



NEWSLETTER

"A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum through wisdom and love"

Telephone: 01798 872007

WB 16th April 2024

Welcome back to everyone after the Easter break. It is great to hear the children talking about the memorable things that they did on their holidays. We are now in the Summer Term and it is very busy with lots of exciting things planned. Please see the calendar on our website for dates that you will need to be aware of.

Talk on Sierra Leone – Thank you to everyone who came and listened to the talk by Alyson Heath and Hannah Turner about their recent trip to Sierra Leone. What a fantastic talk that pointed out how lucky we are to have the education that we have.



'Helping Your Child to Manage Their Emotions' Tea and Chat – We are so blessed to have Thought-Full coming to deliver this tea and chat. It is 2pm – 3pm in the small hall and parents will be able to come and ask questions and listen to how to help your child. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible. A brilliant opportunity!

Reflection – [Friendship 2024 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Summer Term learning – We pride ourselves on giving parents lots of information about what your child is learning and what they are achieving. This term, UK and Thailand will be looking at Movers and Shakers. Italy and Thailand will be learning 'Ready, Steady, Grow! NZ and Ireland are learning all about Romans, Year 4 are learning about 'Traders and Raiders' and Mexico, SA and Japan will be learning about 'The Waves'. What a fantastic range of topics with so much new learning! Knowledge organisers, newsletters and homework grids are on the school website under classes.

Pencil painting – We are very keen to paint the pencils in the front playground to keep them looking beautiful. If you can help then please let the office know.

Swimming reminder for the Summer Term – Swimming. The swimming pool is now open. The children will swim once a week. The children will need to come with a swimming bag and swimming hat. Class teachers will be teaching the swimming this year. No spray deodorants please. No bikinis. Hats must be worn for children will hair below their ears. If any parents can help then please let the office know.

Monday	Year 4
Tuesday	Year 3 PM
Wednesday	Mexico AM Year 3 PM
Thursday	South Africa
Friday	Japan

Forest School – The timetable for the summer term – Please see the letter that has come out regarding Forest School sessions for Key Stage 2.

Celebration Assemblies – These will all be at 9am

Wed 22nd May – Sierra Leone class

Thur 23rd May – Italy class

Thur 6th June – Ireland class

Thur 13th June – Mex class

Thur 20th June - NZ class

Thur 27th June – USA class

Thur 4th July – UK class

Thur 11th July – Thailand class

Thur 18th July – India class

Autism Aware Award – We are absolutely thrilled to have received the Bronze Autism Aware Award.

The following strengths were identified:

- School have developed draft updated policies recognising neurodivergence and using autism affirming language.
- There were positive relationships with autistic pupils observed across the school.
- School provides mostly low arousal sensory environments with visual displays contained within display boards.
- School have good knowledge of individual children and effectively harness their strengths and interests.
- School have made effective adjustments for individual pupils.
- Strong evidence of engaging with and working with parent carers.
- Good engagement with local community with focus on developing life skills e.g. local care home and confidence in making adaptations for autistic pupils to access all trips.

We will continue to work on

- Consider ensuring all classrooms have a clear area around the interactive whiteboard (see P18 of OAIP).
- Ensure consistent use of autism affirming language across the whole school.
- Consider a focus on neurodivergence awareness across whole school community.
- Consider developing an overview of staff training and autism understanding to identify gaps in knowledge and plan for CPD.
- Consider ensuring co-production with parent carers – identifying targets with parent carers rather than sending them drafts to approve or amend.

All of the staff team should be incredibly proud of their achievements and a particular thank you to Mrs Hatcher and Miss Wilkins and Mrs Flinders for the coordination of this award.

Taylor Made uniform – We now have a second supplier for uniform due to concerns raised by parents. If you are looking for uniform please click the link.

