

TODDINGTON ST GEORGE CE SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

This half term has flashed by and we are already planning for the excitement next term brings as we head to Christmas. You will read below about some of what we have been teaching, and also about the different ways we have offered these learning opportunities. We couldn't do all we do for the children without the tremendous support we enjoy from our Parent body. As ever thank you for your support of the school this half term in helping all of these things happen.

I hope you and your children can enjoy a good half term break and we look forward to seeing you after half term on **Tuesday 29 October**. Mrs. Spencer Head teacher

Headteacher Awards for September - Congratulations to children who received an award for teaching and learning in September.

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| Swans | Bella-Rae, Jackson, Leland |
| Kingfishers | Levi, Elijah W, Adam J |
| Puffins | Tristan L, Brooke, Anraj |
| Penguins | Emily, James O, Mason R |
| Toucans | James, Isla Y, Jessica C |
| Hummingbirds | Eve B, Lee G, Samuel D |
| Wrens | Jake M, Chloe W, Lily B |
| Robins | Lucy W, Nelly, Charlie P |
| Kestrels | Lexie, Summer, Joshua S |
| Condors | Lily R, Harry V, James M |

PE Sport, PSHE and Well-being

Healthy Heart and Mind day.



It was amazing to see Katrina Thompson Johnson win gold at the World Athletics Championships this month. We have been inspiring our next generation of athletes at TSG with a 'Triathletics Day' today. It has been a day full of action! The children have also had opportunities to support their mental health and well-being today through a variety of PSHE activities. We really hope your children enjoyed the day and it ended a busy half term well for them.

KS 1 Athletics



Year 1 and 2 headed to Harlington Upper School for a morning of Athletics activities run by the Sports College we are part of (based out of Redborne Upper School). The teams really enjoyed the events and the Harlington Sport Leaders were a great helping the children as they tried new events. It was good to award certificates to those who competed: Anraj, Elijah M, Ella-Rae, Eva G, Faith-Amyah, Frankie M, Freddie H, Joseph C, Joshua H, Kai, Lillie, Lola, Mia G, Alice, Isabelle C, Jessica C, Isla Y, Katie B, Taylor W, Elliott P, Harry G, Joshua G, Mochara, Callum M, Ross.



Rugby and the Tag Rugby festival

We have been inspiring our future male and female rugby players too. The Tag Rugby team travelled to Samuel Whitbread Upper School and performed really well at the Tag Rugby Festival. They won two Values certificates. The Festivals don't award medals but we were still delighted to win 4 out of 5 of our games, drawing the other. Congratulations to the players: Phillip, Luke N, Oliver D, Charles, James M, Finley L, Joseph C, Gabriella, Mia S, Ellie P, Bronwyn, Leon, Joshua S, Connor J, Isabelle O, Isla-Marie, Eva P, Lexie, Taygen, Finley K.

This year's Sports leaders

Sports leaders have led a rugby challenge to run in the Year 2,3 & 4 playground and we have seen the children's passing and catching skills put into action. The challenge was to aim for the highest number of passes, and the highest number of times passing round the playground without dropping the ball. Year group champions had mini rugby balls to take home, and we then pulled a name out of those names for a winner from that group. Congratulations go Gabriel L who was the lucky winner of the larger rugby ball and for passing so well. Thanks to Mrs Julians for organising the challenge.

History, Religious Education, Music, Dance, great stories and some dressing up!

Holdenby House Year 4 travelled to Holdenby House last week dressed in evacuee outfits. They went to experience a really interesting, interactive history day as they went into role as children living life during WW2. They learnt a lot which built on knowledge gained from the work on their theme this term. The dance and songs they learnt from the era went very well too. Everyone dresses up to enter into the spirit of the day. Thanks to all for the effort everyone made for costumes for the children.

Is it St Albans Cathedral or Abbey? Year 2 travelled by coach to St Albans to visit the Abbey yesterday. They found out about; why the building is actually called 'The Cathedral & Abbey Church of Saint Alban', about who St Alban was and what some of the artefacts in the Abbey represent. They also enjoyed taking part in a role play of a baptism and a wedding. Thanks to all who supported the trip, and we hope you found it interesting.

There is a spectacular Son-et-Lumiere at the Abbey celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing. This takes place from Oct 28th until 1st November (6-9 pm daily) and your child might be interested in visiting. (More information from the Cathedral Box Office or phone 01727 890290).



Superheroes Day Year R looked fabulous on Wednesday as they ended their 'All about Me' theme with a Superheroes Day. They enjoyed Superhero songs, Superhero PE games and some great Superhero stories. It was a very happy day. Great fancy dress too!

Perfect Penguins We were all very proud of Penguin Class when they lead the first Class Assembly of the year. They shared their lovely writing, some great maths and their creativity by showing us the brilliant musical instruments they designed. Well Done Penguins!

Staffing News

Mrs Soor and Mrs Griffiths Unfortunately, Mrs Soor will not be able to return to school next half term due to an ongoing back injury. Mrs Griffiths, who has been a valued teacher in Year 2 in her absence, has a permanent job to move to so she is leaving today to start her new role. Mrs Mann, an experienced teacher who has taught with us for a number of years, will

join Hummingbirds for the next half term and we are pleased to welcome her back to TSG. I would wish to convey my thanks to Mrs Rivers, Mrs Davis, Mrs Mallet and Mrs Gaskin for ensuring Hummingbirds have managed so well whilst Mrs Soor has been unable to be with the children.

Thank You!

Harvest Festival The school contributed 231kg of food to the Foodbank and the food collected will offer **600** meals to those in need. In addition, **£148.59** was raised for the Light Up Tanzania appeal, with £15.50 of that funding coming from the Year 4 'Guess the number of candle and batteries' activity **set up by the children themselves** at lunchtime. Thank you for your generosity for those in need.

