



No: 11 - March 2023

UNCRC Article 28: All children have a right to an education

Dear Parents & Carers

As always we aim for all children to have the opportunity to take part in our full range of enrichment activities directly linked to our curriculum as well as sport and music performance opportunities.

Year 3 'visited' the St Mary's Roman museum in order to kick-start the next part of their History curriculum. Year 4 visited the French Café with support from pupils from Costello. Year 5 have now completed their swimming sessions and benefitted from a visit from the Southampton Art Gallery and had a great day honing their artistic skills. As part of our links with Hampshire Cricket Board both Year 4 and Year 6 children benefitted from some extra cricket training which should pay dividends when we move into the summer term.

The last two weeks have been particularly busy for our sports team who have taken part in netball, hockey, girls' football, tag rugby and badminton, where the team finished third in the county finals. Please look in the news section of our website for full details.

This week the whole school went Book Crazy to celebrate World Book Day. Each class chose a different picture book to study and we have enjoyed sharing the work produced based on these stories. Do keep an eye on our news page and photo gallery on the website to see some of the fantastic work produced.

Tomorrow many of our music groups will be taking part in the annual Basingstoke Music Festival. Whilst this is a competition, it is a wonderful opportunity for our children to perform in front of a wider audience. We also wish all the best to all of those individuals and small groups who have entered other classes. On the same day our senior choir will be joining adult choirs at the Anvil for the Mayor's Concert. Look out for further news on the website and in our next newsletter.

Considerate Parking

Could we please reiterate the importance of parking considerately at all times.

It is essential that you do not park in or block access to Cromwell Close even for short periods – these bungalows are reserved for people with serious illnesses and disabilities and access is required for emergency vehicles at all times.

Comic Relief 2023

Comic relief is coming on Friday 17th March and people across the UK will be raising money to support this great charity. All year-round, the money donated to Comic Relief works hard to support some incredible projects making a change to people's lives across the UK and around the world. In fact, over the past two years, Comic Relief funding has helped to support 11.7 million people!

St Mary's will be joining the cause. Once again we will be raising money for Comic Relief by taking part in a 'red dress-down day' wearing non-school uniform clothes. Can you make your whole outfit red! Please no face paint, dyed hair or football shirts. Year 4 and Year 6 children will need to wear clothes that are still suitable for their PE lessons, including trainers. A just giving site has been set up to enable you to make your donation – see the link below.

In advance you might like to know that for 2023, Comic Relief proudly presents the new Red Nose, exclusively designed by Sir Jony Ive (the designer for the iPhone and all things Apple).

The magically transforming Red Nose starts as a tiny, flat crescent and springs into a beautiful honeycomb-paper sphere. It proves that the littlest of things can make a huge difference. Because when you buy one, you're helping people going through the toughest times of their lives. Buy @ amazon or comicalrelief.com

Thank you in advance for your generosity.
-Isabelle (Chair of School Council) and Alfie (Vice-Chair of School Councillor).

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-mary-s-ce-junior-school-old-basing6?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=st-mary-s-ce-junior-school-old-basing6&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=1ae36ef8373947ccb1f8a053575ddafa

Governors Corner

Apologies for the brevity of my piece this week but this is an extremely busy time for the governing board.

This week we have a meeting of our Learning and Ethos committee at which we will review the high-level tracking data to ensure that academic performance is on track and meeting our expectations. At this meeting we also usually receive

an in-depth presentation from a subject leader to help us better understand the subject, how it is taught and assessed etc. This time around it will be computing, which I am looking forward to.

We also have a meeting of our Resources committee at which we will receive updates on the school's budget and review reports that enable us to monitor income and expenditure. This has never been more important than in these current financially stretched times

The process for recruiting a new head is also in full swing. The governors responsible for interviewing prospective candidates all had an intensive training session earlier this week on how to effectively conduct the headteacher interview process. This covered the different types of questions we could ask, which are potentially most effective and ensuring that we comply with legislation etc. Next week we have another training session at which we will, hopefully, put into practice everything that we have learnt with a full mock interview of a former headteacher.

The recruitment of a new headteacher is clearly one of the most important activities that we have been involved in as a governing body. St Mary's is a high achieving school and it vitally important that we select the right candidate who can not only maintain our very high standards but can also lead the school to meet future challenges.

Michael wright
Chair of Governors

Parents Evenings

These will be held on Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March. Bookings close at 6pm tonight, if for any reason you missed this please contact the office directly.

These dates are also possible days for strike action by some teachers. If your child's teacher is no longer available on these dates, alternative dates will be arranged. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused but our dates were set a long time in advance and clubs have been cancelled that week to accommodate the meetings.

Online Safety

Safer Internet Broadcasting – UK Safer Internet Centre.

