

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!! We were blessed with fantastic weather for the entire October break. I hope that you all made the most of the week and return to school refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead.

### **The PTA is BACK!**

I am delighted to announce that the PTA is back in action!! A huge, huge thank you to Mrs Ellis (Henry and Thomas' mum), Mrs Buchta (Xavier's mum), and Mrs Fernandez (Sasha and Max's mum) who have jointly volunteered to take up the mantle and chair the PTA. They would like to make it known that this is a temporary measure and are pleading for more parents to join the PTA with a view to taking on the role in the future. Although we are aware that the PTA put a great deal of time and effort into all they do for the school (for which we are extremely grateful), current members stress that they also gain a great deal of satisfaction from working together as a team. It is a wonderful way to meet other parents and make new friends!

Keep an eye on the 'Dairy Dates' below for future PTA events.

### **All Saints Day**

On Tuesday, to promote and acknowledge 'All Saints' Day', children came into school wearing their own clothes in bright and beautiful colours. In exchange for leaving their uniform at home the children donated £1 towards Save the Children, in particular the children facing devastation in Syria. I am delighted to announce that the day raised £259.11. We have now added this to the money raised on Biscuit Day which was an impressive £198.00 and your kindness and generosity has raised a grand total of £457.11 for this very worthy cause. Thank you very much to you all and to the School Parliament who proposed and organised the events.

Thank you to all those who joined us for celebration Mass on Tuesday and to Father Josaphat and Deacon Kevin who led the Mass.

### **Dance Assembly**

On Tuesday afternoon Chloe, who runs our Thursday morning Dance Club, Do4Kidz, visited to lead an assembly to the whole school. She was joined by the members of her club, who performed a variety of lively, well-rehearsed and technically accomplished routines. The audience were all very impressed, well done to all the performers for your slick and fun routines!

Chloe's dance club is very popular, and is currently full. If your child would like to go on the waiting list, please contact Chloe directly on 01892 521778 / 07957 769550.

### **Cross Country**

On Wednesday afternoon a team of children from Years 3 - 6 travelled to Eridge Park to compete against other schools in the Primary Cross Country League. The children all did brilliantly well and their race places have been pinned up on the Sports Board.

Mrs Berry (Sports and PE Coordinator) is currently recovering from a knee operation and we wish her a speedy recovery. Thank you to Mrs Green who stepped in to accompany the team and offer her support and coaching advice. Mrs Green wanted to pass on this message to the runners, "All of the runners did an amazing job on a very, very tough and hilly course - well done to everyone!"

### **Staffing News**

We are delighted to welcome several new members to our staff team this term. Mrs Lewins is teaching in 3/4 St Peter whilst Mrs Mansfield is on maternity leave. Welcome also to Mrs Warner and Mrs Singleton who join our Midday Supervisor team and congratulations to Miss Petley who has changed her role here from Midday Supervisor to now being one of our Teaching Assistants. Welcome to you all.

We are currently looking to appoint new members of staff in the following areas:

- Midday Supervisor, five days a week, 1.5 hours a day (11:50 - 13:20) term time only. Closing date next Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Please pick up a paper application from the school office.
- Part-time KS1 Teaching Assistant, two days a week (Monday and Tuesday) term time only. Closing date Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10:00. Please apply online via [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com).

### **Link to Hope Shoeboxes**

We have been given a slight extension on the deadline for dropping off shoeboxes to Link to Hope. If you would still like to contribute to our appeal, and would like to fill a shoebox or have a shoebox or items for a shoebox, please bring them into school by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Many thanks to you all for your wonderful shoeboxes and generous donations so far!

### **Children in Need**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, in aid of Children in Need, we will be holding a 'Spotty Day'. In exchange for a donation, children are invited to add something spotty to their school uniform. Why not add a spotty hair band, scarf, tights, socks, ribbons - be creative!

After school on the same date we will also be holding a cake sale supporting Children in Need. The sale will take place at 15:25. All contributions should be sent into school on the Friday morning - and please do not forget to bring your money in for the sale. I am sure there will be some very tempting creations on offer for this very worthy cause. Remember we are a nut free school please.

### **Christmas Lunch and Party Dates**

KS2 (Years 3-6) will be having their Christmas lunch on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December and their class parties on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

KS1 and EY (Reception -Year 2) will have their class parties on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and their Christmas lunch on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

On the day of their class parties, your children will not eat in the dining hall or have a school dinner, but will bring in party food and have fun and games in their classroom. Their teachers will let you know what to bring closer to the time.

