



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Summer Term Issue 1
19th April 2024

It has been lovely to have the children back at school this week, after the Easter break. However, the beginning of term has been overshadowed by the very sad news about our school cook, Julie Keen, who passed away last week.

In Collective Worship on Tuesday morning, I told the pupils about Julie and then Rev Ruth spoke to the children about experiencing loss and how to cope with it. We have set up a space, outside the School Office, where children and staff can remember Julie if they so wish. Over the last few days the children have been able to leave messages if they wish to do so. "Thank you for serving my lunch" wrote one; "Your macaroni cheese was so nice I almost bought it... you did more than cook, you cared", wrote a second and "I wish you well in your new home in heaven", said a third. These comments are a real tribute to how the children felt about Julie, the impact she made at St Mary's and how much she is going to be missed. Julie was very much a part of the staff team at St Mary's and she did so much more than just produce school lunches, as one of the children said, she understood and cared about the children and we are going to greatly miss her.

This sad news aside, there is a great deal for us to look forward over the coming weeks and we are very pleased to welcome Miss Mathews our Reception teacher for this term. The Summer term is always a favourite for many, with the better weather and more outdoor activities. You will see from the calendar elsewhere in this newsletter that we have set the date for Sports Day and I met with the PTA this morning to discuss the Summer Fayre and other events that will be held later this term. Please look at the calendar for those dates. The list of after school clubs for this term has gone out in a separate letter this afternoon and the annual school reports will be issued in the week beginning 29th April. Parents' Evenings are taking place towards the end of term. There is also hard work to be done this term and Year 6 have just 14 school days left until the SATs tests.

As always, I encourage you to ensure that attendance levels remain high and I am attaching the Attendance Information Sheet for your reference. As has been the case each term since Summer 2022, the termly attendance has increased and I am pleased to report that we had 91.65% attendance for the Spring term, with 19 pupils achieving 93%-96% attendance, 51 pupils achieving 96.1%-99.9% attendance and 36 pupils achieving 100% attendance for the term. The aim every term is to improve on the previous term.

As we are in the Easter season, and this week in particular for our school community, it seems appropriate to conclude with the words from John 3.16:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

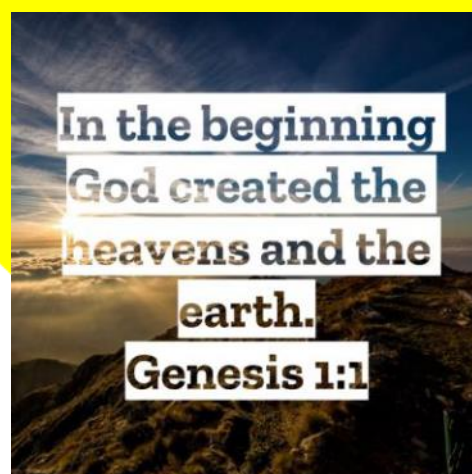
Headteacher



Julie Keen

Our value this half term is:

Creativity



Contact us 8:30am to 4pm at...



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Dellsome Lane, Welham Green, AL9 7NE

HOUSEPOINTS



I am pleased to report that House Points this week were as follows:

127



113



86



210



Well done Squirrels!

Running Totals:

127

113

86

210

STARS OF THE WEEK

The following children were nominated by the TAs for good manners and joined Mr Petty on the Star Table.

Reception - Evie

Year 1 - Ali

Year 2 - Davidzo

Year 3 - Isabella

Year 4 - Cristianna

Year 5 - Dave

Year 6 - Eryk & Cyrus

Weekly Teacher Nominations this week were:-

Reception - Taylor

Year 1 - Jasmine

Year 2 - Mahrukh

Year 3 - Kameel

Year 4 - Sonny

Year 5 - Oliver Wo

Year 6 - James

Congratulations to all these children.

