

Newsletter



TERM DATES

Please see below a list of term dates, which we trust you will find of use. We will give you information concerning each event nearer the time.

Thursday 14th February – Old Folks Lunch Club.

Friday 15th February – Fox Class Assembly – 9am.

Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February - Half Term.

Tuesday 26th March – Year 1 Chinese Dance Workshops

Wednesday 27th February – Year 2 trip to SeaCity Museum.

Friday 1st March – Butterfly Class Assembly – 9am.

Friday 8th March – Rabbit Class Assembly – 9am.

Monday 11th March and Tuesday 12th March – Life Bus Visiting School.

Tuesday 12th March – Parents' Evening.

Thursday 14th March – Old Folks Lunch Club.

Thursday 14th March – Parents' Evening.

Friday 15th March – Hedgehog Class Assembly.

Friday 15th March - YR2/FS Disco.

Friday 22nd March – Deer Class Assembly – 9am.

Saturday 23rd March – Community Choir at Madejski Stadium.

Friday 29th March – Badger Class Assembly – 9am.

Saturday 30th March – PAF Curry & Quiz Night

Thursday 4th April – Easter Service – 2pm.

Friday 5th April – End of Term – 2pm

details to follow in due course. Remember to save the date and book the babysitter!

BOOK CHARACTER DRESS UP DAY

We hope the children enjoyed coming into school dressed as their favourite book character. It was lovely to see the variety of costumes that were chosen.

"I liked people saying Scooby dooby doo to me." – Max

"I liked coming to school as Spiderman." – Louie

"My tail kept falling off when I was the Highway Rat." – Samuel

ADAM GUILLAIN – AUTHOR IN SCHOOL

Thank you to those parents who have kindly made a voluntary donation to the school to help fund enrichment activities for the children. Because of this support we have been able to arrange for the author, Adam Guillain, to visit. Adam carried out different workshops with the children. He explained how to plan a story, how to mime a story with no words and how to map a story. They then re-enacted the story using words and actions. The children had a super day.

"I liked making up our own story of 'The Fox and the Sack.'" – Mason

"I liked the fox story because he picked up a boy and a chicken." – Jessica

"I liked singing the 'Nobody Knows What's in my Sack' story." – Konnor

"I loved learning all about George and his adventures." – Lucy



FOX CLASS ASSEMBLY

Due to the school being closed because of bad weather Fox Class Assembly will now be on Friday 15th February at 9am.

SEACITY MUSEUM TRIP – YEAR 2

Please remember that the coaches will be leaving school at 8.30am, the children can be dropped off at the year 2 classrooms at 8.15am.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor. Please see the attached advert for further information. The closing date for applications is Friday 1st March.

P&F CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT

The Parents and Friends will be hosting a Curry and Quiz night on Saturday 30th March in the school hall. Further



FS AND Y2 DISCO – FRIDAY 15th MARCH

It is the FS and Y2 disco on Friday 15th March 6.00pm – 7.30pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with nail painting, refreshments and supervision. If you are DBS checked via Mortimer St. John's and would like to volunteer please contact Sophie McKay (sophmckay@gmail.com) or Laura Brown (lauracastelli@hotmail.com).

Mortimer St John's Infant School, West End Road, Mortimer, Berkshire, RG7 3SY

Tel: 0118 933 2242 email: office@msj.w-berks.sch.uk

www.msj.w-berks.sch.uk



Smartphones
view here.

Tickets will be on sale from the school office on **Monday 11th March** priced at £3.



MUSIC ASSEMBLY

On Wednesday 30th January some of the children that have been having piano lessons with Mrs Mordecai performed during a special music assembly. This was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all of the children. The pianists played with confidence and showed that they had been practising and working very hard.

"I liked the Star Wars song and the Harry Potter one." – Albie

"It was good and I liked the Star Wars song." - Jacob



HOT CHOCOLATE AND STORY TIME

The children had a super time coming back to school in their pyjamas and bringing their teddy along to listen to a story. We would like to say a big thank you to those parents who made the delicious hot chocolate.