### **100% Attendance**

This week we handed out certificates to children who had achieved 100% attendance throughout Term 1.

In total we awarded an impressive 167 certificates - congratulations to you all! Congratulations also go to 3/4 St Peter, the class with the highest number of 100% attendees - 25 children.

May I take this opportunity to remind you that if your child is absent, you must inform the office before 09:30 on every morning that they are not in school. Also, when they return, for our records we require a letter to confirm the reason for their absence. Thank you.

### **Poppies**

This week you will have seen our Year 6 children out on the playground with boxes of Royal British Legion poppies along with a variety of poppy themed products. Poppies will be on offer for donations again at the beginning of next week in advance of Remembrance Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### **5/6 St Patrick Class Assembly**

On Monday, 5/6 St Patrick will be holding their class assembly. All parents, carers, family and friends are all warmly invited to join the children. The assembly begins at 15:00. We hope you can make it.

### **Christ the King Mass**

A reminder that on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 09:30, our school will be leading the family Mass for Christ the King. The Mass is always a wonderful celebration and we would like as many of our children, family and friends to join us (even those who do not usually attend at St Augustine's parish). It will be a special occasion when the parish and school celebrate Mass together. Children should come to Mass in their school uniform please. Please put the date in your diaries.

### **New Toddler Group at St Augustine's Nursery**

This Wednesday, St Augustine's Nursery launched a new Parent and Toddler Group. The group will take place every Wednesday during term time and is open to babies and toddlers up to the age of four. Sessions cost £2, including cake/biscuits for the grown-ups, and run from 09:30 - 11:30. There is no need to book, just turn up at the nursery, located at Subud House, 14 Culverden Down, TN4 9SA. For more information, please call them on 01892 542783.

If you are looking for a Nursery School for younger siblings, there are still places available at St Augustine's Nursery. For details of session times and costs, please contact them directly on the above number.

### **Considerate Parking**

Now that all our Reception children are in school full time there are an increased number of cars parking in Wilman Road and the nearby roads. Please remember to show consideration to our neighbours and do not park across the white lines marking their driveways. It has also been brought to our attention that some parents are parking in the middle of two spaces when they could leave room for a second car to park. Please show consideration to other parents and maximize the space available.

### **The Mayor's Christmas Toy Appeal 2016**

The Toy Appeal helps local families living in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells whose circumstances (whether temporary or permanent) limit their ability to buy gifts for their children at Christmas.

The children are referred to the Appeal by health visitors, social workers, family support workers, schools and other charitable organisations.

Last year 261 children were referred to the Appeal and they are expecting numbers to increase this year. If you would like to donate to the appeal, between Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December any new or unused toys can be deposited in the large decorated boxes displayed in many collection points in and around the town, including Paddock Wood, Cranbrook, and other various locations within and around Tunbridge Wells. Some venues will feature Christmas trees with tags that offer ideas for suitable gifts within a specific age range.

### **New Look Newsletter!**

Next week our weekly newsletter will be getting an update. The new format will still include all the news you need but will be more of a bulletin style. We hope that you will find this easier to read and quicker and more convenient to find the information you are looking for. Let us know what you think!

### **Diary Dates**

Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	5/6 St Patrick Class Assembly 15:00
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	3/4 St John Class Assembly 15:00
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need - Bring in a donation and wear something spotty
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need cake Sale 15:25
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Christ the King Mass at St Augustine's Church 09.30
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	5/6 St Luke Class Assembly 15:00
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	5/6 St Mark Class Assembly 15:00
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	3/4 St Peter Class Assembly 15:00
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	EY Christmas Production to Parents 09:30
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 (Years 3-6) Christmas lunch/KS1 class parties
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 and EY (Reception -Year 2) Christmas lunch/KS2 class parties
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Celebration 09:15

CAFOD prayer inspired by this week's Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

God of heaven and earth, in this life and the next you and your angels are with us. Thank you for protecting us and guiding us as we journey towards you. Amen.

### **Congratulations to our award winners:**

**Attendance Ted:** 1 St Theresa      5/6 St Luke  
**Punctuality Pete:** 1/2 St Lucy      3/4 St Peter  
**Tidy Classroom** 1/2 St Lucy

Mrs Warren