

# NEWSLETTER

## Dear Parents

We have reached the middle point of the school year and this half-term, as usual, we bring you a busy newsletter. I hope you all enjoy reading about your children's activities and sharing in their infectious enthusiasm.



There is still much to look forward to between now and Easter. The school will be celebrating St David's Day and World Book Day and we are all looking forward to the Form 6 Enterprise Fair. Various trips have been arranged to Beckenham Place Park, Knole House, Tonbridge Castle, Brooklands Museum and CSI Easter. Form 4 will also be going on their residential stay at Carrotty Wood. More details will follow about these events.

I hope you all have a relaxing half-term and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Miss Cressida Mardell, Head Teacher



## Reception's Dinotastic Cookies!

Reception have had a great time this half-term learning all about dinosaurs. One of their favourite activities was making **dinosaur cookies** and, of course, eating them!





# Key Diary Dates

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**  
PTA Bag2School Collection

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**  
KS1 & KS2 NSPCC Assemblies

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
Form 5 Love Languages Competition

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February**  
Form 3 Beckenham Place Park Trip  
Walk to School Week

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**  
Reception Pizza Express Trip  
Form 2 NSPCC Workshop  
Form 5 NSPCC Workshop  
Form 6 NSPCC Workshop  
U11 Football vs. Harris, 3.30pm

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**  
Form 5 Knole House Trip  
U11 Netball with RR, 3.15pm

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March**  
St David's Day Celebrations  
PTA After School Treat Day

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**  
U11 Hockey with RR, 1.30pm

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**  
Form 4 Carrotty Wood Trip  
Form 6 – no swimming today

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**  
U11 Netball vs. Forestdale, 3.30pm

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March**  
KS2 Cross Country, 9.30am

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
Form 2 Brooklands Museum Trip  
Basketball competition, 1.30pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**  
Form 6 Perfect Pitch, 2pm  
U8 & U9 Hockey with RR, 3.30pm

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**  
World Book Day  
U11 Football vs. Audley, 3.45pm

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**  
KS2 Cross Country, 9.30am



## Young Voices Concert

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, after months of hard work learning songs and actions, Form 6 made their way to the O2 to join around 8000 other children in singing as part of the **Young Voices** initiative. Under the watchful eye of renowned conductor David Lawrence, the children completed a 3-hour rehearsal before enjoying a well-earned tea. The star-studded concert included performances from MC Grammar, Natalie Williams and the awesome 13-year old drummer, Nandi Bushell. Children, parents and teachers all thoroughly enjoyed the concert - it was certainly a day to remember!



## French Theatre Workshop

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, the Juniors had a fantastic afternoon with a visiting French Theatre company who came to St David's to perform their bilingual play 'Le Château'. It was an interactive play with a pantomime feel and an easy-to-understand mix of French and English. The hall was filled with laughter from start to finish.





## Sharing Stories with Reception

In their RE lessons before Christmas, Form 5 were given a selection of old Christmas cards and were asked to make books retelling the Christmas Story. They **shared their books** with the children in Reception, who thoroughly enjoyed seeing the work produced by the older children.



## Mayan History in Form 3

As part of their **History topic**, Form 3 spent an enjoyable afternoon creating some colourful, and rather scary-looking Mayan masks!



## Key Diary Dates

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Last week of Clubs  
Form 6 Enterprise Fair, 1.30pm

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Forms 5 & 6 RSE Meeting, 4pm

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

U11 Football vs. Royal Russell, 4pm

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Reception Assembly & Book  
Share, 8.45am

Form 4 CSI Easter Trip

Informal Concert, 4pm

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Nursery Little Street Trip

Maths Workshops

Reception – Form 6 Race into Space

PTA Adult Quiz Night, 8pm

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Form 1 Tonbridge Castle Trip

KS2 Girls Swimming Gala, 1.30pm

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

U11 Badminton with Elmhurst, 3.45pm

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Form 4 Assembly & Book Share,  
8.45am

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

EYFS Easter Egg Hunt

Last Day of Term

12pm – Nursery & Reception finish

12.05pm – Forms 1 & 2 finish

12.10pm – Forms 3 & 4 finish

12.15pm – Forms 5 & 6 finish

## Our Librarians

Twice a week during lunchtime, our School librarians, Samuel, Rahavan, Varsha, Ethan, Emma and Head Librarian, Jackson, spend time in the library, ordering, labelling and sorting the books.

Look out for their “book of the week” recommendations as they will be quizzing students on their literary knowledge!





## School Notices

### Crisis at Christmas

A belated thank you for your donations at our Christmas nativities and concert which helped us raise £414.55 for Crisis.

### Swimming

Form 6 will be swimming from Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February and are reminded to bring their kit.

### Booster Groups

Form 5 will have booster classes at 8am on the following days:

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> February

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March

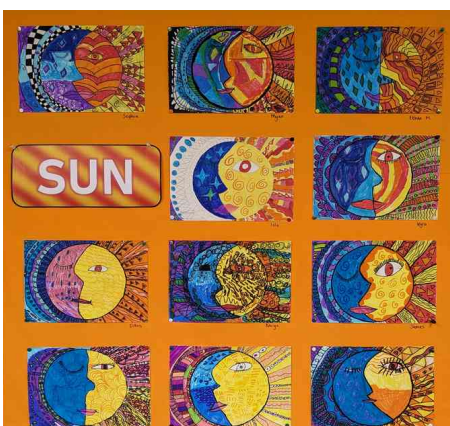
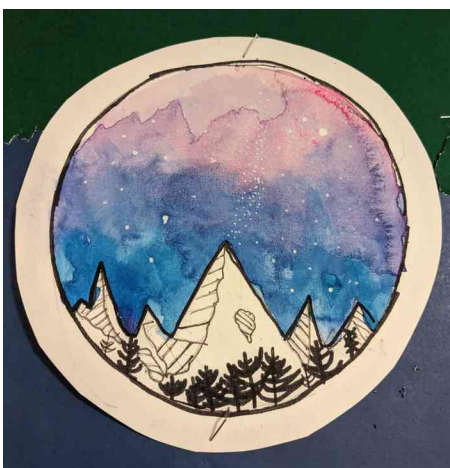
### Cakes/Sweets

