

Newsletter



EASTER BREAK



This will be the last newsletter of the Spring Term. May we take this opportunity of wishing you a happy Easter. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Wednesday 24th April.

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 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

INDIVIDUAL CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Below are the dates for each class assembly. You are invited to come along and watch the assembly. Each assembly starts at 9.00am and last for approximately 20 minutes.

Friday 17th May – Deer Class
Friday 7th June – Badger Class
Friday 14th June – Rabbit Class
Friday 21st June – Butterfly Class

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.** Everybody is welcome.



MAY FAIR – 11TH MAY 11AM TO 2PM

Volunteers for Raffle Ticket selling and running stalls on the day – we still have quite a few slots to fill. If you are able to spare some time to help this would be greatly appreciated (**please see the attached sheet for further information**).

Setting Up – we require help setting up for the Fair on Saturday morning, in particular, the scouts have said they may need help to erect and dismantle the large tent. If you are able to spare some time to help please contact Alison Harlen at ally@allyandrich.co.uk.

May Fair King & Queen – This year we will be running a fancy dress competition for the best dressed 'King' and 'Queen' of the Fair. Children can come to the Fair in fancy dress (they do not necessarily have to be dressed as Kings and Queens) and the best dressed will be awarded with a prize and a sash to wear. There will be a short parade at **12.30pm** followed by the presentation.

Raffle Tickets – We will be sending home two books of raffle tickets per family. Please make every effort to sell these tickets, if possible, amongst family and friends. If any books cannot be sold we would ask you to return them as soon as possible to the school office so that they can be sold at the stands on the 'raffle ticket selling' weekends in the local area. If you would like extra books to sell please contact the office.

Speciality Cakes - This year we will be having a cake auction at the Mayfair. We need a number of cakes/cupcakes/specialist savoury products, which have been lovingly baked which we can auction on the day. If you are a keen baker and have the ability to create something delicious for us to auction please could you email Alison Harlen at ally@allyandrich.co.uk. All items need to be dropped off at school on **Friday 11th May** or at school on Saturday morning before the Fair.

Please put the date in your diary and try to come along on the day. The children love showing parents/carers around their school and it is a fun event for all the family. There will be a **Judo** demonstration at **11.15am**, the **school choir** will be singing at **12pm** and some of our **Year 1 children** will be performing a dance at **1pm**.

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.

SOCIAL MEDIA

If you have a question relating to school or your child please do not contact members of staff via social media. