



**Our school is a friendly and vibrant community, where all of God's children flourish and gain the knowledge, wisdom and skills needed to care about themselves, their community and their world.**

**Friday 22nd March 2024**

### Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, this week started with a bit of a chilly experience as Mr Russell and I got covered, not with one bucket of cold water, but several. And I wouldn't have minded but the children were so thrilled to see us suffer! It was a worry! This was all in the name of Comic Relief. I suppose I should thank you all for so generously donating to this traumatic moment but in all honesty, I feel nothing but a deep sense of resentment!

Anyway, thankfully, the week improved and so many wonderful things have happened, including warm, sunny days with lots of outdoor experiences. Mrs Judd and the children have been having so much fun in Forest School, making fires, building dens, balancing on boards and climbing trees and play times have been filled with the sound of laughter and fun. Spring has sprung and the Site Team have worked hard to make the site look lovely - and it does with the pink and white blossoms, budding trees and scatterings of yellow daffodils all around.

So, it was to this backdrop that a film crew arrived on Tuesday, wanting to make a film about all the work we do at St Mary's for the International Schools Award. Mrs Cotton, ably assisted by the Global Council, led the team around the school, directing them towards a variety of activities, including a sharing of favourite books on a Zoom call with our partner school in Moldova, some Indian dance moves from children in Year 2, an explanation of the Chinese New Year and our work on weather-watching for Climate Change. The film crew were delighted with what they saw and wrote 'Thank you all for being such a wonderful school to work with! It was a really enjoyable day and we're so pleased with all of the footage.' We'll let you know when the film is finished so that you can all see it.

Thursday was our Annual Easter Egg Hunt and what fun this is for the children! I spent the whole time making sure that the teachers weren't eating them all themselves, as those little chocolate eggs were difficult to resist. The children, as always, loved it. Thank you once again to the PTFA for organising this and making it so lovely for the children.

And so finally, I just wanted to thank all the parents and carers who came to our Parents' Evenings this week. There was such a great turn-out and the children loved finding out what their teachers were saying about them. The children have worked really hard this year and it was a great opportunity to share some of their successes with you all. Being supportive and interested parents and carers, gives your child the best possible start in life at school and our partnering with you is crucial.

And so now, it's time to kick back and enjoy another weekend. See you on Monday.

Amanda



### Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for giving me my sister and my best friends. Please continue to make me a good friend.

Amen.

Year 5



## School Term Dates 2023/2024

Term 4	
Start of Term 4	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
End of Term 4	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Staff Development Day	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Term 5	
Start of Term 5	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
End of Term 5	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Term 6	
Start of Term 6	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June
End of Term 6	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July
Staff Development Day	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July
Staff Development Day	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July

## Reading Volunteers

We are looking for Parents/Carers to come in to school to support the children in developing their reading skills.

Listening to a child read is important for many reasons and plays a crucial role in their overall literacy development.

If you have some time to spare and would like to help, please contact the class teacher or speak to Mrs. Harrison.

Thank you



## CYCLING AROUND THE WORLD FOR GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL



Hi, my name is Jacob Zintel-Warner and on the 5th of April, I will be starting an around the world cycle trip to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. This trip will take me over 18,000 miles, starting and finishing in London at the hospital. With your support, I hope to raise £20,000 to help this amazing organisation that helps so many children from around the world.



### Just Giving Page

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/geocycling>



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## ST MARY'S SUMMER FAYRE

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**



The School Summer Fayre raises funds to purchase school equipment and help finance educational visits. This year, the PTFA's goal is to provide transport for a whole school trip.

The PTFA are seeking prizes that would be suitable for the Summer Fayre Raffle to help raise funds.

If you, or perhaps a local business that you may know of, are able to donate a prize, we would be extremely grateful.

Please can we ask that any prizes are taken to the school office or contact the PTFA to arrange collection.

For any further information please contact the PTFA at the email address below  
[pta@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk)



## UNIFORM SWAP SHOP



The PTFA will be holding a Uniform Swap Shop on Thursday 18th April.

Further details to follow.

If you have any uniform in good condition that you would like to donate to the Swap Shop, please can we ask you to bring it in to school after the Easter Holiday.

Thank you



**Wear it, love it, share it!**