



## No: 9- January 2023

**UNCRC Article 13:** Children have the right and to share information, as long as the information is not damaging to them or to others.

Dear Parents & Carers,

This half term is already flying by! The last two weeks have been busy with everyone enjoying the start to their new topics.

Year 3 have 'Entered the Classics', embarking on an English led topic. I know they have enjoyed looking at the work of various authors. They are enjoying rehearsing for their upcoming production of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

In Year 4, this half term's topic is 'Europe: different countries, different lives?' They will be comparing different localities around Europe to Old Basing, it will be interesting to see what they discover!

This term's learning in Year 5 is focused on the Ancient Greeks. They are linking all of their history learning to the question: What is the Legacy of the Ancient Greeks? This topic will take them on a journey around southern Europe, exploring the country of Greece and its rich history.

Year 6 are looking at entertainment through the ages over the next few months, with a particular focus in English on the work of Shakespeare. They are looking forward to a visit from the Young Shakespeare Company later this month.

The year group newsletters that you received last week will have more information about what each year group are learning about this term and details of year group specific events.

Next week in Act of Worship we will be moving on to our value of Respect. At the beginning of the week will be looking at the Christian Festival of Candlemas which brings to a close the Christmas period. The following week we will also be looking at respect for others online, including activities relating to Safer Internet Day.

Please remember to regularly check our website news pages and photo gallery to see what is happening in school.

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/news/?pid=195&nid=2>

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=7&gcatid=55>

### **Building resilience in children and teens (Family Lives)**

The Family Lives charity aims to offer all parents somewhere to turn before they reach crisis point. Crisis support, provided for over 40 years through their helpline, has always been at the heart of what they do. Family Lives also have an excellent website to help parents with the ups and downs of family life. One useful infographic is this one about building resilience in children and teens. You can download it here: <https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/your-family/wellbeing/building-resilience-in-children-and-teens/>

The Family Lives parents' helpline is available Monday to Friday, 1.30 - 9pm on 0808 800 2222. The website can be found here: <https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

### **Online Safety**

I am sure that many of your children received new Internet enabled hardware e.g. a new Pc or tablet, PlayStation etc. or received new online games including passes. Developments in the world of IT continue to rapidly change and for many of us it can appear that children are speaking a completely different language to us. To support parents in keeping their children safe the NSPCC and Internet matters have produced guides for parents. Please follow the links below in order to keep yourself up to date and to support your children in remaining safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/fornite-battle-royal-parents-guide-keep-kids-safe-gaming>

### **Sportshall Athletics Competition – 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

Twelve children attended the annual Sportshall athletics qualifiers held at Costello, with 6 girls and 6 boys taking part in 3 different activities - a throw, a jump and a sprint. Four schools attended alongside ourselves and the children of St Mary's performed fantastically and showed our one family ethos by supporting each other and the other competitors. In a very tense atmosphere, our children were able to secure an amazing 1st place finish. This has earned us a place in the district finals in March to be held at QMC. Our children are in high spirits and eager to compete once again. Thank you to all the parents for their support and help during this event.

Mr Sargeant

## **Individual Table Tennis competition – 24<sup>th</sup>**

### **January**

The Basingstoke U11 individual table tennis competition took place this week at Aldworth school with 4 boys and 4 girls representing St Mary's. This year it was great to see a full competition of 16 boys and 16 girls taking part which made for a very busy and exciting morning! After many hard fought matches, with the majority of our children finishing in the top half, we ended up with 3 St Mary's pupils in the semi finals, which is a fantastic achievement as the standard was exceptionally high. Huge congratulations to Rudi and Sophie who won bronze medals and Isabella who won a silver medal and qualification to the County Final in Southampton on 1<sup>st</sup> February. It was an absolute pleasure to spend time with our children who were so enthusiastic, sporting, fun and supportive of each other. A special mention must also go to Cormac who won the plate competition and Sophie who is only a Year 4 and a very exciting talent for the future! Congratulations to all our 8 players – Rudi, Sam, Cormac, Aidan, Harleen, Sophie, Stela & Isabella. We would like to wish Isabella the best of luck for the County Final next week.

Mr Sargeant & Mrs Berglin

### **Healthy Snacks**

Recently we have noticed an increase in rubbish on the playground, such as crisp packets. All children should bring a healthy fruit snack for morning break and not raid their lunch box!

We have also had an increase in requests for cups from children who have not brought a water bottle into school. Please could you ensure that your child brings in a named water bottle everyday.

### **Half term Holiday Camps**

Please find attached details of both Sports Xtra and Premier Education's February half term holiday camps.