"I loved cuddling my teddy listening to stories." – Aidan

"I really liked listening to stories and having hot chocolate." – Niamh

"I loved all of it, the biscuits, hot chocolate and stories." – Rudy

"The cookies were yummy and the hot chocolate tasted just right." – Louis

"I knew one of the stories before but it was good to hear new ones too." - Thea

LOST PROPERTY

We have several items of lost property, gloves, hats, scarves, a watch, necklaces, car keys and a fitness tracker. If you or your child are missing any of these items please call into the school office. **All items that are not collected will be donated to the Bag2School charity after half term.** Thank you.

CAN YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

If you can play a musical instrument and are willing to come in to school and share your talent with the children we would be most grateful. We would ideally like to cover a broad range of musical genres and have as many visitors as possible who would be willing to perform a few songs/musical pieces or talk about instruments – maybe even carry out a workshop? If you are musically inclined and willing to come into school please let the school office know. Thank you.

WARM CLOTHING FOR PE

Please can you ensure that your child comes to school with a grey tracksuit or suitable alternative. All PE lessons will take place outside whenever possible. Thank you.

FOUNDATION STAGE – HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE

Please could all Health Questionnaires be returned to school be Monday 25th February. These forms were sent home with the Foundation Stage children earlier this term. If you require another copy please call into the school office. Thank you.

YEAR 1 HOMEWORK

Contrary to the text message that was sent home last week the year 1 children will be set maths and phonics homework each week. Apologies for any confusion caused.



MILES APART – PARENT SHARE

On Friday 8th February, the children took their parents/carers on a grand tour of New Zealand.

They shared their Maori artwork, taught a Haka dance, had the opportunity to taste Anzac biscuits and used Google Earth to look at New Zealand and practise their map skills

"The biscuits tasted nicer than I thought." – parent

"The biscuits were really yummy." – Jenson

"The masks were a bit scary but amazing." – Alisha

"Google Earth was great, I loved zooming in." - Joseph

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

It was lovely to see so many parents at the last P&F meeting. You may not be aware but as a parent of a child at Mortimer St. John's you are automatically a member of the P&F. Without the support of the P&F and their fantastic fund raising events we would not be able to raise the additional funds to support the children at school. We would love to see many more faces at the next meeting. If you are unable to attend but are willing to give your time to events such as our Mayfair, Bonfire and Fireworks night, Christmas Fair etc please email/call into the school office where your name can be added to the volunteers list. Thank you in advance.

MAY FAIR – SATURDAY 11TH MAY – 11AM TO 2PM

This is one of the biggest fund raising events of the year and is now fast approaching. We currently have volunteers to manage the organisation of the fair; however, we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to co-ordinate a stall. A coordinator would be responsible for ensuring that their individual stall has everything it needs to run effectively on the day. The main team will provide support and source volunteers to help run the stall.

The main stalls that we need co-ordinators for are:



- Refreshments** (ideally someone who holds a food hygiene certificate or has experience).
- **Tombola**
- **Plant Stall**
- **Cake Stall**
- **Craft Stall**
- **Silent Auction**
- **Pick a Lolly**

If you are able to help please email contact Alison Harlen at ally@allyandrich.co.uk.

Additionally, we always welcome new ideas for stalls. If you have a suggestion please contact Alison on the email address above.

We would like to thank you in advance for all volunteered time and donations, without this help such events that raise much needed funds for the school could not take place.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE – 25TH FEBRUARY

The Eco Warriors will be holding a second hand uniform sale each day after school the week commencing 25th February. Weather permitting the sale will be held in the playground, if the weather is inclement it will be in the outside classroom behind Badger class.

ECO WARRIOR UPDATE

The Eco Warriors have been very busy helping to make the school more environmentally friendly. To see what they have been up to why not take a look at their dedicated page on the school website.

Keep our Village Clean

The Eco Warriors would love you to support their 'Keep our Village Clean' campaign. If you would like to find out more information and sign up to the pledge please visit the Eco Warriors at the second hand uniform sale after half term.

Recycling

You can donate any unwanted school uniform for the Eco Warriors to sell. Please bring all donations to the school office.

Remember we also recycle pens, toothpaste tubes and brushes.

Spring Clean/Biodiversity

Are you looking for something to keep the children occupied over half term? Why not get them to draw a poster to advertise the 'Spring Clean' on Saturday 23rd March or ask them to design a biodiverse paradise garden for our school.