In the modern world many children and adults are seeing live streaming as a valid way of generating low start up income. The rise of YouTube, Twitch, Instagram, and other platforms, have opened up ways of making money that didn't exist before. Now users are able to get opinions, views, and advice across to people all over the world, simply from your computer or laptop. There is no minimum age to these kinds of activities. And people that make a success of YouTube can be as young as primary age. However, this opens up opportunities for those

who prey on these channels of under aged people. They encourage them and ultimately try to gain their trust. The Safer Internet Centre has produced a page dedicated to mitigating harm for those engaging in these online activities.

To find out more please follow the link below:
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/livestreaming-2>

Parental Support

Our next parents coffee morning will be held on Wednesday 22nd March at 9am. Please contact the school office if you are planning on joining us so we have an idea of numbers.

Miss Bunkle

F.O.O.B.S. news

We really hoped the children enjoyed the Dare to be Different Day held just before half term, we raised an incredible amount – almost £1,000. Many thanks to all families for their support.

Keep an eye out for more information about the F.O.O.B.S. Easter Fair which is being held on Saturday 25th March afternoon across 2 sessions – tickets will be on sale next week! At the Easter Fair we will have second hand uniforms available to purchase. If you have any spare cardigans or jumpers that your children have grown out of which you would like to donate ahead of the sale, please email us to obtain the address for drop off on friendsofoldbasingchools@gmail.com

And lastly, tickets are now on sale for the Year 5 Disco which is being held on Thursday 9th March. Tickets can be purchased via the website <https://foobs.weebly.com/> for £4.50.

Earthquake Appeal

Thank you for your generosity in donating £555 to this important appeal. I know that many of you will have made donations through other means as well.

Attendance

At the end of February the school's overall attendance stood at 96.6%. Congratulations to Paulet Class with the highest attendance of 98.3%.

Volunteers - Safeguarding

A reminder to all of our regular volunteers to familiarise yourself with the school's **Code of Conduct**, which is available on our website. If you have any trouble accessing it, please ask for a hard copy from the office.

Information for SCL

If your child attends SCL after school clubs could you please ensure that any information about food allergies and medical needs are passed on to the club providers directly. If there are any changes to pick up arrangements for your child please contact SCL directly to avoid any confusion at pick up. Thank you.

Final Inset Day 2022/23

26th May 2023

Inset Days 2023/24

1st September 2023

30th October 2023

2nd January 2024

19th February 2024

24th May 2024

Diary Dates

4th Mar - Music Festival (am)

4th Mar - Anvil Concert (senior choir) 7:30pm

7th Mar - Y5 Church visit 1:45pm

9th Mar - Y5 Disco 5:00-6:30pm

w/c 13th Mar - No clubs this week

15th Mar - Parents evening

16th Mar - Parents evening

17th Mar - Comic Relief Day

21st Mar - Y6 Young Shakespeare company in hall

22nd Mar - Parents Coffee morning 9:00am

23rd Mar - Mitchell Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

25th Mar - F.O.O.B.S Easter Fair

30th Mar - Austen Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

31st Mar - End of term Church visits am

3rd-14th April - Easter Holidays

19th April - Y4 Inventions Day in hall

19th April - HMS Inset Day (no music lessons)

27th April - Wellington Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

3rd May - Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (White)

4th May - Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (Brunel)

5th May - Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (Mitchell)

5th May - Red, White & Blue Day for Coronation

8th May - Bank Holiday (for King's Coronation)

9th-12th May - SAT's week

9th May - Y4 Church visit 1:45pm

15th-19th May - Walk to School week

17th May - Parents Coffee morning 9:00am

17th May - Eucharist 10am (Yr 5/6) all welcome

18th May - Y6 Weighing & Measuring (here)

18th May - Conan Doyle Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

18th May - Y4 Disco 5:00-6:30pm

23rd May - Y6 Church visit 1:45pm

26th May - INSET Day

29th May-2nd June - Half term

6th-13th June - Book Fair

6th June - Y3 Church visit 1:45pm

8th June - Dickens Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

13th June - Sports Day

14th June - Class/Whole Year 6 photos

16th June - Y6 Leavers Service, Winchester Cathedral

16th June - BPSM Rehearsal all day @ Christ Church,
Chineham

19th June - Y4 Treehouse Theatre Egyptian Day (hall)

20th June - BPSM Rehearsal all day @ Anvil

20th June - BPSM Performance @ Anvil 7pm

21st June - BPSM Performance @ Anvil 7pm

22nd June - Reserve Sports Day

27th June - Y5 Church visit 2:45pm

2nd July - F.O.O.B.S Summer Fair

5th July - Parents Coffee morning 9:00am

10th-14th July - Y6 Show week

17th July - HMS Inset Day (no music lessons)

18th July - Y6 Pilgrimage Day @ Church

19th July - Y6 Leavers Service 2:30pm @ Church

20th July - Y6 Picnic & Party pm

21st July - End of term Church visits am

21st July - Last Day of term

*Please note dates may be subject to change

Caroline Welch

Headteacher

**For further details and updates please see;
School website:**

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

and also our Facebook page

@stmarysjuniorsoldbasing