



**TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH of ENGLAND SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER No. 3 - end September 2017**

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Harvest**

Our Harvest Festival is next **Thursday (October 5th)**. We will be celebrating Harvest and Reverend Linda Washington will be joining us for the Harvest Service. This year we will collect offerings of food for the local Food Bank and collect money for the Diocese Harvest Appeal to support farmers growing beans in the Philippines. If you would like to know more about this appeal please visit the Diocesan website [www.harvestappeal.org](http://www.harvestappeal.org). If you are able to donate non-perishable food stuff (tins, packets) and / or £1.00 for the overseas appeal we would be really grateful.

**Ducklings**

**How is my child settling?**

Now the Ducklings have begun to get used to being in Nursery we look forward to meeting you about how they are getting on. **Nursery meeting times** have been offered via our text booking system. Please note Mrs. Stringer, Mrs. French and Mr. Nnchori will meet with Parents and Carers on this occasion and each will have up to date information for you about how your child is settling in.

Thanks to those with children in Years R – 4 who came to the Parents / Carers 'How has my child settled in' meetings. We hope you found these helpful. For those who could not, or did not attend, please make sure you attend the Parent Consultation meetings in November

**Next Important event for Parents and Carers**

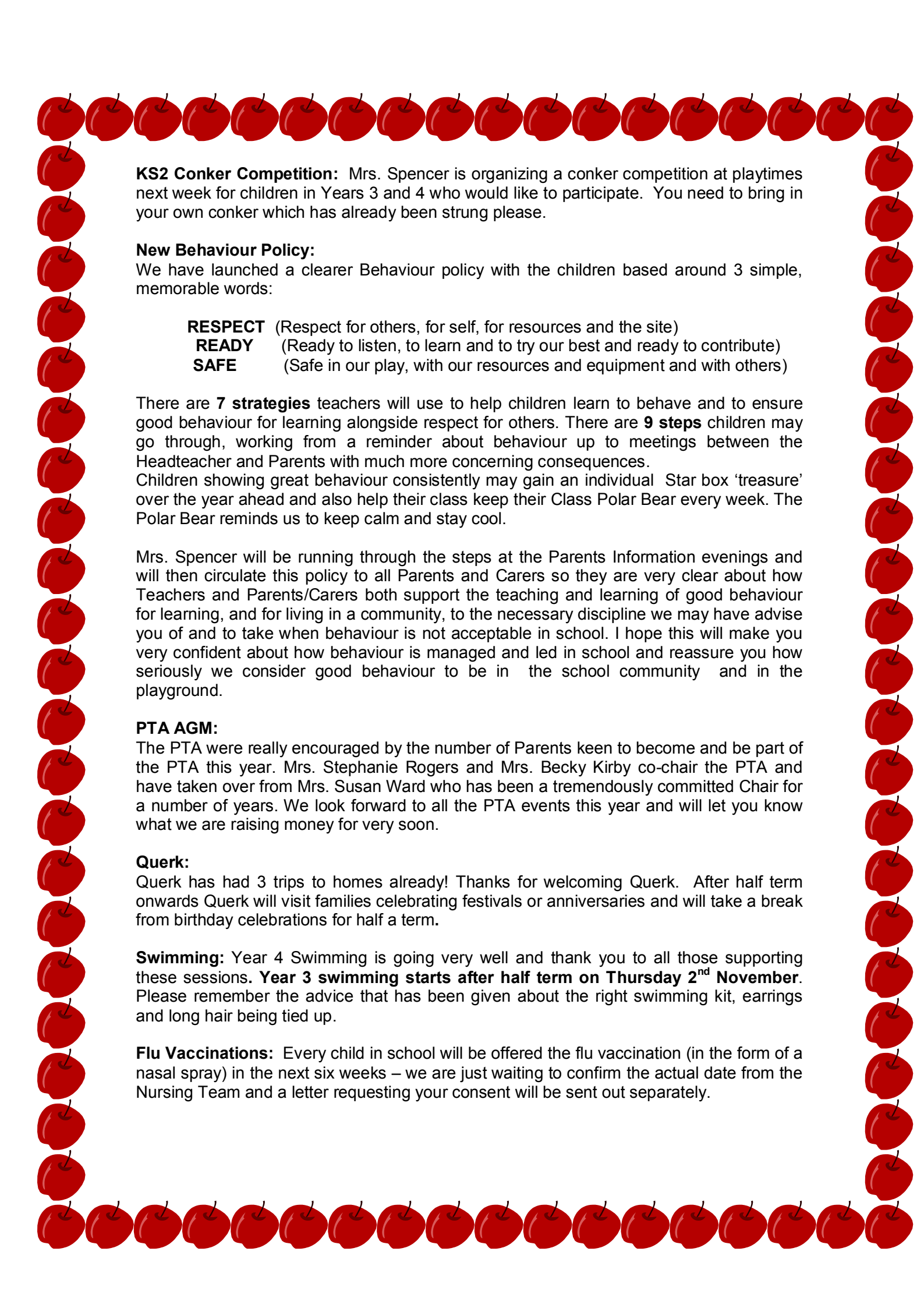
We provide an evening when you can gain information to understand the sort of teaching and learning expectations that are in place for each year group. It is also a chance to learn more about the child development we support in each year group and how you can help your child accordingly. We explain how your child will be assessed against national tests (in all year groups this year), how we help your child prepare and what happens when the tests are done. These meetings usually reassure Parents and Carers. Year 4 Parents will also hear about transition to Parkfields and Mr. Purdom, the Year 5 Liaison Teacher, will be joining us.

