



TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH of ENGLAND SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER No. 4 - October half term 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs. J. Stringer and Mrs. J. Vickers have been appointed as Assistant Headteachers for the academic year ahead. Mrs. Stringer will lead teams in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and Mrs. Vickers will work an additional half a day to lead teams in Years 2, 3 & 4. Both staff interviewed very well and we look forward to them co-leading the school.

Headteacher Awards: Awards for October were presented to:		Congratulations!
Swans:	Taylor Roberts, Harry Gadsden, George Russell	
Kingfishers:	Rupert Knight, Max Kirby, Lily Rivers	
Puffins:	William Garland, Nelly Ketir, Olivia Neiteler	
Penguins:	Finley Cluff, Logan Grumoli, Niamh Chew	
Toucans:	Riley Sharp, Gabriel Luikaj, Ella Baines	
Hummingbirds:	Oliver Dobbs, Felicity Read, Lily Reynolds	
Robins:	Sean Weeden, Gabriel Hydes, Marcus Machado	
Wrens:	Ollie Scholes, Ollie Crawford, Jessica Wyncoll	
Condors:	Jemima Cornelius, Josie Finn, Zach Collins	
Kestrels:	Louie Lawrence, Lily Butler, Holly Riley	

Headteacher Awards: Awards for September were presented to:		Congratulations!
Swans:	Isabelle Corbett, Harry Nicholson, Taylor Williams	
Kingfishers:	Ioannis Bardis, Marcus Dalgarno, Radhika Pau	
Puffins:	Helena Roberts, Adam Redmond, Poppy Tucker	
Penguins:	Olivia Roberts, Kaila Murphy, Philamena McDonagh	
Toucans:	Mia Chadwick, Summer Waller, Lilianna Beben	
Hummingbirds:	Harry Kilpatrick, Finlay Lawrence, Gabriella Hinds	
Robins:	James Angus, Cameron Choosey, Molly Tucker	
Wrens:	Millie Fowler, Arran Frost-Bryant, Mason Greene	
Condors:	Tom Redman, Daniel DeFilippo, Zara Matthews	
Kestrels:	Ellie Leftkadtis, Owen Russell, Ava Cunningham	

School Council: Elections have been held and the new School Council for this year are:

Year 4	Condors:	Daniel DeFilippo / Cormac Hayes
	Kestrels:	Isabella Bacon / Liam Leather
Year 3	Wrens:	Faye Macleod-Irvine / Isabella Choosey
	Robins:	Meggy Colley-Griffin / Sam Tillin
Year 2	Hummingbirds:	Mia Skidmore / Conor Hayes
	Toucans	Ishaan Machani / Lily Kane

Watch out for their Friday blog on the website!

Harvest: Year 4 ran two competitions to support the overseas appeal. The first was 'Guess the amount of Jelly Beans in a jar' and the winner was Isabella Bacon in Kestrels with a great guess of 300, the actual amount was 307! The second was a Bean Challenge (how many beans can you transfer from one bowl to another using a straw). The winner was Zach Collins with a score of 43 (Jaida Bullock coming a close second). The total amount raised was £42.00. This, with the £1.00 donation for the Bishop's Harvest appeal for Bean growers in the Philippines **raised £250.00** to send from the school. Thank you also for your generous donations towards the Dunstable Foodbank – we collected **281 kg of food which is equivalent to 670 meals for hungry people.**

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.

Great learning experiences

Nursery: Toddington Dental Practice: Lisa and Rubi visited the children in Nursery and Reception this week and talked about good oral care habits at an early age. They also enjoyed an Autumn walk.

Reception: We have a fabulous Superhero Day on Wednesday to celebrate the finale of their topic 'Magical Me'. Thanks for the great costumes!

Year 1 Year 1 had the dentist visit and talked about good oral care habits at an early age. The children have enjoyed making the About Me books.

Year 2 had a very happy and successful trip to St Albans Abbey yesterday. The staff were delighted with their behaviour and interest in the Abbey as a place of worship.