<https://www.taylormadeuniforms.co.uk/uniforms/st-marys-c-of-e-aided-primary-school/>



Vine leaves – Poppy (NZ) for courage and perseverance as during our swimming lesson, Poppy was worried about putting her head under the water. I told her to take her time and that I was sure that she would be able to put her head under the water by the end of the summer. Poppy showed extreme courage and determination by immediately



dunking her whole body under the water and was very proud of herself when she realised she had achieved something she previously found tricky. **Charlie P (SL)** for showing great perseverance during the first swimming lesson this term. He tried really hard during the lesson, listening to instructions and he kept on trying even when he found it tricky, gradually growing in confidence. **Ivy (Mex)** for responsibility as she is always so willing to be on hand to help. **Marlie (UK)** for kindness as she is always helping and supporting her friends. **Louis (USA)** for his humility as he puts others before himself and is so polite.

SEND focus – We are not here to diagnosis categories of ‘dys’ but this often helps us to work out what might be happening for a child.

Dates for your diary – SUMMER TERM

- **Monday 22nd April** – Tea and Chat parents 2 – 3pm – ‘Helping your child to manage their emotions’
- **Thur 25th April** – Residential meeting for Y5 children going to Cobnor 3.30pm
- **Tue 30th April** – Residential meeting for Y6 children going on PGL Marchant’s Hill 3.30pm
- **Mon 6th May** – Bank Holiday
- **Wed 8th – Friday 10th May** – Year 5 residential – drop off at 11am and collection at 1.30pm
- **Thur 9th May** – Year 4 Multiplication Test Parents meeting 3.30pm
- **Mon 13th May** – Year 6 Standard Assessment Tests with breakfast club
- **Tue 14th May** – Y1 Phonics Parents Meeting 3.30pm
- **18th May** – Grounds Working party – we are looking for some parents who can help with grounds maintenance to ensure the school stays smart and great for the children. If you can help please let the office know.
- **Mon 20th May – Year 6 Residential - Bethany House, Hindhead**
- **Monday 27th May – HALF TERM**
- **Sat 8th June – Summer Fayre 1-4pm**
- **Fri 14th June – Class Photographs – Full uniform and school shoes please**
- **Mon 17th June** – 9.30am UK/Thailand Sports Day and 1.30pm Italy/India Sports Day
- **Wed 19th June** – 9.30am Year 3 and Year 4 and 1.30pm Year 5 and Year 6
- **Tue 2nd July** – Parents Meeting (on site) with book look
- **Thur 4th July** – Parents Meeting (on site) with book look

Chartwell's Hot School Meals – Please see the cut off dates below for ordering hot school meals – please do talk to your children about what is being ordered as sometimes what they will eat at home differs to what they will eat in school.



May Cut off Dates

Thur 18/04 for w/c 29/04
Thur 25/04 for w/c 06/05
Thur 02/05 for w/c 13/05
Thur 09/05 for w/c 20/05

Nearly new sale – There is a Nearly New Sale on Sunday 28th April 10 – 12 noon. Tables are still available and can be booked at www.ticketsource.co.uk/dffdancenearlynew

Achievements

Elani (Jap) - received highly commended for her tap exam and a highly commended for her modern medal test too! What a fantastic achievement.

Mrs Bryan for completing her 10k in Brighton! We are so proud of her!

James H (Ind) – completed Stage 2 at swimming

Livia H (SA) – 1st place in a go-kart race

Emily P (USA) – learnt to play 3 songs on the trumpet and to read music

Hettie S (Ind) – completed Level 1 diving

Amelia B (Thai) – completed Level 2 swimming

Flora B (NZ) – completed Stage 5 swimming





Billingshurst

Journey

A group for Parents and Carers of Autistic and SEN Children

- Monday 22 April
- Monday 20 May
- Monday 17 June
- Monday 15 July

9.30am to 10.30am

The Depot, 80a High Street Billingshurst
(next door to Moo Scoops)

Come along and join us, have a chat and a cuppa with other parents on a similar journey to you.

No need to book, no pressure, just turn up. Tea and coffee provided free of charge.

For more information please contact your Neighbourhood Wardens:

Julie Green: 07795 051529

Email: billingshurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk