

# Folkestone St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy

## Tuesday, 07 June 2016

### **Believe Enjoy Strive Succeed**

#### **Principal Comments**

I can't believe that term 6 is already here and we are on our final leg of this academic year; my second year as Principal. We have a great term ahead too with plenty of exciting curriculum opportunities. Forest School starts this term and this week Y1 have had their first session. I understand they were very busy identifying trees and learning about deforestation and its impact on the environment. I really can't thank Mr. Warner enough for his enthusiasm for this part of our curriculum. We have a large amount of work to do with our woods to shape them into a fully useable area but we have made a start. Mr. Warner would love some volunteers to come and help him over the summer break to do some clearing to accelerate the development, so do please contact the school office if you can offer some labour or even specialist skills in landscaping. We will provide lunch and refreshments and you can be part of something quite unique to schools in Folkestone.

There is also a wealth of creativity oozing from the walls of St. Marys. Miss Morton will be putting on a gallery tour during this term to exhibit all of the wonderful artwork that has been produced this year. Y6 are also aiming to run a small gallery of their photography work later in the term too. If you haven't seen them yet, they look stunning!

During our assembly on Monday, we were thinking about success and how not all success is measureable. With the recent tests and a focus on grades and outcomes, I asked the children to take a step back and consider how we could measure other important achievements. How would we measure Love, Kindness, Forgiveness, Tolerance and Loyalty? I asked the children to reflect on all of the wonderful skills they have as a young person in our community and what they contribute to our wonderful school and your families at home.

May I take this opportunity to remind Y5 parents of the forthcoming PESE evening on Thursday this week for information on the Kent tests. It will be an informal session with a short presentation of information and an opportunity for Questions and Answers.

Let us pray for a successful term and a happy end to the school year and may I thank you for your continued support in all that we do.

#### **Term Dates**

#### 2015/16

End of Term 6: Thursday 21st July

Training Day: Friday 22nd July

#### 2016/17

Training Day: Monday 5th September

Training Day: Tuesday 6th September

Start of Term 1: Wednesday 7th September:

Training Day: Friday 14th October

End of Term 1: Friday 21st October

Start of Term 2: Monday 31st October

End of Term 2: Wednesday 21st December

Start of Term 3: Tuesday 3rd January 2017

End of Term 3: Thursday 9th February

Training Day: Friday 10th February

Start of Term 4: Monday 20th February

End of Term 4: Friday 31st March

Start of Term 5: Tuesday 18th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May

End of Term 5: Thursday 25th May

Training Day: Friday 26th May

Start of Term 6: Monday 5th June

Training Day: Friday 14th July

End of Term 6: Friday 21st July

#### Tag Day

We will be having a Tag Day on Friday 17th June, where the children can wear their own clothes and bring a fine of a tin/bottle/packet for the Tombola for Fete Day on 24th June. Thank you.









#### **School Photographs**

This is a reminder that if you wish to purchase the school photograph sent home recently with your child, orders have to be in school by 3.15 pm on Friday 10th June. We cannot process any orders received after this date. Thank you.

#### **Harbour Church Fun Day**

The Harbour Church Family Fun Day will take place at St. Mary's Academy this coming Sunday 12th June from 12 noon to 3.00 pm. Everything is free. There will be cream teas, refreshments, inflatables, face painting, crafts, entertainment and live music. Why not come along and bring a picnic!



#### **Sports Days**

Monday 27th June for Reception at 2.00 pm

Tuesday 28th June for Years 5 and 6 at 1.45 pm

Wednesday 29th June for Nursery at 11.00 am and 2.15 pm

Thursday 30th June for Years 3 and 4 at 1.45 pm

Friday 1st July for Years 1 and 2 at 1.45 pm

#### Y6 Leavers' Service

Just to give you advance notice that the Y6 Leavers' Service will take place on Tuesday 19th July at 2.00 pm at The Parish Church on The Bayle. A letter will follow nearer the time. Thank you.

#### **Services of Worship**

Each day, the children take part in a service of Christian Worship. This usually takes place in the main hall except on Wednesdays, when it is in class and led by the teacher or the children themselves. Each session lasts for about 15 minutes.

During terms 5 and 6, our theme is "Succeed" and in term 5, we focused on the triumphant resurrection of Jesus, his return to Heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Year 5 attended a service at St. Mary and St. Eanswythe Parish Church on Ascension Day.

During term 6, we will follow the stories of how the first Christians succeeded in spreading the faith around the World. We will examine their courage and faith, whilst drawing lessons that can help us all in everyday life.

Our services always include and respect adults and children who don't believe in God or believe in a different way and show that the teachings of Jesus can help everyone on a day to day basis. For example, the story of The Good Samaritan teaches us all to help one another and the story of The Two Sons teaches the importance of saying sorry to others and forgiving their mistakes.

We also talk about prayer during Worship and the children engage in some profound discussions about the role of prayer in our lives. We are encouraging all our children to try to learn the Lord's Prayer by heart.

#### **School Fete**

The school fete will take place on Friday 24th June from 3.15 pm onwards. There will be various stalls, including Tombola, Plants, Homemade items, Cake Stall, School Uniform, Second Hand Toys & Books and a White Elephant Stall.

If you would like to donate items towards the fete, please give them to Mrs. Milton or pop the items to the FLO/CLO mobile, situated beside the Nursery. Thank you.