

Dear Parents and Carers,

Numeracy Workshop

On Wednesday evening our Foundation Stage teachers, Mrs Southall (Foundation Stage Leader and joint teacher in St Rose), Mrs Culmer (St Helena teacher) and Mrs Palourti (joint teacher in St Rose) hosted the final of their Workshops for the parents of our new Reception children. This time the focus was Mathematics and how this is taught within the Foundation Stage curriculum. Mrs Southall was delighted with the turn out so wanted to pass on her thanks to all the families who came, we hope you enjoyed the evening and have a better understanding of how we teach Maths and how we make learning Maths fun for the children too.

Many thanks to everyone involved in making the evening such a success, the Foundation Stage teachers for their hard work in organising and delivering the evening, to Mark Dennison (Chair of Governors) and Mark Ellis our Governors for attending and Mrs Taylor (SENCO) and to Mrs Watkins for serving refreshments on behalf of the PTA.

October - Month of the Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. In acknowledgment and celebration we will be gathering together throughout the month, on a Tuesday lunchtime, to pray the Rosary. Thank you to Deacon Kevin who has organised the sessions and will be leading the prayers. He has asked that the children meet in the front reception area, and if they have their own set of Rosary beads, please bring them along - we have a limited collection in school. The sessions will run from 12:45 until 13:00.

'Credo' at St Augustine's Church

Credo is a 'statement of the beliefs or aims which guide someone's actions', and is the name that has been given to a series of talks on the Catholic Church to be held at St Augustine's Church. The evening will take place on Monday 10th October at 20:00 in the church hall. The talks will be given by Canon Peter Stodart and the intention is to find out what Catholics believe. Everyone is invited, so do please try and go along.

Your PTA Needs You!

We have advertised recently that the PTA are looking for a new Chair. After three years, Alex Green has stepped down from her role as Chair of the PTA so she can dedicate more time to her family and career.

The PTA is a charitable body - it raised and distributed approximately £13,000 in the 2015/16 academic year. As a charitable body, it is legally required to be led by a committee, including the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. The role of Chair has been advertised, but as yet, no one has come forward. **Without a Chair, the PTA cannot operate and there will be no events run until a Chair has been appointed.**

We are hopeful that a parent or member of staff will be able to step forward to take this role. There may even be a group of people who would like to share the role? You may be willing to support a new Chair by running specific events. A new Chair will be supported in their role to ensure a smooth handover.

If you are interested in volunteering for a role in the PTA or finding out more, please contact Alex Green or contact the School Office for her contact details.

GSS Refunds

We have been informed by some parents that they have not yet received a refund from GSS for a credit balance on their account at the end of the last academic year. We have spoken to GSS and they have asked us to pass on their telephone number so that they can talk to parents directly. If you believe you are owed money, the person that you need to talk to is Ashley Davis on 01634 673165.

Head Lice in School

We are aware that there have been cases of head lice in school. We therefore ask you ALL to check your family's hair tonight with a detection comb and conditioner. If any lice are found please treat appropriately or consult a pharmacist for advice. Special shampoos are available but not suitable for everyone.

No school staff are allowed to check hair, so we really need your co-operation to beat this. Good prevention is the key, so please check your child's hair regularly. For further information please go to <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice>

Free Sessions with First Class Football

First Class Football are offering local children some free football coaching sessions by professional coaches and scouts to start the academic year. The hope is that the children are inspired to continue with a healthy lifestyle activity. Children can attend the following sessions if they have not attended before:

Saturday Morning Football (Crowborough, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells)

Children in Yr Reception to Yr 3, all abilities

Saturday Mornings

Full details can be found at <https://goo.gl/BzUHS6>

Advanced Skill Sessions (Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells)

Children in Yr 1 to Yr 6, all abilities

Evenings 6-7pm

Full details can be found at <https://goo.gl/KsJ0aL>

First Class Football will also be running their usual October holiday courses for children in Yr Reception to Yr 8. Full details of all their courses can be found at www.firstclassfootball.com

An Evening with Sandy Gall

On Saturday 8th October 2016 St Dunstan's Church are hosting 'An Evening with Sandy Gall'. The former ITN war correspondent will be reminiscing and recounting stories from his

illustrious career. Doors open at 19:00 for a 19:30 start and tickets are £12.50 per head and include wine, cheese, tea and coffee. Signed copies of Sandy Gall's book will also be available to purchase on the evening. Tickets are available by phone on the following numbers: 01892 544422, 01892 511509, 01892 531710 and 07795 413909.

Cold/Wet Weather Clothing

The air was chillier this week as we said goodbye to the wonderful sunny temperatures that we were treated to this summer. Wherever possible we try to get the children outside during their break and lunchtimes so please ensure that your child is fully prepared and comes to school, every day, with a named coat or waterproof jacket. Thank you

Water Bottles

Although the seasons have changed and autumn has set in, it is still very important that children remain hydrated in school. Research has proved that drinking water regularly throughout the school day significantly enhances a child's concentration and improves their mental performance. Whilst water fountains are available at school, we strongly recommend that children bring in a named water bottle. This can be kept with your child at all times and used when necessary.

Labels Please

Last year we had a great deal of uniform in 'lost property' that was not named. We are only in week 4 but we have already acquired quite a collection of unnamed items. Please can you ensure that **all** uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name - this includes PE and swimming kit. This ensures that we can return items of clothing to their owner. Lost property is stored in the wicker baskets in the front porch. Please do have a look through to see if you recognize any of your child's missing uniform.

Tunbridge Wells Music Centre

Is your child interested in singing and music making? This month saw the launch of the Tunbridge Wells Music Centre at Southborough Primary School on a Thursday from 4 to 6pm. The Centre offers a Junior Mixed Ensemble, where children with 2+ years experience are invited to bring their instruments along and join others in playing favourite pop, film and traditional tunes. There is also a choir for children aged over 7. For more information, or to join the Centre, please contact Penny Miller at pmiller@kent-music.com or telephone 01892 358403.

Diary Dates

Friday 7th October

Monday 10th October

Tuesday 13th October

Monday 17th October

Tuesday 18th October

Thursday 20th October

Friday 21st October

Monday 31st October

Family Fast Day and Harvest Mass - 09:30

Music for Schools Meeting for Parents 18:00 to 19:00

Kent Selection Test Results after 16:00

Inset Day - **no school for children**

Parent Teacher Consultations 16:00 - 18:30

Parent Teacher Consultation 16:30 - 19:00

End of Term 1

Start of Term 2

Tuesday 6th December

KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00

Wednesday 7th December

KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00

Wednesday 14th December

EY Christmas Production to Parents 09:30

Wednesday 21st December

KS2 Christmas Celebration 09:15

CAFOD prayer inspired by this week's Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

God of life, give us the courage to try to make a change to our world, no matter how small, and the faith to know that with you all things are possible. Amen.

Congratulations to our award winners:

Attendance Ted: 1/2 St Lucy 3/4 St Peter

Punctuality Pete: 2 St Bernadette 3/4 St John

WOW: 3/4 St Paul

Tidy Classroom 3/4 St John

Mrs Warren