**Attendance:**

Thank you very much for the time you have taken to ring in about attendance – we only have a few children arriving late to school. Let's get the 'lates' down to zero now!

**Changed your phone / email address / moved house?**

Please be sure we have up to date records for emergency contact numbers, medical information and transport arrangements for your child. Student Update Forms will go out in the next couple of weeks. Inhalers and Epipens need to be up to date too please!



**KS2 Conker Competition:** Mrs. Spencer is organizing a conker competition at playtimes next week for children in Years 3 and 4 who would like to participate. You need to bring in your own conker which has already been strung please.

**New Behaviour Policy:**

We have launched a clearer Behaviour policy with the children based around 3 simple, memorable words:

- RESPECT** (Respect for others, for self, for resources and the site)
- READY** (Ready to listen, to learn and to try our best and ready to contribute)
- SAFE** (Safe in our play, with our resources and equipment and with others)

There are **7 strategies** teachers will use to help children learn to behave and to ensure good behaviour for learning alongside respect for others. There are **9 steps** children may go through, working from a reminder about behaviour up to meetings between the Headteacher and Parents with much more concerning consequences.

Children showing great behaviour consistently may gain an individual Star box 'treasure' over the year ahead and also help their class keep their Class Polar Bear every week. The Polar Bear reminds us to keep calm and stay cool.

Mrs. Spencer will be running through the steps at the Parents Information evenings and will then circulate this policy to all Parents and Carers so they are very clear about how Teachers and Parents/Carers both support the teaching and learning of good behaviour for learning, and for living in a community, to the necessary discipline we may have advise you of and to take when behaviour is not acceptable in school. I hope this will make you very confident about how behaviour is managed and led in school and reassure you how seriously we consider good behaviour to be in the school community and in the playground.

**PTA AGM:**

The PTA were really encouraged by the number of Parents keen to become and be part of the PTA this year. Mrs. Stephanie Rogers and Mrs. Becky Kirby co-chair the PTA and have taken over from Mrs. Susan Ward who has been a tremendously committed Chair for a number of years. We look forward to all the PTA events this year and will let you know what we are raising money for very soon.

**Querk:**

Querk has had 3 trips to homes already! Thanks for welcoming Querk. After half term onwards Querk will visit families celebrating festivals or anniversaries and will take a break from birthday celebrations for half a term.