ATTENDANCE STARS

Attenborough 93.8%



Curie 93.7%



Hawking 93.6%



Luther King 91.7%



Mandela 90%



SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Thursday 2nd May	Reception screening children born after 1st March
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday—School closed
Thursday 9th May	Rainbow run
Friday 10th May	Rainbow run reserve date in case of bad weather
13th May—17th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week
Monday 20th May	Class photos
Friday 24th May	Non-uniform day
27th May—31st May	Half Term
Tuesday 11th June	Parents' Evening—Remote 4:30pm till 7pm
Wednesday 12th June	Parents' Evening—In person 3:30pm till 5:30pm
Friday 14th June	PTA Father's Day Sale
Saturday 22nd June	Summer Fayre 12pm till 4pm
Wednesday 26th June	Hatfield School District Athletics
Wednesday 3rd July	Sports Day—12:30pm till 3:00pm
Thursday 4th July	Year 6 trip to Stanborough Water Park
Wednesday 10th July	Sports Day reserve date in case of bad weather
Thursday 11th July	Transition Day
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term service—10am St Mary's Church
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Monday 2nd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 3rd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Wednesday 4th September	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am

Sports Day

We will be having our Annual Sports Day on the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd July. Families are welcome to attend to cheer on their children. Please arrive at 12:30pm and school is due to finish at the usual time of 3:20pm.

We have pencilled in a reserve date of Wednesday 10th July should the weather be poor on the 3rd.

“

We are a welcoming Christian community where every child has the chance to flourish.

We bring and share joy, inspire daily and creatively equip children for the future.

We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



The Katherine Johnson Award for

Creativity



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for human beings. (Colossians 3:23)

Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

The more I explore your world, the more I marvel at your creation.

It is a triumph of science and engineering... and more than that, it contains great mysteries that I am yet to understand.

Amen

Reception - Elizabeth

It has been lovely getting to know the children in Reception this week. We have been busy establishing new routines and the children have impressed me with their listening and tidying-up skills. They have been learning to 'choose it, use it and put it away.' Perhaps, they can practise this at home, too? Our theme this half-term is 'minibeasts' and we had a very exciting delivery on Thursday. Our caterpillars arrived! The children have loved observing them - they are very tiny at the moment and we are looking forward to watching them grow and change. I wonder what they will turn into?



Year 1 - Curie

We hope everyone had a lovely Easter break, the children have come back to school happy and ready to learn. In English, we have started a new book called 'Seasaw' which the children are really enjoying. They loved bringing their toys in from home, to show for part of the learning. In Maths, we have been focussing on 'teen' numbers and place value. We have started a new topic in Science about plants and have set up a garden centre in our class. We had our first P.E. lesson with 'Mr S' from Onslow school where we focussed on Athletics. The children enjoyed having a P.E. lesson on the field! We have also welcomed a new pupil, Ini, who we hope will enjoy Curie Class as much as we do! Have a great weekend.



Year 2 - Hawking

The children were very excited to come back to school on Tuesday and it was lovely to see their smiling faces! We have had a busy week with lots of fantastic learning. In English we have started a new book called 'We are water protectors' and we are thinking about how we use water and why it is so important to us. The children have written some amazing poems about water, thing really carefully about using interesting vocabulary, some are shared below. In R.E we have started our topic on Judaism and were thinking about 'why certain foods are special to us'. When asked this question we had some wonderful answers including- 'roast dinner is important to me on a Sunday because I get to eat it with my Nan and my family' and 'bread and wine is important because it was used at the last super when Jesus told his disciples to eat it to remember him'. Ask your child what they wrote! The class have also been really engaged with our new History topic about 'The Great Fire of London'. We have welcomed Mahrukh to our class and hope she will enjoy being part of Hawking class. Enjoy your weekend.



Year 3 - Mandela

In Maths, we have been working on Fractions. Mandela class have been working very hard. A special well done to Maria who produced some fantastic independent work in Maths.

In English, Year 3 had a new book called Atlas of Adventure and in it is about countries. In the book, we have explored Senegal and France.

In P.E., Year 3 have started Athletics, and this week, we competed with year 5 and getting ready for Sports Day! In Design and Technology, Mandela class have been designing frames. In R.E. we have started learning about Pentecost. Did you know that Jesus was baptised by his cousin, John the Baptist?

In French, we are learning about the different ice cream flavours.



Mandela class have also started doing DEAR time (drop everything and read) throughout the week and are excited to see how many stories we read!

