



Believe Enjoy Strive Succeed

Principal Comments

With Christmas now officially over, I hope you have all had a lovely family time and allowed yourselves some rest. May I take this opportunity to thank you all for the Christmas cards that were sent in to our staff here. I know they were very well received.

The New Year has begun and with the ambition of New Year's resolutions in the air, we can set our goals even higher for this term. The weather may be wet and unwelcoming but here at St. Mary's we are excited to be back and keen to get our new topics underway. Already, I have seen little pirates running around the school and some Ancient Egyptians taking over KS2! Another great example of how our teachers are always striving to engage the pupils and motivate learning.

At the end of last term, we sent out the new report format. With the new Assessment Without Levels, there is bound to be a period of anxiety as we all adapt. We will be having another parent's evening session towards the end of this term on the 10th and 11th February, where you can discuss this and ways in which you can help at home. Please do also make an appointment to come and see your child's teacher before this if you are unsure about the banding they have been assessed at or want to have further work which you can support with at home.

This term we welcome three new members of our support staff team; Mr. Thresher, Mrs. Pepper and Ms. Kent. They will be supporting us in KS2 and have really strengthened our team.

The children all looked very smart on their first day back with nearly all of them wearing the correct uniform with smart shoes, shirts tucked in and ties worn correctly. This builds a huge sense of pride and encourages excellent conduct around the school. Thank you very much for showing your children the importance of this and making the first day back set the standard for the rest of the term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Parents coming into the school building

May I just remind you that parents should not come into the main school building or go onto the playgrounds when the school is in session.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff, could you please report to the school office first.

Thank you.

Ready Steady Go!

Ready Steady Go! is a FREE weekly club for children age 7-11 who are above a healthy weight and their grown ups who want help to eat well and move more. Packed with games, tips and ideas. No lectures just good fun.

The Club will take place at The Folkestone Sports Centre—4.00 to 5.30 pm on Tuesdays (starting 5th January). Book now to register your place, call 0300 1231220

Excellent Home School Partnership for Reading

At the end of term 2, eighty two parents and their children received certificates recognising their excellent efforts with reading regularly at home. Seven children also received a book token as winners of the 'Home Reader Prize Draw'.

Regular home reading and talking about books is a proven way of optimising children's chances of educational success.

Make a New Year's Resolution to hear your child reading at least three times a week. Your support and encouragement are valuable.



Awards for Term 2

The 'Believe' house has won the inter house cup for term 2 with 3,155 smilies. Well done Blue house. The scores are now back to 0. Let's see if Enjoy, Strive and Succeed can challenge them as we begin term 3.

The winning class for smilies in KS1 and Foundation Stage was Ocean with 2349.

The winning class for smilies in KS2 was Cedar with 1813.

Attendance for KS1 was Earth with 96.6%. Attendance for KS2 was Ash and Cedar with 97.5%.

