



Folkestone
St Mary's Church of England
Primary Academy

Tuesday, 07
November

Believe Enjoy Strive Succeed



Principal Comments

I'd like to start this term's newsletter with a thank you. A thank you for all of the generous donations that you made for our Harvest Festival services, which enabled us to raise a healthy amount of nearly £300.00 towards the school funds for Burkina Faso, as well as donating a large quantity of food for those in need. I know it will be very well received. It was also a pleasure welcoming you to our Harvest Worship.

Worship This term is the countdown to Christmas. That's right, I said it ... CHRISTMAS!! Can you believe it, it is now less than 48 days. It is also the time of year that we remember those that are no longer with us. This week brings us Remembrance Day. Our pupils will be taking part in a Worship on Thursday and have the opportunity to lay a wreath that they have made in class. They will be laying the wreaths in the new reflection garden, which has been developing over the term. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs. Kennett and Mrs. Haines, who have kindly given up a lot of their time for us to support this project and to Mr. Parker, who has provided the time and labour. The reflection garden will be a space where all members of the community can be still and take time to think of those that have passed or who are in times of need. Now we have laid the foundations, the pupils will develop this area so that they have ownership of it and will have responsibility for maintaining it. I am sure you will see this develop as the year progresses. Please support them with this by respecting the integrity of the area outside the front of the school.

Traffic There has been a hugely supportive response to the parking and traffic issues that we face. The residents of Philippa House have even commented how much better it has been recently. Thank you. There is still a heavily congested area outside the front exit as parents drop off their children. Just a 2 minute walk away, there is plenty of parking on Wear Bay Crescent/Foreland Avenue/Tram Road. By parking a little further away, you will not only add to those all important step counts but you will also be helping ease the traffic around the front of the school.

Our Head Boy and Girl have been checking the speed of the traffic with our community officer. There have been several cars going well over 10mph on the approach to the school gates. I regularly see children running along here, scooting and some even in the road. Unfortunately, if we do not work together on this issue, the unimaginable could well be likely. Parents, please make sure your children are safely walking to school and using the footpaths provided and drivers, please drive with caution. This really is a simple fix. Do not drive to the school gates.

Swattenden Our Y6 pupils are on the countdown to their week of residential fun. They will be climbing, digging, swimming and working together on a range of adventurous and exciting activities. If you hear a loud cheer next Monday at around 9.00 am, it will be that of the parents leaving their children for a whole week!!

Communications Please remember to check your child's bag for their learning log on a weekly basis. Their class teachers use this as the first point of contact for home learning and upcoming events. Please also regularly check the website, Facebook and the notice board. We now keep a rolling diary of two weeks so that you can all be well informed of any upcoming events. The newsletter will also be shared every three weeks, unless urgent messages are needed to be shared.

ParentPay Thank you all so much for sharing the enthusiasm for our new ParentPay. There has been an overwhelming number of parents already signing up, with only a small proportion left to do so. This will be the only way to pay for things through the school after the transition period has ended. Please check with the school office if you would like some help setting this up.

Thank you all for your continued support for our wonderful school, please do come and find me or book in to see me if you would like to discuss any new ideas or initiatives the school could be undertaking. We have a fantastic community of parents and a school striving to be the best it can be. Together, we will achieve great things for your children.

Trevor North, NPQH

RAISING MONEY FOR BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Wear something spotty in school all day

Thursday 16th November 2017—Pay £1.00

(we can take cash on this occasion, as the donation is for charity!)



Dates for Diary

Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th November from 3.30 to 5.30 pm—Canada Class Open Evenings (appointment slips already sent out to parents)

Friday 10th November—Reception and Nursery Open Day—9.30 to 11.30 am—please feel free to come along for a visit if you have a child who is due to start school in September 2018 or if you have a child of Nursery age

Wednesday 13th December—Nursery Nativity—9.15 am and 2.15 pm

Thursday 14th December—Drama Club Production—Junior Hall—7.00 pm

Monday 18th December—Reception Nativity—9.15 am

Tuesday 19th December—Year 1 Nativity—9.15 am

Tuesday 19th December—Xmas Dinner for Children (letters to follow soon)

Tuesday 19th December—End of Term for children in Year R to Year 6 (**Nursery children finish on Wednesday 20th December**)

Wednesday 20th December—Nursery open for the Nursery children as normal

Wednesday 20th December—Staff Development Day

Thursday 4th January 2018—Start of Term 3 for children in Year R to Year 6 (**Nursery closed to Nursery children**)

Friday 5th January 2018—Nursery open as normal for Nursery children