



Extra Curriculum Activities

- I hope you all saw the lovely picture of our **World Book Day** in Wednesday's edition of the **Times of Tunbridge Wells**. Thank you to Mrs Perkin (Isabelle and Alex's mum) for organising the photograph and the article.
- Artist and illustrator Elaine Gill, former Teaching Assistant, is working alongside a fellow artist and Illustrator Chris Burke to brighten up train passengers' journeys. They are redesigning **The Platform 2 Mural by Brian Barnes**, at the Tunbridge Wells Train Station. On Tuesday afternoon five of our Year 5 and 6 children (Bryn, Maddie V, Liberty, Reece and Maria) were invited to a special preview of their newly designed mural. Chris has designed a time line to include all things Tunbridge Wells from the Iron Age rocks, the coming of the Romans, larger than life characters, historic buildings and royal visitors. The final artwork will be printed onto vinyl, attached to aluminium and then secured onto boards on the platform 2 wall, to delight passengers for the coming years. The children had the opportunity to meet the artists, learn about the mural and take part in activities. Elaine Gill wanted to say, "**Chris, Louise and I just wanted to thank you all, and most importantly the children, for their exceptional behaviour, listening and enthusiasm this afternoon, whilst visiting the Platform 2 Tunbridge Wells art project. We had a truly wonderful time, and loved the children's input, knowledge and humour. We will keep you up to date on how the project is going, and hopefully see you on the platform soon**". Thank you to Elaine Gill and Chris Burke for inviting us to be part of this special project and thank you to Mrs Divall and Mrs Mooney for accompanying the children. See also the front page of this week's edition of the Times of Tunbridge Wells.
- On Monday, children in Years 3, 4 and 5 were visited by Maureen Friday who belongs to a small group of farmers who are members of the **Farming and Education Committee** at the Kent Showground. Maureen spoke to the children about food, farming and the environment in Kent. The children found the talks very interesting and enjoyed discussing the many aspects of farming including environmental and wildlife issues. Thank you to Maureen for visiting and thank you to Mrs Liddle, our PHSE Leader, for organising.
- Tickets are still available for the **Tunbridge Wells Primary Singing Festival on Wednesday 22nd March at 19:30** at the Assembly Hall Tunbridge Wells. Tickets are on sale from the school office for **£5.00 each**.



Class Assemblies

- **3/4 St Paul** presented their class assembly to parents and carers on Tuesday. Their assembly theme was '**International Women's Day**' and so the children took it in turns to tell us about some of the truly inspirational and heroic women of the past and today. The children told us about Marie Curie who won two Nobel Prizes for her help in the research of x-rays, Joan of Arc who was executed and accused of being a witch because she believed God spoke directly to her, Queen Zenobia of Syria who intimidated the mighty Roman Empire, Queen Elizabeth II who is our longest reigning monarch and many more. A very interesting and well presented assembly, well done to the children of 3/4 St Paul. Thank you to the parents and carers who were able to join us and thank you to Mrs Tanner, Mrs Hampson and Mrs Nicholson for their help with preparation.
- The next class to present their class assembly is **5/6 St Patrick** next Tuesday 7th March at 15:00. Families and friends are all welcome to join us.
Please see dates below for more booked class assemblies.

PTA News

- The PTA are hosting the ever popular Easter Egg Bingo on Friday 24th March 18:00 - 20:00. Entry is free and bingo cards can be purchased on the door for £1.00 each. Hot food and refreshments will be available. In order for this event to be possible the PTA are **in need of some helpers** on the night to assist with setting up, running the event and clearing away. Please email ptaAugustines@gmail.com if you are able to help.
- On Wednesday 22nd March, children are invited to **wear their trainers** to school in exchange for an Easter Egg donation for the Bingo.
- The PTA have announced this week that they raised **£344.50** for the PTA fund at the Film Night showing of Finding Dory. Thank you all those who supported this event and all the help with the preparation.

General and Reminders

The school office is in the process of updating all the parents/carers consent for images records. Parents were sent an email and a 'tick box' style form last week via Parentmail asking for your permission to use your children's photographs for things such as displays around the school and the weekly bulletin. If you have not already, please would you log into your Parentmail account and complete the '**Parental Consent for Use of Images**' questionnaire in the 'Forms' section.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural

- As you know we are supporting **CAFOD** this term with their **'Turn Little Fish into Big Fish'** Lent Appeal. Our fundraising is already well underway thanks to all the support from our families. Maureen Birkett from CAFOD visited us this week to offer her support with our fundraising and to explain to the children why our support is so important. Maureen told us how CAFOD have been helping people like Florence in Zambia, Africa. Florence made two fish ponds and stocked them with small starter fish, called *tilapia*, through the aid of CAFOD. She received training in caring for the ponds and the fish. When the fish had grown and she sold them, Florence reinvested the money, cleaned the pond and bought new starter fish and fish feed. Now Florence's business supports her parents, as well as her own family, so they can buy the things they need and her children can go to school.

Florence shared her new skills and knowledge with her neighbours and they set up fish ponds too.

"I wanted to help my neighbours as they had helped me in the past... I thought if they were empowered, they could benefit too."

Florence's neighbours use the profits to send their children to school, to improve their homes for example by installing solar panels and to buy radios to keep in contact with the world.

Life in Florence's village is transforming... one fish at a time!

We will continue with our coin fish sculptures in the playground on Friday mornings (weather permitting) but in the meantime we are still collecting your coins in the classrooms. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Our Community

- We will start collecting for the **Nourish Food Bank** again from Monday. A donation box will be kept outside the school office which our group of 'Mini Vinnie' children will be overseeing. All food donations (except fresh food) will be gratefully received.
- You may have seen the new **20mph signs this week** in the roads surrounding the school. As of today (Friday) Wilman Road and a large proportion of the St John's area are now 20mph. Our Year 5 and 6 children, along with children from St John's School, designed posters to mark this occasion and some of our children were winners of the competition. The poster winning children took part in a special launch in Newlands Road accompanied by Mr Wilson, our Family Liaison Officer. Thank you to Mr Wilson for arranging this visit and well done again to all the poster winners.
- St Dunstan's Church is holding an **Italian Themed Evening with Dinner** on Saturday 25th March in their Hall. Doors open 18:30 for 19:00 start. Tickets are £15.00 (£12.50 if booked and paid for before Sunday 19th March). Bring your own bottle (and glass). Tickets available from 01892 544422 / 01892 528004. In aid of improving facilities.

Sporting News

- Our **Cross Country Squad** headed off to Penshurst Place yesterday for the first of their league races. The runners were placed as follows: Sasha - 22, Sammy - 33, Oliver - 25, Sam - 14, Joe - 34, Ben - 46, Lilia - 12, Tabitha - 8, Isabelle - 30, William O - 17, Max F - 33, Alex - 26, William G - 36, Lewis - 41, Max W - 35 and Rosie G - 29. Well done to all the children who took part, you all did very well indeed. Thank you to Mrs Berry our PE and Sports Coordinator for organising.

Coming Up...

- Tuesday 14th March - 5/6 St Patrick Class Assembly
- Friday 17th March - Year 5 Children to St Gregory's School Taster Day
- Tuesday 21st March - 5/6 St Luke Class Assembly
- Wednesday 22nd March - Wear Trainers to School in exchange for an Easter Egg donation
- Friday 24th March - EY and KS1 Mother's Day Service 14:15
- Friday 24th March - PTA Easter Bingo 18:00 - 20:00
- Wednesday 22nd March - Tunbridge Wells Primary Singing Festival 19:30
- Friday 31st March - EY and KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade 09:00
- Friday 31st March - Last Day of Term 4
- Friday 14th April - Good Friday
- Sunday 16th April - Easter Sunday
- Monday 17th April - Easter Monday - Bank Holiday (No School for Children)
- Tuesday 18th April - First Day of Term 5
- Friday 28th April - PTA Children's Disco (more details to follow)

Congratulations to our Award Winners

- Attendance Ted:** St Helena and St Patrick
- Punctuality Pete:** St Lucy and St Paul
- Lunchtime Award:** Pietro (1 St Theresa) and Emma (St Luke)
- Tidy Classroom Award:** St John
- WOW:** St Bernadette

CAFOD prayer inspired by this week's Gospel:

Matthew 17:1-9

God of life, help us to listen to your Son Jesus and to live our lives as he asks us, making a real change to ourselves and the lives of all the people we meet. Amen.