



St John's Primary School
Wallingford
NEWSLETTER

March 2017

Issue 13

17.3.17

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your understanding whilst we had our new gates fitted this week. They are now installed and the intercom system will be installed shortly; we will let you know when this is taking place. In the meantime, we will be ensuring that the gates are closed during the school day.

Our sports teams had great success on Saturday 4th March at the Manor School Tournament. The tournament attracts teams from the Didcot and Wallingford areas. Having come fourth in their group, and just qualifying for the quarter final, our Football team went on to play brilliantly and won the tournament! The first time for St John's for 21 years. The children, parents and staff were all thrilled and very proud! Our Netball team also played brilliantly, made it through to the quarter final, when they lost but played really well. Many thanks to Mr Chandler and Ms Beckett for managing their respective teams; and to all of the parents who came along to support. It was a great morning.

Our success continued into the following week with Year 4 entering and winning the Wallingford Children's Film Festival. The event was held at the Corn Exchange and films from local schools were screened; the winners are voted for by the audience and St John's Year 4 'Great Fire of London' film was voted the winner! Another proud moment for staff, children and parents. We were also thrilled that Fred Potts in Year 6 took the award for best individual film in the festival. Well done to all!

Year 3 and 4 are now preparing for their production of 'A Midsummer's Nights Dream' and enjoyed a visit and performance from the Young Shakespeare Company last week. Auditions have taken place, rehearsals begun and both Year 3 and 4 are showing great enthusiasm for Shakespeare. The performances will take place on the Monday and Tuesday of the final week of term and there will be a making evening on Tuesday 21st March at 6.30pm for any parents who can help to make props and scenery.

Friday evening saw another successful PTFA Quiz – a big thank you to everyone who worked hard to make it such a lovely evening and a great fundraiser. Special thanks to Mark Pike for being our quizmaster for the evening and Maff Potts and his band for providing the musical entertainment. The Quiz raised a fantastic £1,361 towards our playground fund! Thank you to all who came along and supported the event.

On Monday 6th March at 7.15pm we ran a Maths Mastery Information session for parents. Seven of our teachers planned sessions to run and stayed for the evening. Unfortunately we only had 8 parents attending this time. I am really keen to find out whether this was due to the time of day, or day of the week, and if there would be a better time to run these sessions. The feedback from those who came along was really positive. Please could you fill in the short survey (5 questions) by following the link in the email, to help us to plan future sessions.

As I mentioned in my previous newsletter, we will be holding a meeting to update you on our progress since our Ofsted last March, on Tuesday 28th March at 7pm. Myself and some of our governors will be there to talk to you and answer any questions. Do come along if you can.

We will be enjoying Comic Relief Day next Friday. Children can come to school dressed in red or as one of the noses, bring a £1, tell a joke to Mr Chandler and try and make him laugh – and take place in a Dance-a-thon. All good fun and hopefully we will raise some money doing it.

We have a Book Week planned for the last week of this term, week beginning 3rd April, which will include an author visit and other activities being organised by Mrs Burgess. Look out for more information coming soon.

Lastly, we will be saying goodbye to Charlotte Miles on the last day of term, Friday 7th April. Charlotte will have worked closely with many of you. Do come along for coffee and cake to say goodbye at 11am if you can.

Kind regards,



It's **Red Nose Day** on Friday 24th March so we are planning a few things here at St John's to have some fun and raise money for Comic Relief.

Children can come to school dressed in red or as one of the noses, please bring in a donation of £1. Please get them thinking about the funniest jokes they have ever heard. If they can make Mr Chandler laugh they can 'splat' him for a donation!

We will also be learning the Comic Relief song in school and having a Dance-a-thon in the afternoon. It should be a great day!



Important dates for your diaries...