This week's newsletter is written by Charlotte



Year 4 - Attenborough

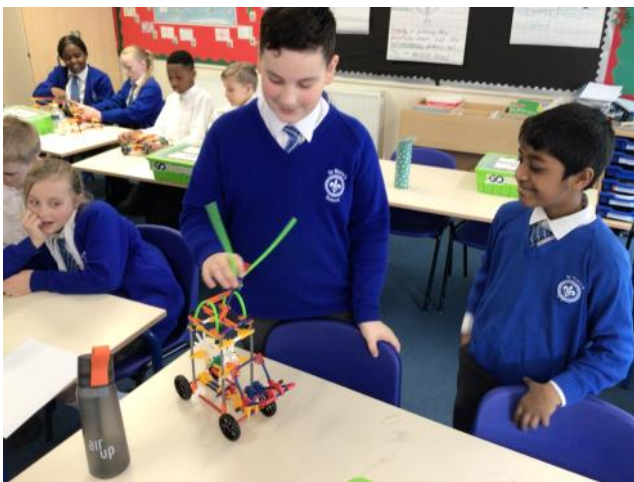
It has been a shorter but productive week in Attenborough class. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on fractions and have been focusing on subtracting amounts and adding mixed numbers. On Tuesday, the class came into a mysterious snow around the window with a crown etched out in the middle. We were left a mystery note by someone called Frindleswylde. The class were all so excited and engaged. We also had a class vote to see whether the main character Cora should follow Frindleswylde to get her lamp back, we have a very risk taking class as the majority voted to follow him. In Whole Class Reading, the class have really enjoyed reading our new book 'Ajay and the Mumbai Sun', they have been coming up with some really interesting ideas and opinions. In Science, we continued our topic of states of matter and looked at how evaporation is included in the water cycle. In RE, we started our new topic which is Hinduism and had a look at what we already knew. In PE, we have started athletics and OAA, the children were thinking about pacing when completing a longer run. It has been a very fun week and I look forward to lots of exciting learning throughout this upcoming summer term.



Year 5 - Luther King

It has been such a positive start back for our new term in Luther King class. In Maths, we have continued to look at fractions and we are learning how to multiply a fraction times a whole number or integer. In English we have started our new unit and have already written to NASA to suggest that they send a robust robot to Mars to help us find out more about our neighbouring planet.

In Science, we are looking at forces that are pushes and pulls that make things move, stop, and change shape. The most exciting part of our week was The Go Construct challenge when all pupils used their STEM skills to create a bulldozer using the K'NEX challenge kit. The winner team even got a medal for their creative ideas, solid construction, and their excellent teamwork. What a great week to start of the Summer term.



Year 6 - Goodall

Year 6 Goodall are back in the classroom and they've hit the ground running after the Easter break! With their SATS exams on the horizon, they've dived straight back into revision, sharpening those skills and ensuring they're exam-ready.

But it wasn't all about tests this week! In English, they've embarked on a thrilling new unit based on the gothic horror classic, "The Wind in the Walls." We can't wait to see where their imaginations take them as they delve into this spooky tale.

Adding a sprinkle of excitement to the week was the K'Nex Go Construct Challenge. The class worked in pairs, putting their teamwork and engineering skills to the test. They had just one morning to design, build, and present a fantastic model! Congratulations to our very own class champions, Eryk and Cyrus! Their winning creation has even been selected to go to the county finals – a fantastic achievement! We're all rooting for them!



CLASS PE DAYS

Elizabeth	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Indoors & Outdoors
Curie	Tuesdays & Thursdays	Indoors & Outdoors
Hawking	Wednesdays & Thursdays	Outdoors & Indoors
Mandela	Mondays & Wednesdays	Swimming & Outdoors
Attenborough	Tuesdays & Fridays	Swimming & Outdoors
Luther King	Mondays & Wednesdays	Outdoors & Indoors
Goodall	Mondays & Fridays	Indoors & Outdoors

Children should wear their PE kit to school on their PE days. Reception children also have bikes and scooters on a Friday. If they can, please bring their bike or scooter and helmet to school.