

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.

Monday 18th March – Federation Parent Consultation – St. John's Village Hall – 7.30pm

Friday 22nd March – Deer Class Assembly – 9am

Saturday 23rd March – Community Choir at Madejski Stadium

Wednesday 27th March – Year 1 Phonics Workshop – 2.30pm

Friday 29th March – Badger Class Assembly – 9am

Saturday 30th March – PAF Quiz & Pizza Night

Monday 1st April – P&F Meeting - Horse & Groom – 8pm

Wednesday 3rd April – Federation Parent Consultation – St. John's Village Hall – 7.30pm

Thursday 4th April – Easter Service – 2pm

Friday 5th April – End of Term – 2pm

Wednesday 24th April – Summer Term begins

Friday 26th April – Non-Uniform Day – May Fair

Friday 3rd May – Year 1 trip to Living Rainforest

Wednesday 8th May – FS trip to Rushall Farm

Saturday 11th May – May Fair 11am to 2pm

Friday 24th May to Friday 31st May - Half Term

Tuesday 4th June – Mobile Planetarium visiting school

Tuesday 4th June – Dress Up Day – Aliens or Astronauts

Wednesday 5th June – Class Photos

Tuesday 18th June – Sports Day – AM

Thursday 20th June – Reserve Sports Day – AM

Wednesday 24th July - End of Term – 2pm

EASTER SERVICE

Our Easter Service will be held at St. John's Church on **Thursday 4th April** at 2pm. This year we will be holding a joint service with children from Mortimer St. John's and Mortimer St. Mary's attending, this of course, will result in space in the church being very limited. **Please be aware that the Foundation Stage children will not be attending this service.** All welcome.

YEAR 1 PARENTS' PHONICS WORKSHOP

On **Wednesday 27th March** at **2.30pm** we will be holding a Phonics Workshop for year 1 parents. The focus of the workshop will be to understand how best to support your child in phonics, ways to develop your child's

phonics skills and what the phonics screening for year 1 will look like. We hope you will be able to join us.

P&F QUIZ AND PIZZA NIGHT

The Parents and Friends will be hosting a Quiz and Pizza night on **Saturday 30th March** in the school hall. Why not get together with a group of friends and come along for a fun evening. Doors will open at 7.30pm, the quiz starts at 8pm. Teams of up to a maximum of 6 adults.

Tickets are on sale now from the school office priced at £7 per person (ticket price includes pizza). There are a limited number of tickets available so please do not delay purchasing your ticket.

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. To ensure the event runs smoothly we require the following:

May Fair Stall Co-ordinators (you don't have to complete a shift on the day of the fair).

Craft Stall – source and supply all items for the stall

Chocolate Stall – purchase all supplies for the Chocolate Game.

Plant Stall – is anyone green fingered and able to help source plants and set up the stall?

BBQ – this year we are hoping to have a BBQ. We need volunteers to help serve and take orders.

If you are able to help with any of these roles please contact Alison Harlen at ally@allyandrich.co.uk

Raffle Tickets – During the weekends prior to the May Fair, we sell raffle tickets outside Budgens and McColls. This creates a lot of revenue for the school but we require volunteers to help sell the tickets. Please check your diaries and see if you can spare an hour (dates and times listed below), you are welcome to bring your children along.

Saturday 13th/ Sunday 14th April – 9am to 4pm

Saturday 27th/Sunday 28th April – 9am to 4pm

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.

If you are able to help please contact Kelly Jenkins on 07894877892.

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.

NON-UNIFORM DAY

On **Friday 26th April** the children are invited to come to school in non-uniform. Please can the children bring an item that can be used as a prize for the May Fair, suggested items are listed below:

Adult Tombola – Unwanted gifts, toiletries, jars or bottles – all within date please.

Children's Tombola – brand new toys, books, puzzles, games colouring books – unwanted gifts welcome.

Children's Jar Tombola – Glass jars filled with children's goodies eg. hairclips, pencils, crayons, marbles, sweets, plastic soldiers etc. **PLEASE CLEAN JARS BEFORE USE AND AVOID JARS THAT HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH CHEMICALS AND STRONG SMELLING PRODUCTS.**

Chocolate Game – Chocolate bars, boxes of chocolates – all varieties and sizes welcome.

Please leave your donations on top of the lockers inside the main school entrance. Thank you

WANTED PLASTIC BOTTLE LIDS FOR ECO WEEK ART PROJECT!

We are collecting plastic bottle lids for an art project. Please save and wash any plastic bottle lids that you have and hand them into the school office by **Friday 5th April**. The lids can be any size or colour. We need lots! Thank you in advance.

ECO WARRIOR UPDATE – KEEP OUR VILLAGE CLEAN

Thank you to those families that have signed up to our 'Keep our Village Clean' pledge and have agreed to pick up litter once a month for a year. We still need more signatures and will be placing the list on a classroom door each day over the next 2 weeks. We would love to make our target so if you are willing to help please sign up.

Please also put **Saturday 23rd March** in your diaries to participate in the Mortimer Village Spring clean 1pm to 3.30pm, sign in at the Horse & Groom. Litter pickers, bags & gloves provided.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS APPEAL PANEL

West Berkshire Council wish to recruit new School Admission Appeals Panel Members. The next training session takes place on **Friday 29th March**. Please see the attachment for further information.

GUIDE DOG PUPPIES

As a school, we have been sponsoring three Guide Dog puppies since they began their training. We have recently received 'Pupdate' 5 and would like to share their progress with you.

Foundation Stage– Bolt

We are pleased to report that Bolt passed his training and has been placed with a man called Paul. Paul was diagnosed with a degenerative eye disorder at the age of 21, he is now 54 and is severely sight impaired. Bolt has already made an incredible difference to Paul's mobility, especially at night. Paul describes Bolt as a fun-loving soul who is highly affectionate, he says 'as you can tell I am rather smitten with him.'

Year 1 – Farah

Unfortunately Farah did not pass her training, however, she has found a lovely new home in Suffolk. Farah is sharing her new home with two pet dogs and they have become the best of friends. They each have their own bed to sleep in but prefer to snuggle up together in one bed! Farah's owners also keep horses and chickens, so she is truly living the countryside lifestyle. She has settled in well and loves exploring the sights and smells of the countryside.

Year 2 – Libby

We are thrilled to advise that Libby has also passed her training and has been placed with her new owner Milly. Milly was born with a genetic condition causing her sight to gradually worsen over time. By the age of 8 Milly's sight had deteriorated drastically and she has been using a cane to get around ever since. Milly says that Libby has given her an incredible sense of freedom and her confidence has soared. Next year Milly is off to college and Libby will be going with her. Knowing she has Libby by her side has made such a difference to Milly.

