishers:	Luke Nicholson, Leighton Forbes, Bella Stewart
Penguins:	Meggy Colley-Griffin, Amelie Mott, Lucas Ellwood
Puffins:	Finley Chalmers, Lara Mayne, Ben Wilson
Toucans:	Victoria Barker, Imogen Collins, Michael Kelly
Hummingbirds:	Ben Zaidi, Mark Wilson, Charlotte Walker
Robins:	Archie Adams, Freya Lawson, Isla Macleod-Irvine
Wrens:	Kiya Bailey, Mollie Evans, Fintan Thomas
Condors:	Cody Brogan, Nala Wildman, Jamie Batt
Kestrels:	Matilda Brown, Ryan Fowler, James Field

SATS: You will have read in the press, or heard on the news, about some of the complications around the SATS assessments for Year 2 and Year 6 pupils this year. The children in Year 2 have been an absolute credit to the school this half term and we would like to assure you that as these assessments continue we will ensure the children are not overwhelmed by the process

Mrs Spencer, Mrs Collins and all of the Year 2 team

KS2 Choir: The Ploughman's lunch guests were delighted to hear the KS2 choir sing at their lunch last Thursday. Thank you to the choir for their lovely music and for representing the school so well.

Mrs Archer

Books to enjoy:

We would like to thank **MOTO in the Community Trust** for their very generous donation of books for our School Library. These were presented in Assembly last week.



Mrs Kemp

Healthy Schools News:**Healthy Heart and Mind Day - Friday 27th May**

Children can wear **sporty clothes (shorts, T shirts and trainers or Sports kit) for our HHM day.** Year 4 children who have applied will have 'Bikeability' training that day. Children in all year groups will have class competitions:

Years N and R	Team games
Years 1 and 2	Kick Rounders matches
Years 3 and 4	Kwik Cricket matches

Children from School Council and the Eco team have got together and will collect **good quality unwanted cuddly toys and 'read already' books** to sell for **20p on HHM day.** Please send in any you wish to donate. If children wish to bring 20p that Friday they will all get a chance to visit the stall and choose a toy or book. Money raised will go to the 'Make a Wish' charity and also to Micah (the child whose education we support in Zimbabwe). We would like to thank Ava Cunningham for this lovely idea. It should be a lovely end to a busy half term.

School Council and Eco team

Mrs Soor, Mrs Clough,

The Big Pedal: Well done to Swans, Kingfishers and Puffins classes who shared the highest number of children who biked or pedalled to school during '**The Big Pedal Bike to School**' period. Certificates were awarded in assembly to all classes for taking part.

Walk to School Week: Walk to school week starts on Monday 16th May. Children are encouraged to walk (or scoot or pedal) to school and will be rewarded with special magnetic stickers.

Quad kids: The Year 4 team really enjoyed the Quad Kids Athletics festival last week. The children were awarded certificates in assembly. Well done to all who took part. Elspeth Shaw and George Renwick were the star athletes.

St. Georges Day 'Dancing Dragons' Concert DVD's:

A third of the school took part in our Dancing Dragons event for this year's Toddington Spring Festival. The DVDs of the event are now available for £1.00. Please ring school or speak to Mrs Child for a copy. They are great! The children loved seeing part of the DVD in Assembly this week.

Lunchtimes:

We have really worked hard to improve the lunchtime arrangements for the children. Children are happier to be sitting with their friends, choosing from the salad and fruit bars themselves, waiting for less time to get their food and enjoying a longer play time. On Fridays some staff have enjoyed sitting with the Golden Table children who have had really good lunchtimes that week and been awarded stickers by the Midday Meals Supervisors. The kitchen staff and the MMS team have really supported these changes and we are very grateful to them for the improvements for the children.

Mrs Scott, Mrs Stringer, Mrs Tripp and Mrs Spencer

Important Advice: The sun was shining when I wrote this!

Please remember caps/hats, water bottles and sun cream (named) for your children on hot sunny days. Many thanks.

**Samaritans Shoe Boxes Appeal for Christmas:**

Thanks so much for all the stationery items (pens, pencils, crayons, felt tips, notebooks, sharpeners, rulers, rubbers, markers, colouring books, stickers and pencil cases) that have been donated. Well done to Wrens who had a class box that was overflowing.

This month we are collecting for socks, hats, caps, scarves, gloves and mittens. We appreciate that they may be trickier to find in the shops at this time of year!



Thank you on behalf of Mrs Soor and School Council

We want your rubbish!

The theme for the inter-schools **Art Exhibition at Poplars** (starting on Saturday 2nd July) is 'Man Made'. We have a super plan for an installation by the children with work from every class but we need a lot of recyclable materials to achieve it. Instead of throwing away, can you please donate any of the following

Old CD Discs
Balls of wool
Round plastic bottle tops
Lids (eg: Pringles, gravy, sauces etc)
Buttons
Clean tin cans (no labels) including drink cans
Small plastic bottles
Shiny sweet wrappers



There is a collection box in the School Foyer. Many thanks.

Mrs Gaskin and Mrs Millen

Thank You's

Thank you to Joseph Wheeler's Dad and Grandad (Puffins) who very kindly brought in their replica model of a proper steam train – it is about the third of the size of the real thing. All the children (and adults) really enjoyed the experience of seeing it driven around the front playground which enhanced their learning of their 'On the Move' topic this term. Joseph even drove it into the car park.