Fri 31st March - Y5/6 Space Trip

Mon 3rd/Tues 4th April - Year 3/4 Production

Fri 7th April

****End of spring term 1:30pm****

Mon 15th/16th May - Year 5 Residential

Remaining Term Dates 2016-2017

Term 4 21/02/17 to 07/04/17, **Term 5** 24/04/17 to 26/05/17, **Term 6** 05/06/17 to 21/07/17

Term Dates 2017-2018

Term 1 06/09/17 to 20/10/17, **Term 2** 30/10/17 to 19/12/17, **Term 3** 04/01/18 to 09/02/18, **Term 4** 19/02/18 to 29/03/18, **Term 5** 16/04/18 to 25/05/18, **Term 6** 04/06/18 to 20/07/17

Inset Days 2017-2018

Monday 04/09/2017, Tuesday 05/09/17, Monday 06/11/17, Monday 23/07/18, Tuesday 24/07/18, Wednesday 25/07/18

Year 2 visit Mr Simms Sweet Shop



Year 5/6 Hockey





Year 5 and 6 Netball and Football teams at the Manor tournament





Year 4 and Fred Potts, Wallingford Film Festival winners!!

If you haven't managed to see the winning Year 4 film yet, please do take time to watch it. It is a great piece of work!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ets5Km10n0>



Street Dance in Year 3 with our visiting dance instructor





Year 6 Junior Citizen training



Year 3 and 4 with the Young Shakespeare Company





Welcome to Nowhere: Book launch to aid Syrian refugees

Elizabeth Laird, the much-travelled author of *Welcome to Nowhere*, will be speaking in the village hall on 24 March, 6.30 for 7pm. Her novel is aimed at children aged nine and over, but readers of all ages will appreciate her vivid portrayal of life in war-torn Syria and the Za'atari Refugee Camp in Jordan. Macmillan Children's Books will be donating 50p per hardback copy sold in the UK to the Mandala Trust, which supports the education of Syrian refugees.

Tickets (free) will be available from the Brightwell cum Sowell Village Stores and Wallingford Book Shop, and there will be refreshments after the talk.

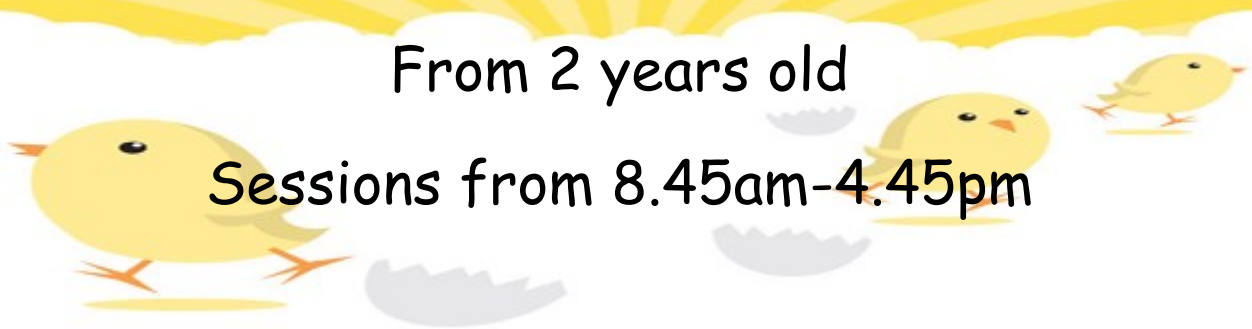
Paddocks Preschool

Easter Holiday Scheme

Mon 10th - Thurs 13th of April 2017

From 2 years old

Sessions from 8.45am-4.45pm



FREE Kids Golf Lessons

Goring and Streatley Golf Club are running a 3 week kids golf programme offering 3 x 1 hour golf lessons absolutely free during April and May. The lessons will be in groups of up to 8 and will be run by a PGA professional. In addition, each child will be given a free 7 iron to take home!

The programme will run on:

Saturday 22nd, 29th April, 6th May

Sunday 23rd, 30th, 7th May

Thursday pm 20th, 27th April, 4th May

If you are interested in registering please 01491 873 229 (opt 1)