**Swimming:** Year 4 Swimming is going very well and thank you to all those supporting these sessions. **Year 3 swimming starts after half term on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.** Please remember the advice that has been given about the right swimming kit, earrings and long hair being tied up.

**Flu Vaccinations:** Every child in school will be offered the flu vaccination (in the form of a nasal spray) in the next six weeks – we are just waiting to confirm the actual date from the Nursing Team and a letter requesting your consent will be sent out separately.

**Individual and Sibling Photographs:** These will be held in school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

**Music lessons** have started again and children are learning guitar and piano through Inspiring Music and drums via an independent teacher. Please visit the Inspiring Music website if you want your child to start learning recorder, brass instrument, voice or a stringed instrument.

School Choir is going very well and it is a joy to already have 28 children join the KS1 choir and 25 in KS2. We can also recommend a local singing teacher for children who are keen to take up individual singing lessons.

### SOME IMPORTANT KEY DATES:

#### **SEPTEMBER:**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Macmillan Coffee Morning in the School Hall until 10.30

#### **OCTOBER:**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Bag2School Collection  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Want to train to teach? Information session for Parents from School Initial Teacher Training group based in Toddington All welcome 8.30 – 9.30 in the Chalets

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Tag Rugby Festival – selected Year 4 children  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival (children only) / ECO Club restarts  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> School Photographs - Individual and Siblings  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Ducklings 'Meet the Teachers' (am and pm)  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Parents Information Meeting for Reception parents at 9.10  
Ducklings 'Meet the Teachers' (pm)

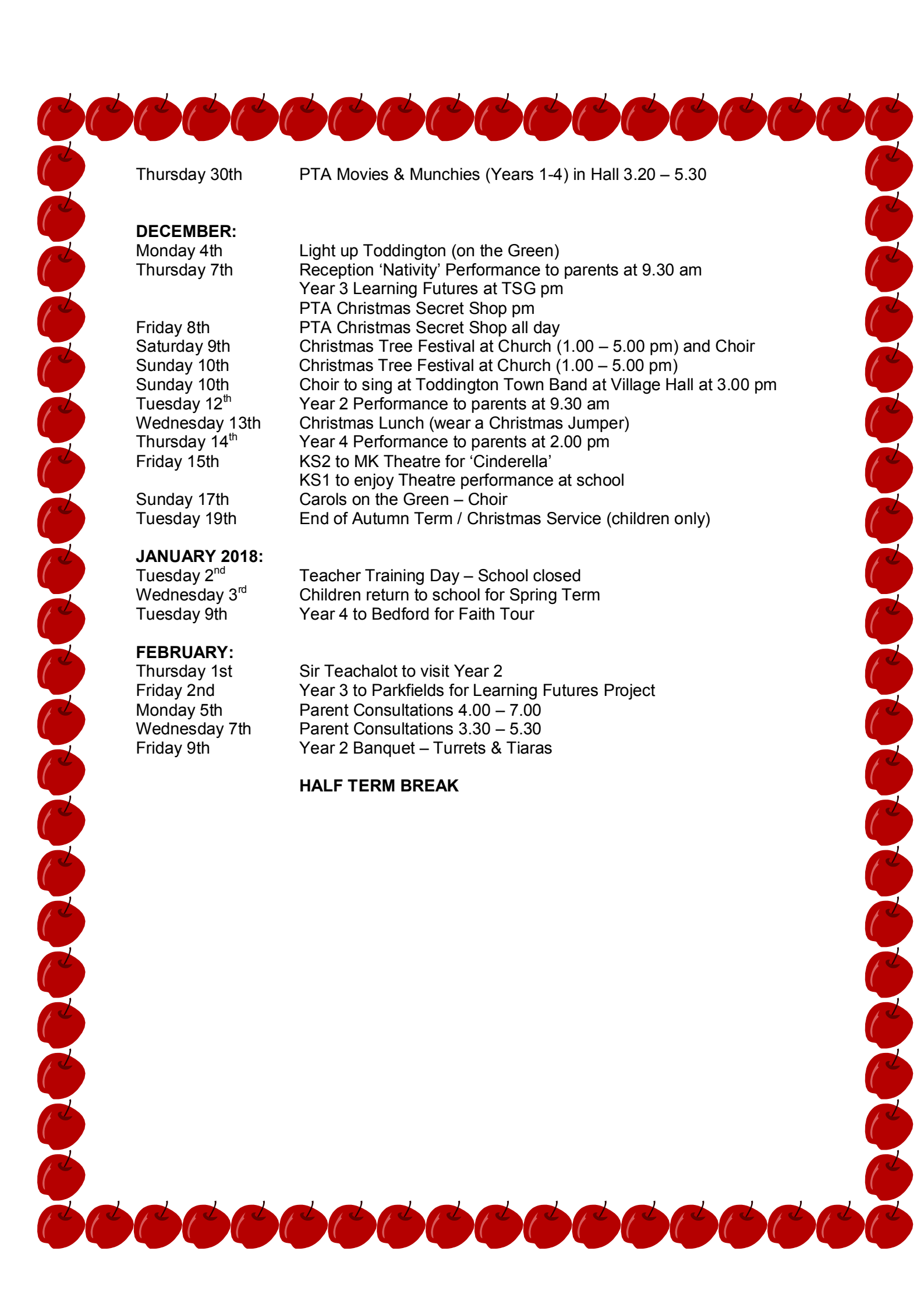
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Parents Meeting for Years 1 – 4 in Hall at 7.00 pm  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Year 4 to visit Holdenby House  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Year 2 visit to St Albans Cathedral  
Healthy Heart & Mind Day (Sports / PE kit day)  
PTA Fancy Dress Disco in the School hall 6.30 – 9.30