### **Contact Details – keeping up to date**

Since the implementation of GDPR we no longer send out copies of the current details that we hold for you as a means of checking. It is vital therefore that if any of your details do change that you inform us immediately – for example you may have had a new mobile phone over Christmas and changed your number. Please could we also ask that we have at least two contact numbers for your child in case of emergencies and that these numbers are readily available? For example, a work number could be a central reception contact for your place of work who can then get a message through to you.

### **Absence Reporting**

Please remember to keep the office aware if your child is absent from school or has an appointment which means they will be in late or leaving early. If for any reason your child is not able to attend an after school club we would also request that you let us know in advance.

## **Governor's Corner**

We are back into the full cycle of school governor duties. The regular cadence of Governing body meetings are in full swing. These consist of full governing body that look at policy, finance, delivery of quality education and give an overview of the school's performance. Then we have subcommittee meetings that deal specifically with the curriculum, school budgets, admissions, pay and many other aspects of running the school. As a result of these activities governors get the information to support and challenge the way the school is operating. We get to see first-hand the way the school maintains and looks to improve its standards of high quality education and behaviour of pupils, staff and governors. It continues to be fascinating to see the school from a governor perspective.

Phil Jubin, Foundation Governor

### **Parent Governor**

We are pleased to welcome Mr White to the governing body after he was appointed as a parent's governor at last night's full governing body meeting. We look forward to working with him.

### **Coats and shoes**

It was great to see nearly every pupil in a coat last week, we were able to get out for fresh air despite the cold! As you know we endeavour to get out whenever we can for break time, PE and for learning opportunities outside the classroom so it is really important all pupils bring a coat to school with them.

### **Dinner Money**

Please regularly check your SCOPAY account to check you are in credit at all times. The cost of school dinners is £2.80 per meal and should be paid in advance.

### **Application for Year 3 places Sept 2022**

Applications for Yr. 3 places for September 2023 have now closed. The notification date for on-time applicants is 17<sup>th</sup> April.

### **F.O.O.B.S.**

Tickets are now on sale for the upcoming F.O.O.B.S. Quiz Night on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February. We are excited to be running our first Quiz Night since before Covid! Tickets are on sale until 8pm on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Please purchase your tickets at <https://foobs.weebly.com/> and don't forget to make your Greek Street food choices at the end of the ordering process.

We are holding our first Dare to be Different Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Children will be able to bend the school rules for one day only for a suggested donation of 50p per rule they bend. More information to come next week.

Also just a reminder that we have a good stock of second hand uniform if you find yourself short of any branded or other uniform items. Please contact us on [friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com) with your requirements.

## Diary Dates

**30<sup>th</sup> Jan - Y5 Swimming QMC**

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan - Y4 Church visit 1:45pm**

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan - Y6 SAT's info evening 6:00pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> Feb - Y6 Woking Mosque visit**

**4<sup>th</sup> Feb - F.O.O.B.S Quiz night, Old Basing village hall**

**w/c 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - No clubs this week**

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb - Safer Internet Day**

**6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y5 Swimming QMC**

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y3 afternoon show 2:15pm**

**8<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y3 evening show 6:30pm**

**10<sup>th</sup> Feb - F.O.O.B.S Dare to be Different Day**

**13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Feb - Half term**

**20<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y5 Swimming QMC (last one)**

**21<sup>st</sup> Feb - Y4 French café in hall**

**21<sup>st</sup> Feb - Y3 Church visit 1:45pm**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - Nelson Sharing Assembly 2:45pm**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - Global Friends Cake Sale 3:25pm**

**24<sup>th</sup> Feb - Southampton Art Gallery visiting Y5**

**27<sup>th</sup> Feb-3<sup>rd</sup> Mar - Book Week**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mar - Y6 SRE meeting to parents 3:30pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Mar - Music Festival (am) timings to follow**

**4<sup>th</sup> Mar - Anvil Concert (senior choir) 7:30pm**

**7<sup>th</sup> Mar - Y5 Church visit 1:45pm**

**9<sup>th</sup> Mar - Y5 Disco 5:00-6:30pm**

**w/c 13<sup>th</sup> Mar - No clubs this week**

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar - Parents evening, details to follow**

**16<sup>th</sup> Mar - Parents evening, details to follow**

**17<sup>th</sup> Mar - Red Nose Day**

**21<sup>st</sup> Mar - Y6 Young Shakespeare company in hall**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Mar - Mitchell Sharing Assembly 2:45pm**

**25<sup>th</sup> Mar - F.O.O.B.S Easter Fair**

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar - End of term Church visits**

**3<sup>rd</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Holidays**

**8<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday (for Kings coronation)**

**26<sup>th</sup> May - INSET Day**

**29<sup>th</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June - Half term**

**21<sup>st</sup> July - Last Day of term**

For even more news, updates and photos, don't forget to visit our website:

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/>

And the Facebook page if you need to check events on the go.

Caroline Welch  
Headteacher