Year 3 Baptism in Class: Reverend Linda joined us to teach the first of two lessons, on what it means to show commitment to a belief, group or cause and to explain how some people show commitment to their faith through baptism.

Year 4 visit to Holdenby House: The costumes our Year 4 'evacuees' wore for the WW2 living History day were great - thanks for providing them. The children had some great comments from the day and have produced some excellent work this term on this theme.

Year 4 Tag Rugby Winners: Two teams attended the Inter-Schools Tag Rugby Festival and we were delighted to come out top in our matches. Medals were awarded to the teams last week in Assembly.

HHM Days: These days combine wellbeing and physical / sporty activities to help us all have healthy hearts and minds (HHM). We finished the half term with a HHM day – Years N, R & 1 tried Yoga as their sporty activity and also created a 'Hand of Trust' which helps them be confident about whom they can be sure they can trust to talk with if they have any concerns. Years 1 – 4 tried Judo (over a two day period) and also created their own 'Hand of Trust'.

Swimming: Year 4 have now finished their lessons and Year 3 Swimming starts the first Thursday back after half term (2nd November). Please remember the advice that has been given about the right swimming kit, earrings and long hair being tied up.

FA Football: We are lucky enough to have secured FA coaches one afternoon a week for the next six weeks. Years 1 and 2 will benefit from these sessions. They are also offering a **Football Lunch club on Tuesdays for years 3 and 4 girls** so please let the office know if your daughter is interested in joining this club. **Luton Town Football Club** will continue on Thursdays after half term until Christmas.

Advice for Year N R and 1 Parents.

Nursery Over half term please can you encourage your child in Year N with their toileting. Many children are manging really well now on the Nursery toilets!

Year R. Please encourage your Yr. R child to take shoes and jumpers on and off all on their own to help them get more time in PE time as changing will be quicker. We will encourage your child to come in on their own at the classroom door from next half term as they have gained confidence arriving in the mornings.

Year 1 please can we encourage not to bring in 'Finger lings' toys as they are expensive small and easily lost. Year 1 Children can come from the playground to the class door in their line in the mornings without Parents/Carers at the start of the day next term- as they are so grown up now coming in!

Parents Information meetings were well received and a few parents were quite surprised by just how much the children need to learn at a young age! For those who missed the meetings a Year 2 follow-up will be held next half term. All other classes received handouts in the book bags or they were emailed out.

Behaviour: Well done to the children. We launched our revised behaviour approach in September with **RRS** as our reminders about being Respectful, Ready and Safe. Behaviour logs are kept by year group leaders now and they note the positive rewards given as well as incidents causing a concern. Our new class behaviour polar bears have been very popular and stay with a class that has behaved well and worked hard. Currently incidents have dropped considerably against this time last year so we hope this will continue into the new half term.

Attendance Year 4 currently have the highest **attendance** this half term with **97.68%**.

The **Staff 'Wear It Pink' Day** today was held to support research into Breast Cancer – thanks to Jacqui Herbert for organising and co-ordinating all the gifts for the staff raffle.

Safety at Halloween: As Halloween approaches Bedfordshire Police remind parents and carers to keep their children safe. If possible, parents and carers should go out trick or treating with their children, sticking to well-lit areas and only knocking on the doors of people they know. Some people may have 'No Trick or Treat' posters up at their doors and we ask that these are respected.

Bedfordshire Police is also reminding children and parents to be mindful that some of the more vulnerable or elderly members of the community may feel intimidated by people calling at their doors and appeals to all residents to look out for their neighbours who may feel frightened during this time.

Extra patrols will be on hand over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period to ensure that the evenings can be enjoyed safely. If you do have any concerns during Halloween, **it's important that you call 101** in order to keep 999 free for genuine emergencies - 31 October is one of the police's busiest nights of the year! For more advice about Halloween, please visit www.bedfordshire.police.uk

Bag2School Collection; Thank you for your textiles donations – the school received £92.00 which will go to support the School's 50th celebration in April.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal: Should you wish to donate towards our shoebox appeal; the School Council will be collating goodies and wrapping up shoeboxes after half term.

