



## No: 14 - April 2023

**UNCRC Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hopefully, the bank holiday will see some sunshine and we can all get outside and enjoy ourselves!

Year 3 have started the summer term off with a bang! They have started their new topic: River Deep, Mountain High. As part of this new topic, Year 3 will be paying a visit to the River Loddon and exploring the features and surroundings of a river. They may even take part in a spot of river dipping!

Year 4 started their new topic this week by looking at some very strange items, as part of their inventions topic. Whilst we might remember them, many of the children had, for example never seen a typewriter before! As part of this term's new topic, Year 5 will be visiting the Gordon Brown Centre – keep your fingers crossed that the weather remains fair for them. There have also been some lovely smells coming from the Year 5 block as the children have been completing their cooking section of DT producing vegetable fajitas and the accompanying dips. Year 6 have enjoyed starting their new topic of 'The Golden Age of Islam.' The Dark Ages in Britain was a very different time to that in Baghdad and the children have already started to draw out similarities and differences across civilisations.

Over the last two weeks, we have covered the meaning of Easter and the Resurrection in our acts of worship and the importance of having hope and spreading joy in our lives. Over the next two weeks we will be moving on to our values of Compassion and Curiosity as we continue to look at the events following Easter, including the Ascension.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Finally, don't forget that Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May is the extra Bank Holiday to celebrate the king's coronation.

### **Assessment 2023**

Year 6 SATs will be taking place once again during the week commencing **9<sup>th</sup> May, beginning on the Tuesday (due to the extra Bank Holiday) and finishing on the Friday.**

The Multiplication Tables check for Year 4, will take place over a three week period from **5<sup>th</sup> June until the 23<sup>rd</sup> June.** More information about these assessments will be coming out to Year 4 parents.

### **Reports**

The change in the date for SATs has had a knock on effect on collection dates for the papers and therefore the date results will be published. For us this means that **Year 6 reports will not go out until the 11<sup>th</sup> July.**

All other reports, Years 3, 4 and 5, will go out at our usual time, which this year is the 7<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Governors' Corner**

Dear pupils, parents and carers, and staff at St. Mary's,

My name is Ed White and I am delighted to be able to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the newly appointed parent governor. My family and I moved to Old Basing in 2016 and both of my children have attended Old Basing Infant School and now attend St. Mary's. Professionally I am an Assistant Headteacher in an All-Through School (ages 4 to 16) in Hampshire and I have been working in education for 17 years. My main responsibilities in my role are overseeing the quality of education and the curriculum in my school, but I also teach German and am passionate about young people learning a foreign language. In my spare time, I enjoy gardening and DIY (usually accompanied by an audiobook), watching England Cricket and Formula One, as well as playing games with my children.

When I saw there was a vacancy to become a parent governor I did not hesitate to apply, though until my first governing board meeting just before the Easter holidays, I had only ever met with governors in my capacity as a school leader and as such I realise I have much to learn about being a school governor! However, I am excited to be able to work with the rest of the governors and am really looking forward to visiting St. Mary's in the near future to be able to meet the pupils and staff, and see for myself the outstanding education provided by the school, that benefits the young people in our community so greatly.

Mr Ed White

## **HeartSmart**

This half term the focus for Heartsmart is Fake is a Mistake. This is about unpacking how to bravely communicate truth and be proud of who we are. Why do we lie? Maybe it's just to get out of trouble or maybe it's because we want to present a better version of ourselves to the outside world. If we know that we're loved and if we know that we're enough as we are perhaps we'll feel the urge to lie a little less? Choosing to tell the truth is a powerful way of showing love to ourselves but also to others. For others to trust us we have to show that we are trustworthy. This has an implication on everything that we say. Even white lies, small insignificant lies with no real consequence, impact our trustworthiness. If we're faithful in the small, we'll be faithful in the big. But aside from mere truth-telling, Fake is a Mistake means being free to be yourself.

## **News from The Rainbow Room**

Our regular Coffee Mornings are back! I find them so helpful as both a parent and a SENCo. Over Easter, I spent time attending a parenting course myself and it was incredibly supportive. I have lots of ideas to share. We can always learn more as a parent, and it is so useful to hear that so many of us are going through similar struggles. If you would like to attend the next one, it is on 17<sup>th</sup> May at 9am, and we are going to be joined by Zoe and Sarah from the Primary Behaviour Service. Please send an email to the office if you would like to come and I will make sure there is enough tea and biscuits for everyone!

*Jenny Bunkle – Inclusion Manager*  
[j.bunkle@st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.bunkle@st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk)

## **Jext 2 and Epi pens**

As a school we keep a record of the expiry dates for this medication and will send reminders should we not receive a replacement in a timely manner. It is vital that these pens do remain in date, as the adrenalin they contain does have a 'shelf life'. You may not be aware that you can also register both of the above brands with the manufacturers as soon as you receive them and they will send you a reminder two months before the expiry date. We would suggest that if your child or in fact any family member has one of these pens that you do register them.

## **PE Kit**

Please can we remind you that PE kits should consist of the following which should be worn to school on year group PE days:

- Plain white polo short / t-shirt
- Plain dark green shorts
- White socks
- Plain Green/black or dark blue tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE in colder weather
- Trainers
- School Jumper

Shorts should be worn underneath tracksuit bottoms as they must be worn for indoor PE sessions. It is important that leggings are not worn for PE as if a child wears these on an indoor PE day they will not be able to take part for safety reasons.

## **Summer term Uniform - reminder**

Summer uniform can now be worn. This consists of green checked dresses, grey shorts and white polo shirts or short sleeved shirts, without ties. Sensible footwear, please – no flip-flops or open-toed sandals, school shoes should still be worn.

## **Reading Books**

It can be difficult sometimes for parents to support children in selecting good books to read. The following website may be helpful in finding new, exciting titles to share at home.

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

Love Reading 4Kids reviews the latest publication and is a great place to find recommended reads.

## **King Charles' Coronation**

We will be holding a red, white and blue day on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the King's coronation on the following day. We would love to see the children in some really imaginative and royal costumes incorporating our national colours.

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

Thanks for all your support for the Bag2School Collection earlier this week – through all your contributions and also some from the local community we managed to collect an amazing 494kg which raised £247. This is almost double the amount raised in the last collection in November!

F.O.O.B.S. were successful in applying for a Community Grant from the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and have received a grant towards the purchase of a new BBQ for use at the Summer Fair and other future events. We needed to top up this grant with an additional £100 to cover the full cost of the BBQ and we are pleased to say that we raised £114 though selling refreshments ahead of the Infant school Sports Day this week which more than covers the amount needed.

The Year 2s have just received their Junior school places for next year. If you have any outgrown uniform that you would like to donate (especially jumpers / cardigans), please contact us on [friendsofoldbasingsschools@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofoldbasingsschools@gmail.com) for the drop off location. I'm sure we will have lots of requests in the coming weeks. Similarly, we have some summer dresses and uniform shorts if you are still in need of uniform for this term. £2 for logoed items, £1 for non-logoed items.

A save the date for you – the Year 4 Disco will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Inset Days 2022/23**

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

### **Inset Days 2023/24**

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

**30<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024**

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

### **Dates for the Diary**

3<sup>rd</sup> May - Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (White)

4<sup>th</sup> May - Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (Brunel)

5<sup>th</sup> May – Y5 trip to Gordon Brown Centre (Mitchell)

5<sup>th</sup> May - Red, White & Blue Day for Coronation

8<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday (for King's Coronation)

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May - SAT's week

9<sup>th</sup> May - Y4 Church visit 1:45pm

15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May - Walk to School week

17<sup>th</sup> May - Parents Coffee morning 9:00am

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

18<sup>th</sup> May - Y6 Weighing & Measuring (here)

18<sup>th</sup> May - Conan Doyle Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

18<sup>th</sup> May - Y4 Disco 5:00-6:30pm

23<sup>rd</sup> May - Y6 Church visit 1:45pm

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

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

6<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> June - Book Fair

6<sup>th</sup> June - Y3 Church visit 1:45pm

8<sup>th</sup> June - Dickens Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

13<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day – Am Yr 3/4 Pm Yr 5/6

14<sup>th</sup> June - Class/Whole Year 6 photos

16<sup>th</sup> June - Y6 Leavers Service, Winchester Cathedral

16<sup>th</sup> June - BPSM Rehearsal all day @ Christ Church,  
Chineham

19<sup>th</sup> June - Y4 Treehouse Theatre Egyptian Day (hall)

20<sup>th</sup> June - BPSM Rehearsal all day @ Anvil

20<sup>th</sup> June - BPSM Performance @ Anvil 7pm

21<sup>st</sup> June - BPSM Performance @ Anvil 7pm

22<sup>nd</sup> June - Reserve Sports Day

27<sup>th</sup> June - Y5 Church visit 2:45pm

2<sup>nd</sup> July - F.O.O.B.S Summer Fair

3<sup>rd</sup> July - Southampton Art Gallery visiting Y6

4<sup>th</sup> July - Y3 Trip Primary Prom @ The Anvil

5<sup>th</sup> July - Parents Coffee morning 9:00am

11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> July - Y6 Show evening performances

17<sup>th</sup> July - HMS Inset Day (no music lessons)

18<sup>th</sup> July - Y6 Pilgrimage Day @ Church

19<sup>th</sup> July - Y6 Leavers Service 2:30pm @ Church

20<sup>th</sup> July - Y6 Picnic & Party pm

21<sup>st</sup> July - End of term Church visits am

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

**For further detail and updates please see;**

**School website:**

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

**and also our Facebook page**

**@stmarysjuniorsoldbasing**

Caroline Welch

Headteacher