If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday by bringing in cakes/sweets to share with children in your child's class, you are very welcome to do so. However, we ask that you bring these with you when you come to collect your child at the end of the day and hand them out to the other parents/children at this time. Please can we remind you that we are a nut-free school and to be aware of any children with allergies to certain foods.

## Spring Term Artwork

In the **Art Department**, this half-term:

- Form 1 have been creating Dragons and Castles inspired by Paul Klee
- Form 2 are looking at modern British artists, including optical art by Bridget Riley
- Form 3 have created colourful Moon and Sun illustrations inspired by the Aztecs
- Form 4 are putting the finishing touches on their Norman shields
- Form 5 have started studying the iconic Great Wave wood block print
- Form 6 are finishing off their 3D Pop Art collages
- Finally, Art Club have looked at the watercolour illustrations of Jen Aranyi for their most recent project.







## The Day the Crayons Quit

Form 3 acted out scenes from *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt for their **class assembly** on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. They told how the disgruntled crayons felt empowered enough to speak up for themselves. There was lots of brilliant singing and actions to go alongside this very funny story! The assembly tied in perfectly with Form 3's topic of "My Voice Matters", which they have been studying as part of Children's Mental Health Week.



## Lego Club

Lego club have had a great time designing and making a house that is comprised of different levels. They worked together to carefully work on the different parts of the house, including an underground garage, and put the levels together during their last session. We are excited to see what Form 4 creates next term in Lego Club!



## Chinese New Year

In Early Years, the children celebrated **Chinese New Year** with a series of engaging activities. The day included crafting traditional lanterns, practising calligraphy, and enjoying a Chinese lunch with various dishes. They welcomed a guest speaker, who explained that as part of Chinese New Year tradition, red packets are given to children for good luck and blessings. The guest kindly gave each child a packet containing a chocolate coin inside.

Through these activities, our Early Years children have learnt to appreciate and understand different cultures and were able to gain an insight into Chinese traditions and cultural practices.



# U9 Hockey

Our **U9 Hockey** players had the opportunity to play some matches against our friends at Royal Russell School on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Split into year-group teams, all of the children really gave it their all in what, for many, was their first hockey match experience. Although the results went the way of Royal Russell, it was a great experience for our younger hockey players.



# U11 Netball

Following on from some tightly-contested matches against Old Palace, which resulted in two draws (5-5 and 0-0), there was some great **netball** on show when Collingwood visited on 31<sup>st</sup> January for some friendly fixtures. Split into 2 teams, both games were won by St David's with the 'A' team winning 9-7, and the 'B' team winning 13-1. The children were really buzzing afterwards and look forward to more matches moving forward.



# U11 Football

Well done to our U11 footballers, who played two matches in the Croydon League against Beaumont Primary School this half-term. The games resulted in a 1-0 loss, following by a 1-0 victory.







## KS2 Cross Country

A big well done to the fifteen children who took part in the South London Harriers **Cross Country** Race on 20<sup>th</sup> January. The conditions were very cold (to say the least!) but everyone battled through to cross the finish line in one piece. There were some personal bests, top 20 finishes and, overall, a fantastic showing from our St David's Team.



## KS1 Girls Sports Festival

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, our **KS1 girls** had the opportunity to take part in a sports festival. We welcomed some Year 13 Sports Leaders from Old Palace School, who lead groups of children in six different games and activities.

The children competed for points in activities such as archery, basketball, football and running. They all did brilliantly, with the Blue team winning with a grand total of 148 points. It was a lovely afternoon and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

## PTA Update

Time is just flying - one minute you're wrapping Christmas presents and the next minute it's almost Valentine's Day! It's been a slow start with the PTA this year, but we have lots of exciting events in the pipeline.

Break The Rules Day was a roaring success and some of the hairstyles we saw at drop-off were phenomenal! We'll be in touch with the funds raised from this event once it's all been counted up.

Coming soon, we have our biannual Bag2School event on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February. We very much look forward to receiving as much as you can sift out and donate. We receive payment by the weight, so the more donations, the better!

Our annual Adult Quiz Night will be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Put on your thinking caps and bring your own booze! It's always a fun night and all proceeds go to the school PTA to fund special requests for items that otherwise wouldn't be possible.

This year the PTA have agreed to fund a number of requests. These include a school-wide maths enrichment day and additional sports equipment. Information about future funding plans will follow!

Finally, is it too soon to start talking about the Summer Fair?! This year, the fair will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June. The ice cream van went down a treat last year, so we'll be having them return again this year.

Call us ambitious, but we're considering the prospect of a barbecue at the fair this year! If you have a food licence in your name, we want to hear from you or if you would be happy to help on the barbecue stall, please come forward as soon as possible, so we know if it's a tangible idea to proceed with.

All that's left to say is, have a wonderful half-term break!

Katy & Naureen  
On behalf of the PTA Committee