The Scholastic half price Book Fair arrives on **Wednesday 22nd November** for a week - further details will follow.

Lost Property: We have a lot of lost property accumulating already; please label your child's school uniform and personal affects – we cannot return it to them if not identifiable.

**SAVE THE DATE:
TSG 50th Celebrations - Saturday 21st April**

Please save this date in your diaries for next year.
All the children in school will be involved in an afternoon performance
at different times, according to their year group, throughout the afternoon.
There will also be lots of photos and memorabilia to view in the marquee, and this space will be transformed in the evening to hold an adult '**Disco through the Decades**' party.

SOME IMPORTANT KEY DATES:

Friday 30 th	PTA Family Fancy Dress Disco in the School Hall 6.30 – 9.30
Monday 30 th	HALF TERM WEEK
Tuesday 31 st	Teacher Training Day - School Closed
NOVEMBER:	Children back to school after half term
Thursday 2 nd	Year 3 children to start Swimming lessons
Tuesday 7 th	Year 3 Stone Age Day
Thursday 9 th	Open Evening at Parkfields for Year 4 Children
Friday 10 th	Remembrance Service at 11.00 am in School (children only)
Sunday 12 th	Remembrance Service on The Green at 11.00 am
Monday 13 th	Parents Consultations 4.00 – 7.00 pm (Years R – 4)
Wednesday 15 th	Children's flu immunizations (Years R – 4) / Parents Consultations 3.30 – 5.30
Friday 17 th	Children in Need Day – non-uniform day (theme to follow shortly)
Sunday 19 th	Shoebox Service at Woburn Church at 10.00 am
Wednesday 22 nd	Scholastic Book Fair arrives in school
Friday 24 th	PTA Christmas Fayre in School Hall 3.30 – 5.00 / Tree Festival at Parkfields
Monday 27 th	Open Classrooms 3.20 – 4.00 all years including Ducklings
Tuesday 28 th	Open Classrooms 8.30 – 9.00 all years except Ducklings
Wednesday 29 th	Year 2 Victorian Day
Thursday 30 th	PTA Movies & Munchies (Years 1-4) in Hall 3.20 – 5.30
DECEMBER:	
Monday 4 th	Light up Toddington (on the Green)
Thursday 7 th	Year R 'Nativity' Performance to parents at 9.30 am
	Year 3 Learning Futures at TSG pm / PTA Christmas Secret Shop pm
Friday 8 th	PTA Christmas Secret Shop all day
Saturday 9 th	Christmas Tree Festival at Church (1.00 – 5.00 pm) and Choir for short time
Sunday 10 th	Christmas Tree Festival at Church (1.00 – 5.00 pm)
Sunday 10 th	Choir to sing at Toddington Town Band at Village Hall at 3.00 pm

Tuesday 12th
Wednesday 13th
Thursday 14th
Friday 15th

Year 2 Performance to parents at 9.30 am
Christmas Lunch (Yrs. R -4) and 'Wear a Christmas Jumper Day' for Yrs. N-4)
Year 4 Performance to parents at 2.00 pm
KS2 to MK Theatre for 'Cinderella' / KS1 to enjoy Theatre performance at school
Magic Dave to visit Nursery and Reception children

Sunday 17th
Tuesday 19th

Carols on the Green – Choir
End of Autumn Term / Christmas Service (children only)

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

JANUARY 2018:

Tuesday 2nd
Wednesday 3rd
Tuesday 9th

Teacher Training Day – School closed
Children return to school for Spring Term
Year 4 to Bedford for Faith Tour

FEBRUARY:

Thursday 1st
Friday 2nd
Monday 5th
Wednesday 7th
Friday 9th

Sir Teachalot to visit Year 2
Year 3 to Parkfields for Learning Futures Project
Parent Consultations 4.00 – 7.00
Parent Consultations 3.30 – 5.30
Year 2 Banquet – Turrets & Tiaras

HALF TERM BREAK