Thank you to PC Dave Dodkins for talking to the children in Assembly this morning. They really enjoyed meeting him and hearing about his job as our school's liaison office.

Thank you to Jane Julians and the PTA for organising another great Quiz Evening last Friday. Congratulations to the winning team.

Reminders

Year 1 Play rehearsals have begun!

Please check the date below so you can enjoy the play.



Year 4 Sing Up tickets at The Grove Theatre: Don't forget to order your sing up tickets from the Grove Theatre. The concert is Thursday 23rd June at 6.00 pm.

Class / Leavers Photographs: You should now have received your proof photographs. Orders to be back with us by Friday 27th May please or alternatively, and preferably, ordered online.

Sports Council appeal: Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Please bring in any remaining vouchers you may have at home now that they Sainsburys have finished their campaign. We need to send them off within the next month and really want to get some new goals, a few swing balls and some food technology equipment! Thanks very much.

PTA Ball and Go Ballistic weekend – Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th July

The Ball tickets are selling fast so please make sure you get your table bookings in as soon as possible. 'Go Ballistic' will be a great way to end the year as a school so add the date to your diary.

And finally.....,

Two of our staff (Mrs Child and Mrs Tillin) and 16 other local ladies (including some of our mums) will be walking 26 miles overnight on Saturday for the breast cancer charity 'Walk the Walk'. They will be 'underwear clad' (you may even spot them on the TV news).

Think of them as they walk and if you are keen to donate you can do so on

<https://moonwalklondon2016.everydayhero.com/uk/caribbean-queens>

<https://moonwalklondon2016.everydayhero.com/uk/mardi-bra-s-1>

DIARY DATES TO THE END OF TERM

Monday 16 th May	Walk to School Week commences
Tuesday 17 th May	Hooked on Worship Assembly – invited parents only
Sunday 22 nd May	Summer Picnic at TSG to celebrate Queen's 90 th Birthday at School 2.00 – 4.30 pm
Thursday 26 th May	Year 1 Performance to parents at 2.15 pm Year 4 Kwik Cricket Festival
Friday 27 th May	Healthy Heart & Mind Day / Year 4 Bikeability Residential Meeting for Year 4 parents at 9.00 am School Council / Eco Club – Cuddly Toy & Book Sale
	HALF TERM
Monday 6 th June	Children return to School after half term / Year 2 Africa Day
Tuesday 7 th June	Reception children to visit Woburn Safari Park Year 3 & 4 – Rounders & Kwik Cricket Inter-School Competition New Nursery Offer meeting at 6.00 pm
Wednesday 8 th June	HIU unit to visit Whipsnade Zoo African Drumming lessons start in Year 2
Thursday 9 th June	Year 4 'History off the page' Egyptian visit
Friday 10 th June	New Nursery Offer Meeting at 9.00 am PTA Special Men / Fathers Day Secret Shop
Monday 13 th June	Healthy Eating Week commences
Tuesday 14 th June	Year 2 visit to Ashridge Forest
Wednesday 15 th June	Brownies to use playing fields for football 6.00 – 7.30
Thursday 16 th June	Fire Engines to visit Year 2 pm / Parkfields Sports Day
Thursday 23 rd June	Year 4 SOPO Concert at The Grove Theatre at 6.00 pm leaving school at 1.30 for rehearsals
Friday 24 th June	Sports Day for Years 1 – 4
Saturday 25 th June	Village Summer Fete & Dog Show
Monday 27 th June	Reserve Sports Day for Years 1 – 4
Tuesday 28 th June	Sports Day for Reception & Nursery classes Year 3 Learning Futures pm
Thursday 30 th June	Year 1 trip to Whipsnade Zoo Toddington Childcare using KS2 playground for Sports Day (am) Parkfields Open Evening for year 4 parents
Friday 1 st July	MOVE UP DAY / New Nursery intake meeting at 1.15 pm
Saturday 2 nd July	Art Exhibition at Poplars Nursery for one week
Monday 4 th July	Summer Reading Challenge Assembly to children by Library Parents Information Meeting at 9.00 am for parents of children new to Years 3 & 4 in September
Wednesday 6 th July	Year 4 children to Mill Rythe for two nights
Thursday 7 th July	Parents Information Meeting at 9.00 am for parents of children new to Reception class and Years 1 & 2 in September
Friday 8 th July	Year 4 children return from Mill Rythe
Saturday 9 th July	Family Art Activity Day at Poplars Nursery (end of Art Exhibition)
Monday 11 th July	Open Evening at school 3.30 – 5.30
Tuesday 12 th July	New Nursery & Reception Intake meeting for parents at 6.00 pm
Thursday 14 th July	Year 3 Camping on the field
Saturday 16 th July	PTA Summer Ball in Marquee in TSG grounds
Sunday 17 th July	Go Ballistic Event (12.00 – 4.00 pm)
Tuesday 19 th July	Year 4 Residential Assembly to parents at 9.20 am
Thursday 21 st July	Year 4 BBQ after school
Friday 22 nd July	End of School Year Assembly Year 4 Leavers Service at 2.00 – year 4 parents & carers welcome

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 6th September Children return to school for the Autumn Term.