



Believe Enjoy Strive Succeed

Principal Comments

Welcome back everyone. What an amazing start to the year we have had. Our new members of the school in Reception have all been in and are settling really well with only a few tears (from the parents). I'd like to thank all of the parents, nursery and reception teams for making these huge milestones in our young children's lives so easy. I can't wait to see the children all in full time soon! I must thank you all too. The children look so smart and have all been very punctual in coming to school.

School has started with our ever rich curriculum experiences. We have had Victorian day, a troll party, cultural cuisine, Indian dancing and other wonderful experiences for the children. The Forest School has also been super busy with our children busy maintaining the woods! Mrs. Judd is now nearly fully qualified too, so we will soon have even more opportunity to cook on open fires and use real wood cutting tools. Both Mr. Warner and Mrs. Judd have set up a new outdoor classroom, which will give the children a chance to explore the wildlife and habitats even in the pouring rain!

Our first assemblies of the term have focussed on the wonders that God has given us from the smallest bee to the wonders of space. The children were keen to share their ideas on why they think God gave us so many unique and wonderful things. They have started to think about the story of creation and how they can strive to be the best they can be within it. Kenya class led their assembly on the story of creation and we look forward to next week's class worship led by Sri Lanka class.

This week we have the class and parent meetings, where you can come in and hear about the routines and curriculum in the classroom. There will be some time to speak with the class teacher too.

We are celebrating early this term too. Over the summer we have received two awards.

We are officially now proud to be named a Safe School. Our work with our anti bullying focus has led to us being recognised nationally as a Safe School. This work will continue and with our very proactive anti-bullying ambassadors, I know we will remain highly vigilant in ensuring all children here are happy and safe. If you see our ambassadors, please congratulate them.

Through our rich and broad curriculum, we have also achieved the International Schools Award. This is a prestigious award and has come with huge accolade from the Secretary of State for International Education, the Rt. Hon. Priti Patel MP. This has only been achieved through the wonderful curriculum and hard work of all of our teachers and pupils.

Our international work doesn't stop in the classroom either. Over the summer, I was supporting head teachers in India by training them in school leadership so that they are equipped to run their schools. The experience was eye opening and has left me in awe of the Head Teachers and the challenges they face. This is hugely important charity work which reaches the poorest and most remote villages in India where education has only been a right since 2011. Part of my work will mean 1 to 2 days away from St. Mary's during the year but I am sure you will support this venture as it brings so much to the school and enables us collectively to help children globally. If you want to hear more about this, then please come and see me. We will of course continue with our support for Burkina Faso and have built strong links there too.

St. Mary's is truly an amazing school with wonderful pupils and the most committed staff. May I thank you for your continued support.

Enjoy the term!

Kind regards.

Trevor North

VACANCY FOR A ROAD CROSSING PATROL

We currently have a vacancy for a Road Crossing Patrol at Penfold Road, Folkestone.

The vacancy is for approximately 80 minutes per day—8.10 to 8.50 am and 3.00 to 3.40 pm each day.

If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested in this position, please contact the school office.

Thank you.

School Photographs

The School Photographer will be in school to take individual and family photographs on Thursday 28th September. A letter will be sent out later this week with further details.

School Dinner

On Thursday 5th October, Caterlink (Catering Company) will be producing a 'one off meal' if children want to take advantage of it. The cost of the meal is £2.05 and is as follows:-

Beef Burger in a Bun or Homemade Vegetable Burger in a Bun

Side Dishes

Homemade Potato Wedges

Sweetcorn

Crisp Mixed Salad

Coleslaw

Tomato Ketchup

Dessert

Chocolate & Beetroot Brownie served with a Lightly Whipped Cream or Selection of Fresh Fruit

If your child wishes to have this meal and does not normally have school meals and is in the Junior Department, please send in payment of £2.05 in an envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked on Monday 2nd October. If your child is in the Infant Department, no payment is required but please inform your child's class teacher or teaching assistant, so they are marked appropriately in the dinner register. Thank you.

Term Dates

End of Term 1—Friday 20th October 2017

Start of Term 2—Monday 30th October

Training Day—Friday 17th November

End of Term 2—Tuesday 19th December

Training Day—Wednesday 20th December

Start of Term 3—Thursday 4th January 2018

End of Term 3—Friday 9th February

Start of Term 4—Monday 19th February

End of Term 4—Thursday 29th March

Start of Term 5—Monday 16th April

Bank Holiday—Monday 7th May

End of Term 5—Friday 25th May

Start of Term 6—Monday 4th June

End of Term 6—Friday 20th July

Training Days—Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July