



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**Autumn Term 2020 Issue 3**

### **Dates for your diary**

Sadly, there are fewer dates for our diaries than usual but you will see that there are some new events on our calendar and it is wonderful to see us finding ways to come together even if it is in a virtual sense.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October** – PTA Meeting 8pm

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 2 Scooter Training (2T)

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents' Evening 4 – 6pm (by phone)

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Parents' Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm (by phone Y1, Y3, Y4 and Y5 only)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** – Parents' Evening 5 – 7pm (by phone)

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – PTA Event – Autumn Celebration

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October** Half-term

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** - INSET Day school closed

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November** – Individual Photographs tbc.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 2 Scooter Training (2D)

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Last Day of Term

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January** Christmas Holidays

You may see that there are a few additional dates in our diary this week. I am sure you will all agree that it is important for us all to have some events to look forward to and to continue to provide practical, varied and fun experiences for our pupils.

Having met with both the PTA and with our Head and Deputy Head Boys and Girls, it has been decided that it would be lovely to have an opportunity for us to celebrate our first half term back in school and to allow the children to enjoy some of the fun activities they may be missing out on this year. More information about our Autumn Celebration will follow from the PTA.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy week in school and the children have enjoyed lessons for Clean Air Day which have only increased their enthusiasm for helping make our school as eco-friendly as possible.

I am sure you will have seen the news of COVID cases rising nationally. You may also be aware that several local schools have had to close bubbles and the number of cases in our locality is rising.

As always, I am grateful to you for following the guidance we have put in place to make sure that we remain socially distanced wherever possible and minimise the number of contacts we make.

We have noticed that the number of visitors to the school office is creeping up and we would ask you to only come to the office if the matter cannot be dealt with by phone or email.

We do ask all visitors to our site to wear masks and this is particularly important if you are entering the school, even if it is just into the office's reception area.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. We continue to re-evaluate our procedures in school and increase signage and change routines as necessary to help keep us all safe and healthy.

### **PTA Meeting**

Our Parent and Teachers' Association is a tremendous asset to our school. They contribute so much, not only to our increasingly stretched school budget but also to our very special sense of community.

I am delighted to let you know that the PTA are holding their first meeting of the new academic year this Tuesday at 8pm.



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It is a great opportunity for our parents to find out about another side of school life and some of the fun activities that you and your children can participate in.

Due to the current circumstances, the meeting will be held online via Google Meet. It can be accessed via the link below:

<https://meet.google.com/gtj-rmbk-wpe>

Please note that if you join via your child's account you will be admitted immediately. If you use a personal account, you will need to be admitted by the meeting host.

### Remote/Blended Learning

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire regarding devices and internet access. Please rest assured that we are putting plans in place should any of our bubbles need to close.

To help make sure that our Google classrooms are up and running efficiently we will be setting our homework online from next week. A number of classes have already trialled this approach and their feedback has been invaluable.

Your child now has a green book in which they can complete the homework set. These books can also be used for home learning in the event of a partial or localised lockdown.

Thank you in advance for your support and do not hesitate to let us know if you have any problems or queries.

### First Holy Communion

It was an absolute joy to watch our Year 4 pupils celebrate their First Holy Communion last Saturday. Despite the extraordinary circumstances, the children really rose to the occasion and we are incredibly proud of them.

A huge thank you must go to Father Adrian, Mrs El Khoury, Mrs Saunderson and Mrs Carey, who prepared the children so well. It

was also a joy to hear the talented Mrs Carlton and Mrs Grindall and we were very grateful for the photographic talents of Mrs Adamson-Fargues and the cinematography provided by Mr Rodrigues. Despite the scaffolding the church was truly transformed by Mrs Wiggins and her team.

It is a true testament to our community that despite all the constraints that were faced, so many people worked together to ensure it was truly a day to remember.

**Well done to the children listed below who were Diving Deep this week:**

Seahorses – Rosie Harrington  
 Turtles – Linda Kwabi  
 Starfish – Evie-Rose Beglane  
 Angel Fish – Alessio Arcari  
 Seals – Mya Birrell King  
 Dolphins – Amelia Stanger  
 Manta Rays – Rosie O'Connell  
 Blue Whales – Lola Wyatt  
 Orcas – Oliver Dixon

**Head Teacher's Awards for Exceptional Work**

All the children in our school are stars but those listed below shone a little brighter over the last week:

**Year 1 - Turtles**  
 Celina Gorny

**Year 2D – Starfish**  
 Sofia Farrant

**Year 2T – Angel Fish**  
 Amelia Wilkes

I hope you have a wonderful weekend with your children.

Mrs Hughes, Headteacher