



St Mary's C of E (Aided) Primary School



# NEWSLETTER

**“A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum”**

**COMPASSION, JUSTICE, WISDOM, PEACE**

Telephone: 01798 872007

16<sup>TH</sup> March 2018

## **Thank you**

We would like to say a very special thank you to all those parents, children, staff and governors who came along to help at the Grounds Day last Saturday. A huge amount of work was completed including a complete clear out of the shed and the poly-tunnel. The front playground has also been cleared (this seems to be an on-going task!) and the Reception garden has been beautifully replanted and restored to its former glory. Thank you to Mrs Pullan for donating plants and planting up the tubs at the front of the school, all of which make a real difference to our school grounds. Following on from the Grounds Day there will now be an after-school Gardening Club led by Mrs Callender and supported by Mrs Pullen, Mrs Cargill and Mrs Batchelor



## **Good Luck**

We would like to wish Danny Varga good luck when he sits his Grade Three piano exam on Saturday. He played all of his exam pieces at the start of our Songs for Worship this week and we hope this will have boosted his confidence for when the big day arrives.

## **Congratulations**

Well done to Jonty Batchelor, James Ross, Oli Mullahy and Danny Varga who, as members of Bury Cub Scouts, took part in a District Cubs General Knowledge Quiz. With a total score of 48 points and they came joint second overall.

### **Austria visit to Ingfield Manor**

On Wednesday 14th March Austria class went to visit Ingfield. We were very lucky with the weather and enjoyed exploring all the site has to offer. We found lots of signs of spring, shared songs and did weaving with Little Bears class and saw where the woodpecker was making a new nest. Lunchtime was tricky as the wind was blowing the smoke everywhere so we had an 'antisocial' lunch and faced away from the fire - and each other!

We really appreciate the help of those parents that came along and our regular team of volunteers who came to support us. We would love more of you to come along on our next visit to the site in May.



### **Multi-Sports at The Weald**

Mrs Copus and Mrs Trowbridge took ten of our children to a special sports event arranged at The Weald this week. The event was aimed at opening up a range of sporting opportunities to children who may not previously have thought of themselves as being 'sporty' types.

### **Sports Relief**

Today we have taken part in Sports Relief. Children from across the school certainly took this to heart and came to school dressed in their favourite sports kit. There were a whole series of fun events to take part in – photos will appear in next week's Newsletter, amount raised so far £248.80.

### **Pulborough Spring Flower Show**

Thank you to everyone who has submitted an entry for this year's show. Once again the Children's Section had something to appeal to everyone from making a Sock Puppet, backing Biscuits for St Patrick's Day, designing a Seed Packet, making a Bookmark and much more. The show takes place on Saturday in Pulborough Village Hall and we look forward to finding out how the children from St Mary's have done. The show opens at 2.00pm.



### **Bikeability Week**

Our Year Six children will be taking part in Bikeability next week. Please make sure your child's bike is in good working order, especially the brakes, and that your child has a cycle helmet.



## The Little Princess Trust

As a follow-up to last week's Newsletter I can now let you know that Holly Doy from Thailand class will be having her long hair cut on 3rd April. If you would like to support Holly in this please go to <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/NickyDoy> where you will be able to make your donation. It costs the Little Princess Trust £500 to make each wig and Holly is hoping that she will be able to donate this amount as well as her hair.

## Polar Explorer Day

What a fantastic day! To begin, Jo Fox, our Polar Explorer ambassador led an exciting assembly to introduce the project. She described the naming process of 'RRS Sir David Attenborough' and one of its sub-sea vehicles, 'Boaty McBoatface' and the children and Teachers even passed an inflatable submarine around the hall in a Mexican wave formation!



The whole school then took part in a variety of Science activities. These ranged from building and testing plasticine boats and making 'blubber gloves' in Reception and KS1 to planning Polar Explorer Expeditions and cooking Shackleton's Bannocks in upper KS2.



Throughout the day, children in KS2 were lucky to take part in Lego gripper building and programming workshops ran by Jo.



