



Newsletter 10

Friday 22nd November 2019

November

Friday 29th

Wyndham Park Infants' School Christmas Fayre (after school) – Shop (Norma's) – closed pm

December

Tuesday 3rd

Y6 SATs information session for parents/how to support your child - 3.45 pm, Willow Class School Disco (5.30 – 6.45 pm for Y3/4 and 7.00 – 8.15 pm Y5/6) £2 per child

Thursday 5th

MUFTI – In lieu of money we ask for donations to the Christmas hampers

Wednesday 11th

Carol Service 7.00 – 8.00 pm – venue to be confirmed

Thursday 12th

Y3 Nativity 10.00 am in school hall – All Y3 parents are cordially invited

Friday 13th

Christmas Jumper day (free – no charge) instead of a school sweatshirt/cardigan

FoSM Christmas Draw in school hall from 3.30 – 4.30 pm

Friday 20th

End of Term Assembly

T2 Ends

January

Monday 6th

TD (Training Day) #6

Tuesday 7th

T3 starts – children in school

Friday 31st

FoSM Quiz for parents – more details later

Scout Post

Do you send any local Christmas cards? Save money and support your local scout groups. 30p each. Local delivery (from Amesbury to Whiteparish - check posters for details). Last post Tuesday 5 December. Norma is selling stamps and collecting post from her Snack Shack - all funds from these stamps will be split equally between 3rds and 23rds.

Important note re NUTS

Please remember we are a nut free school and this requirement is not just applicable to whole nuts but any foods/spreads containing nuts. We would ask you therefore not to make sandwiches with peanut butter or Nutella or any similar product. Your understanding and co-operation with this request is appreciated.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Mrs. Vicentini (a parent) is running a charity Christmas Wreath Making Workshop, for adults, in aid of The Starts Appeal at Salisbury District Hospital. The workshop will take place at 2.00 pm on Sunday 8th December at The Reading Room in Stratford-sub-Castle, Salisbury. No experience required! All information about the workshop; what to bring and how to book your place, can be found on the website humphreyscap.wixsite.com/wreathworkshop.

Carol Service

Due to unforeseen circumstances, namely the general election, we are unable to hold our carol service at St Francis Church. I will confirm the new venue as soon as I am able.

School Uniform

Brigade are offering a Black Friday deal, 20% off all orders placed between Friday 29th November and Monday 2nd December when you use the offer code: BCBLACK19.

New Mindfulness after school club starting in January 2020 – Mr Philip Anderson

I am delighted to be offering an after school mindfulness course for children of St Mark's. I have taught mindfulness classes for years 5 and 6 within normal lessons for the last three years and for pupils at Wyvern St Edmund's over the last five years. You may well have heard about the benefits mindfulness can bring or used it yourself. It can help people deal better with downs and ups of life; allowing us to cope better with the hard times and more fully appreciate the good ones. Due to the nature of an after school club, I will be able to work closely with your child and explore issues such as anxiety, worry, friendships, exams, family changes and many more together with your child using a variety of child friendly approaches, and showing them tools they can use to lessen the stresses they may be experiencing both over the next few months and possibly into adulthood too. The course will be five sessions on Fridays from 15:30 -16:30 beginning on Friday 10th January 2020 (venue to be confirmed at St Mark's) at a cost of £50 for all sessions.

If you think this course would benefit your child please contact me via

e: Philip@trustingmind.co.uk

w: <https://trustingmind.co.uk/>

f: <https://www.facebook.com/trustingmind/>

You will also find details there of adult mindfulness classes should you wish to take one yourself.

Book Vouchers

The schools will be collecting The Sun newspaper tokens in exchange for 600 free books. As there are so many to collect 3,500 (and it's The Sun) both schools will be collecting for one set. My Waitrose card holders can pick up a free copy of the newspaper when they shop at Waitrose.

Shop closed

Please note that the shop will be closed in the afternoon of **Friday 29th November 2019** due to the Christmas Fayre at Wyndham Park.

New School Vision

Back in March 2019 we began some important work to create and share a new vision for the school. The process lasted just over six months and involved governors, staff, clergy, parents and children in discussing and agreeing something memorable, meaningful and that meets a series of conditions laid down for church schools by the Diocese:

1. Have a maximum of 50 words
2. Have a theological underpinning i.e. is underpinned by a Bible quote or story from the Bible
3. Be ambitious/pragmatic/realistic

We will be working with the children in the coming months to explore and further develop what this vision looks like in our school via assemblies (collective worship), lessons, policies, curriculum design etc. We have also adopted the four Church of England values and added an important fifth – Love. These are areas that all church schools will be inspected on during their SIAMs visits (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). Our last inspection was in April 2017 (<https://st-marks.wilts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/siams-report-final-2017-st-marks-c-e-junior-school.pdf>)

Vision and Values Statement

Vision – ‘A vision is a picture of the future that produces passion.’ Bill Hybels

“Believing in better”

B - Behaviour - Matthew 7:12 ‘Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you.’

E - Endeavour - Proverbs 14:23 ‘All hard work brings a profit.’

T - Tolerance - Ephesians 4:2 ‘Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing..’

T - Trust - Psalms 56:3 ‘When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.’

E - Excellence - 2 Corinthians 8:7 ‘But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech...’

R – Respect 1 Peter 2:17 ‘Show proper respect to everyone, love the family...’

As a school it is what we aspire for – providing a better education, enabling better formed citizens, pupils who go on to live better lives. It would allow us to spell out what God defines as a better life i.e. one where we know Him and know our value as people he created and loves. It is aspirational, ambitious and flexible written in pupil friendly language. Pope Benedict said, ‘We long for a life that is true, complete, worthwhile and full of joy’.

Theological underpinning – where does this come from in the Bible?

Jeremiah 29:11 ‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’

Values – ‘are based on what is important to us and arise from the experience of being human’

- Hope challenge, trust and optimism for the future
- Wisdom knowledge, skills, understanding and ‘know-how’ to shape a full life
- Community living well, relationships with others, serving others, no one in isolation
- Dignity respect, safeguarding the most vulnerable, inclusion in everything
- Love ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself’ Deuteronomy 6:5