#### **HALF TERM WEEK**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Teacher Training Day - School Closed  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Children back to school after half term

#### **NOVEMBER:**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 3 children to start Swimming lessons  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Year 3 Stone Age Day  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Open Evening at Parkfields for Year 4 Children  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Service at 11.00 am  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Service on The Green at 11.00 am  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Parents Consultations 4.00 – 7.00 pm  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Parents Consultations 3.30 – 5.30  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day – non-uniform day  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Shoebox Service in Woburn at 10.00 am  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> PTA Christmas Fayre in School Hall 3.30 – 5.00  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Open Classrooms 3.20 – 4.00  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Open Classrooms 8.30 – 9.00  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Year 2 Victorian Day



Thursday 30th

PTA Movies & Munchies (Years 1-4) in Hall 3.20 – 5.30

**DECEMBER:**

Monday 4th

Light up Toddington (on the Green)

Thursday 7th

Reception 'Nativity' Performance to parents at 9.30 am

Year 3 Learning Futures at TSG pm

PTA Christmas Secret Shop pm

Friday 8th

PTA Christmas Secret Shop all day

Saturday 9th

Christmas Tree Festival at Church (1.00 – 5.00 pm) and Choir

Sunday 10th

Christmas Tree Festival at Church (1.00 – 5.00 pm)

Sunday 10th

Choir to sing at Toddington Town Band at Village Hall at 3.00 pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

Year 2 Performance to parents at 9.30 am

Wednesday 13th

Christmas Lunch (wear a Christmas Jumper)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Year 4 Performance to parents at 2.00 pm

Friday 15th

KS2 to MK Theatre for 'Cinderella'

KS1 to enjoy Theatre performance at school

Sunday 17th

Carols on the Green – Choir

Tuesday 19th

End of Autumn Term / Christmas Service (children only)

**JANUARY 2018:**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Teacher Training Day – School closed

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Children return to school for Spring Term

Tuesday 9th

Year 4 to Bedford for Faith Tour

**FEBRUARY:**

Thursday 1st

Sir Teachalot to visit Year 2

Friday 2nd

Year 3 to Parkfields for Learning Futures Project

Monday 5th

Parent Consultations 4.00 – 7.00

Wednesday 7th

Parent Consultations 3.30 – 5.30

Friday 9th

Year 2 Banquet – Turrets & Tiaras

**HALF TERM BREAK**