I would like to say a massive thank you to Jo Fox for all of her expertise. Also, thank you for all of your contributions, which made the day both possible and amazing

## **School Uniform**

We are still seeing a number of children wearing non-school uniform sweatshirts and hoodies. Please note that if your child is wearing these non-uniform items they will be asked to remove them whilst in class. If children are then left feeling cold we will provide them with something from our unclaimed lost property. Please also remember that your child should be wearing a white T-shirt and dark shorts for PE. Coloured football shirts etc are not part of our uniform.

## **Tea & Chat – Thursday 26th April at 2pm**

Mrs Copus will be holding another Tea & Chat session on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April, she will be focusing on if you are finding your child anxious/ stressed and overwhelmed a lot? Are you struggling to help them or know how to help them and would like some support or a friendly face who is going through the same thing?

## **Alternative Sports Event**

Some of our children participated in an alternative sports event at the The Weald School yesterday, participating in a range of new sports such as fencing, golf, archery, wheelchair football, frisbee. They were a credit to the school and showed enthusiasm, perseverance and resilience.



## **Easter Eggstravaganza**

Our Eastsravaganza will take place on the last day of term Thursday 29th March, this year each child will be asked to bring in a homemade decorated Easter bonnet and/ or decorate a real egg. Prizes will be on offer for the best in show for Early Years/KS1 and KS2.



## **Easter Eucharist**

Also on the 29<sup>th</sup> March there will be our Easter Eucharist from 9am – 9.45am, everybody is welcome.

## **Jewellery sale**

Sierra Leone - Mrs Heath recently visited Sierra Leone and is keen to sell some Sierra Leone jewellery items. There will be a stall on the playground on **Wed 28th March from 3.15pm**. The money will go towards our link school in Kenema in Sierra Leone, EWA Education West Africa.

## Meetings with teachers before school

Could I remind all parents that whilst we do try our best to have an Open Door policy and that we welcome parents into our school teachers are generally at their busiest first thing in the morning. There have been several occasions recently when teachers have arrived in their classrooms only to find a number of parents waiting to see them with messages that could quite easily have been left with the school office. Unfortunately, there have also been incidents of teachers arriving in their classrooms and finding that parents are reading teachers' paperwork.

If you really need to have a meeting with a teacher before school please come to the school office and we will arrange for that teacher to come and meet you in reception. Parents should not be wandering in and out of classrooms or cloakrooms before school.

Teachers are also available at the end of the school day when they bring their classes out to the front playground. If you want a more private conversation teachers will be happy to take you back to the classroom once the rest of the class have been safely dismissed. Thank you.

## Year Six Easter Hamper Raffle

Every day next week after school our Year Six pupil's will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Big Top, the raffle prizes are two amazing Easter Hampers.



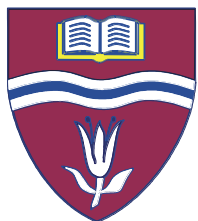
## Attendance

We are raising awareness of attendance across the school so we will be publicising our weekly attendance figures each week on our website and for your information I have added last week's figures below:

Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> March our attendance was across the school was **92.96%**.

**Our target is 96.5%**

<b>Attendance</b>			
<b>Week beginning 5th March 2018 was 92.96% - Target 96.5%</b>			
UK Class	82.31%	Ireland Class	92.80%
Austria Class	93.00%	USA Class	94.00%
Canada Class	96.25%	Sierra Leone Class	99.13%
Thailand Class	100.00%	China Class	96.79%
India Class	97.59%	Mexico Class	92.50%
Jamaica Class	95.17%	South Africa Class	77.41%
New Zealand Class	94.40%	Japan Class	91.67%



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Tel: 01798 872007  
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Website: [www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Link Lane  
Pulborough  
West Sussex  
RH20 2AN

Headteacher: Mrs J Brown MA, NPQH



12<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

## The Pupil Premium Grant and Hot School Meals from Chartwells

### Pupil Premium Grant

You may be aware that the Government is allocating additional funding to schools in the form of 'The Pupil Premium Grant'.

Even if your child is receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals (YrR, Yr1, Yr2) it is still necessary to register for free school meals to qualify for the Pupil Premium Grant.

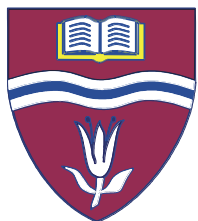
**If you are eligible for, and register by the January census, to claim Free School Meals your child will then be included in the next Pupil Premium Grant and will be eligible for the following additional benefits in the next financial year**

- A reduced charge for school residentials – Initial deposit and travel charge will be payable by the pupil's family, Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) to fund the balance.
- A reduced charge for school trips – travel charge payable by the family, PPG to fund the entry fee.
- Free school uniform (up to 2 sweatshirts, 2 pairs of trousers/skirts/dresses, one complete PE kit and two pairs of school shoes that year (up to a cost of £25 per pair).
- Book tokens for your child to spend at Scholastic and other book fairs
- The Pupil Premium Grant funds additional support in school. This may involve either small group work or one-to-one tuition in both literacy and numeracy as part of our drive to continually raise standards.
- The Pupil Premium Grant can be used to support your child as a high achiever too, providing additional opportunities and challenges for Gifted & Talented groups.
- The Pupil Premium Grant funds additional opportunities to develop children's self-confidence and well-being e.g. funding for music tuition or sporting activities if this is something that we feel would particularly benefit your child.

**Please be aware that if you are eligible for Free School Meals after the census date in January, but do not claim them you will not be able to claim any of the above Pupil Premium Grant benefits, until the following financial year.**

**A separate claim for Free School Meals must be made for EACH child.**





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Link Lane  
Pulborough  
West Sussex  
RH20 2AN



Headteacher: Mrs J Brown MA, NPQH

In order to be eligible for Free School Meals, and therefore benefit from the Pupil Premium Grant, a parent or carer must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support
  - Evidence of support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999 from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) or Social Services Asylum Team
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of £16,190 or less
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit, "Run-on" – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit

If you receive Contribution-based Jobseekers Allowance or Contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance your child is not eligible for Free School Meals.

**Under current guidelines once you have claimed your Free School Meal allowance your child will remain eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant for the following SIX years even if during that time you stop claiming or are no longer eligible for the Free School Meal.**

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals for your child, or if you are not sure, you may want to contact the West Sussex County Council helpdesk on 033 301 42903. A member of their team will be able to advise you. When calling, it will help if you have your National Insurance number ready. In this way, you will be able to register for Free School Meals immediately and your child can start benefiting from the Pupil Premium Grant. Alternatively, please talk to Mrs Mitchell (School Business Manager) or Mrs Lees in the School Office and they will be happy to help you.

You can also find a link to the West Sussex County Council webpage, through our school website: [http://stmaryspulborough.eschools.co.uk/website/school\\_meals/64961](http://stmaryspulborough.eschools.co.uk/website/school_meals/64961)

Please apply on the form attached as soon as possible for the school to receive the additional funding.

Yours faithfully,

**Joanna M Brown**  
Headteacher



# Dates for your diary

March			
Sat 17th	Spring Flower Show	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Village Hall
<b>Mon 19th</b>	<b>LAST WEEK OF CLUBS</b>		
<b>Mon 19th - 23rd</b>	Year 6 Bikeability - All consent forms must be returned ASAP		
Mon 19th	Mr Satchwell Cornet Concert	9.15am	School hall
Tue 20th	Parents Evening	3.30pm - 6.30pm	School Hall
Thur 22nd	Parents Evening	6.00pm - 8.30pm	School Hall
Sun 25th	Easter Play	10.00am	Church
Mon 26th	Easter Play	2.00pm	School
Tue 27th	Easter Play	2.00pm	School
Tue 27th	DISCO - KS1	5pm - 6pm	School Hall
	DISCO - KS2	6.15 - 7.30pm	School Hall
Wed 28th	Team Party	During the day	School
Wed 28th	Jewellery sale on the playground in aid of , EWA	3.15pm	Playground
Thur 29th	Easter Eucharist - All parents welcome	9.00am - 9.45am	School Hall
Thur 29th	Easter Eggtravaganza	All day	In School
Thur 29th	<b>Last day of Term</b>		
Fri 30th	<b>Good Friday - School closed for End of Term</b>		

<b>April</b>			
Mon 16th	Summer Term Starts / Swimming Timetable Starts		
Tue 17th	Yr 5 Parents Residential Information Evening (Marchants Hill)	3.30pm	School hall
Wed 18th	YR 6 SATS & Residential Infomation Evening (Little Canada)	3.30pm	School hall
Thur 26th	Tea & Chat with Mrs Copus (children with anxiety/ stressed)	2.00pm	Small Hall
Mon 30th	After School Clubs Start - Outside providers may differ		
<b>May</b>			
Tue 1st	PTA Film Night KS1 (not EYF)	3.15pm - 5.00pm	School hall
	PTA Film Night KS2	5.15pm - 7.00pm	School hall
Fri 4th	Non uniform day - bring chocolates/bottles for Summer Fair Raffle		
Mon 7th	<b>Bank Holiday - School Closed</b>		
Fri 11th-Sun 13th	Yr 5 Residential to Marchants Hill		
Fri 11th	PTA Quiz Night (watch out for posters)	Doors open 7.00pm	School hall
Mon 14- Fri 18th	SATS Week & Breakfast Club for Yr 6	8.00am	
Thur 24th	Ascension Eucharist - All parents welcome	9.00am - 9.45am	School hall
Thur 24th	FSW Cake Sale		
Mon 28th - 1st Jun	Half Term		

Join in the woodland fun  
@  
Five Oaks, Billingshurst, W. Sussex  
  
'Eggsplore with Us'

Tuesday 10th April 2018

6 yrs +

10:00—14:00 hrs

£25.00 per child

Snack cooked over the fire

Hot & cold drinks provided

Bring a packed lunch



For further information & bookings email [judy@greencaterpillar.org](mailto:judy@greencaterpillar.org) or call 07525 484749

## **Facebook Post**



**Would you like a free music taster lesson?** On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March Rocksteady Music School will be working with music retailer PMT for “Learn to Play Day”, the flagship event for the UK’s Music For All Charity. Taster lessons for children aged 4-13 years will be available in PMT stores in the following locations: Bristol, Birmingham, London, Northampton, Nottingham, Oxford, Portsmouth and Southend on Sea. Visit the PMT website to book your free lesson or come along on the day and when there’s a free instrument you can join in! <https://www.pmtonline.co.uk/learn-to-play-day>

## **Twitter Post**

@RSMusicSchool has teamed up with @PMTHouseofRock for Learn to play Day 2017 on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Find out about free taster lessons for children in store here: <http://ow.ly/7vAW30iMQAf> #Northampton #Bristol #London #Oxford #Portsmouth #Southend #Nottingham #Birmingham #learntoplayday

## **Parentmail**

**Would you like a free music taster lesson?** On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March Rocksteady Music School will be working with music retailer PMT for “Learn to Play Day” and offering free taster lessons in selected local stores.

### **What is Learn to Play Day?**

It is a charity day organised by “Music for All” offering people the chance to have a free lesson on an instrument. Whether you have never played, or whether you used to play, Learn to play days are a chance for everyone to get involved with music.

### **Where is it happening?**

The Rocksteady team will be at PMT stores in Bristol, Birmingham, London, Northampton, Nottingham, Oxford, Portsmouth and Southend on Sea, ready to teach budding musicians aged 4-13 years old on the drums, electric guitar, bass, keyboards and vocals.

### **How you can get involved**

Visit the PMT website for details on how to book your slot. However, you can just turn up on the day and when there is space on an instrument join in! Even if your child already plays an instrument, why not come along and try something new?

<https://www.pmtonline.co.uk/learn-to-play-day>