Ducklings donation Mrs Stringer and her team would like to say a huge thank you to Parents and Carers who donated £200 to Nursery from a collection made at the end of last term. This very generous donation has been put to good use and Mrs Stringer has thoroughly enjoyed choosing new games, dolls and bristle blocks for the Nursery children. She has also purchased some tray tables so the children can safely play with toys and sand.

Parent Info Meetings We were delighted to see so many Parents and Carers at the Parent Information Evenings which we hope you found informative. Year 4 Parents and Carers do remember the Open Evenings for middle schools are just after half term, with Parkfields being on Thursday November 7th. We will pass on more information after the holiday about the timings of the evening.

Information and Reminders

Letters, texts and trips!

Please can I remind you to **check the time we leave for trips on the letters** we send out about each trip. We **do not send out text reminders** every time we go on a trip. If we ask you to come early for a trip it is because we need to get the coach off early and avoid any rush hour traffic on the route

Success Shields in Years 1,2,3 and 4 these are celebrated with children on a Wednesday morning **but please send them in to school on Tuesday** if you can so we can write the success shields in time for children to receive on the Wednesday morning.

WOWs are the sheets sent in by Parents and Carers. Year N and Year R children can then celebrate anything they are delighted to have done out of school with their friends, and we can also congratulate them. WOW sheets are available from the teaches if you have run out!

Website The school website information is being updated. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Coming into school Year R children have settled into school well. Please remember from after half term Year R children will line up by class gates to come into school and Parents and Carers will say goodbye to them at the class gates not in the classroom.

Using the field at playtimes from November to February If your child brings a bag with jogging bottoms, a waterproof top, and spare trainers they will still be able to play on the field during some playtimes over the winter. The extra kit stops their uniform getting too muddy or wet and gives them the chance to keep playing on the field. Many of them love to be able to still run on the field unless it is very wet so if they leave this bag in school on their peg each week they can then still enjoy more space to play in.

Governors visit to school

Our Governors visit school regularly. The Governors who visited recently thought you would be interested to hear what their feedback was to the staff, and what they said about the school following their last visit.

"On my recent Governors' Visit, I was very impressed by the happy, keen and engaged children, and the positive, enthusiastic and dedicated staff. A particular highlight was the peach slice at lunch! The values and ethos is much in evidence across the whole school, which everyone should be proud about. Thank you to all for hosting me and my colleagues and for giving us such an enjoyable and informative visit." Mr. Joe Baker.

"I wish all parents could spend time in school like I have today because they would see the positive learning environment where the children are engaged and happy, even when learning maths! The children are well supported by the teaching staff during lessons and their learning is extended to get every child to their full potential. As a parent, you get told very little about school by your children, so you don't get the real picture of your child's day. Rest assured, your little ones are getting a great start in life at Toddington St George!" Mr. Kevin Fowler.

Looking Ahead There is plenty coming up to look forward to, so please add the dates to your phone or jot dates down in your diary, as it will be busy next half term!

SOME IMPORTANT KEY DATES

OCTOBER

Friday 18 Healthy Heart and Mind Day
PTA Family Fancy Dress Disco in the School Hall 6.30 – 9.00-
cancelled

HALF TERM WEEK

Monday 28 Teacher Training Day - School Closed
Tuesday 29 Children back to school after half term
Thursday 31 Halloween safety talk in School
2 x Yr4 Children - Bake Off
Year 3 children to start swimming lessons

NOVEMBER

Friday 1 Photos individual and sibling
Selected Yr. 4 – Sports Hall Athletics
Monday 4 Fire Station Visit Yr. 1
Tuesday 5 Hooked on Worship assembly
Bonfire Night safety talk in School
Thursday 7 Open Evening at Parkfields for Year 4 Children
Friday 8 Shoe box wrapping lunchtime
Shoe box wrapping after school Yrs. 2-4
Sunday 10 Remembrance Service on The Green at 11.00 am
Monday 11 Remembrance Service at 11.00 am in School (School
only)
Tues 12 PE Ready for Dance sessions
Thursday 14 Maths Venturers at Greenfield School – 2 x Yr4 Children
Friday 15 Children in Need Day non-uniform day (theme to follow shortly)

Sunday 17 Shoebox Service at St Georges Church at 4 pm
Monday 18 Parents Consultations 4.00 – 7.00 pm
Wednesday 20 Parents Consultations 3.30 – 5.30 pm
Mon 25 Dance Festival – Selected KS2
Yr. 3 Learning Futures 1.30pm
Thurs. 28 Yr1 Walk to the Library
Friday 29 PTA Christmas Fayre in School Hall 3.30 – 5.00

DECEMBER:

Tues 3 Hooked on Worship Assembly
Thursday 5 Class Assembly - Puffins
Tuesday 10 Yr. R Performance to parents at 9.30 am
Wednesday 11 Christmas Lunch (Yr. R-4)
'Wear a Christmas Jumper Day' for Yr. N - 4
Thursday 12 Yr. 3. Christmas Church Service - TBC
Yr. 2 Performance to Parents at 9.30 am
PTA Secret Shop
KS1 Christmas workshop
KS2 to MK Theatre for pantomime
Friday 13 Flu Immunisations
PTA Secret Shop
Magic Dave Yr. R
Christmas Tree Festival Starts
Monday 16 Christmas activities week
Wednesday 18 Yr. 4 Christmas Performance to parents at 9.30am
Thursday 19 Class Parties
Fri 20 Christmas Service
End of Autumn Term Assembly (school only)

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

JANUARY 2020:

Friday 3 Teacher Training Day - school closed
Monday 6 Children return to school for Spring Term