



## St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

### Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017

18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

#### Dear Parents/Carers

It was great to see so many of you turn out to our Meet the Teacher evening last week. Thanks to for all of the positive feedback already received!

It has been a bit of a whirlwind for me during these first two weeks, but it has been good to start to get to know your children and a few of you now too.

I'm sorry that I didn't supply many dates in last week's newsletter – hence my writing again now.

#### Amanda Hipwell

I am sure you'll join me in welcoming Amanda Hipwell as our new school secretary. She is working hard getting up to speed with all of the school systems from an administration point of view; being kept fit taking messages around the school; and yet still managing to provide a welcoming smile at reception.

#### Corrections

During our Meet the Teacher evening, I incorrectly announced 'Jeans for Genes Day' as being on the 26th September. It is, in fact, due to take place on Friday 22nd September. Please accept my apologies for the duff information and the short notice! But, do remember that your children are allowed to wear a pair of jeans to school that day in exchange for a £1 donation to the charity. I have asked for the pupils to still be attired in the top half of their uniform.

Please also note that the Sama Karate club meets on Wednesdays from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and not Tuesdays as stated in my previous newsletter.

#### School Photographer

Photographs of individual children and sibling groups will be taken on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Children may wear either Summer or Winter uniform for these photographs.

#### Open Afternoon for Year R and Year 1 Parents

Parents of children in Year R and Year 1 are cordially invited to an Open Afternoon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2:15pm to 2:45pm. This will give you the opportunity to see your child's work; catch up informally with their teachers and is followed by refreshments in the hall.

#### Consultations

Parent consultations have been set for Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 4.00-7.00pm and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November from 1.30-5.30pm. More details will follow.

#### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school (in its current building) in Normandy. On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October Bishop Mark will be leading a celebratory service for the whole of the school community, in St. Mary's church, to mark the occasion. The service will start at 2pm and former staff, pupils, parents and grandparents are warmly invited to attend.

Back at school, during the course of the day, the children will also enjoy a range of special celebratory activities including a quiz and a 1960s style beetle drive; as well as creating a time capsule.

#### Open Mornings for Prospective Parents

If you are thinking of school for a new starter in a year's time or know someone who is, this may be for you: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November from 10:00 to 11:45am

#### Year R Information Meeting

There will be an Information Meeting for parents of Year R children on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October from 9:00am - 10:00am(ish). We will talk to you about reading, writing, phonics and behaviour as well as general aspects of school. More details will follow.

#### Harvest Festival

We will be holding our Harvest Communion on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00pm in St Mary's Church to which you are all welcome. We will be supporting the charity Crawley Open House. They will be providing a guest speaker for our assembly on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September who will tell the children about what Crawley Open House do, what sort of food is needed and what happens to all of their donations.

Please send all donations such as tins (meat, fruit, vegetables, baked beans, spaghetti, etc.), packet foods (biscuits, pasta, rice, etc.) tea, coffee, sugar, toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel and shampoo to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. There will be a table by the gate for the

children to leave their donations. Thank you very much in anticipation.

### **Reply Slips & Voicemails**

Please do ensure that reply slips for events related to school are returned punctually as the office staff really struggle to chase up outstanding forms. This also costs the school during our times of such austerity. On this front please note that if the paperwork for the flu vaccinations has not been returned we shall assume that you do not wish your child to be vaccinated.

### **Other Diary Dates**

#### **September**

21 HSA AGM 7:15pm

26 Year 6 Residential Trip Information Evening 6pm

#### **October**

16-20 Year 6 in France

23-27 Half-Term

31 Closing Date for Secondary Transfers

#### **November**

14 HSA Shopping Evening (details to follow)

24 Year R-Year 4 Flu Vaccinations

#### **December**

1 HSA Christmas Fayre

12 The Pantomime

14 Christingle Service 7:00pm

20 Communion Service 2pm at St. Mary's Church

20 School breaks up

#### **January**

4 Children return to school

11 Year 3 Swimming Starts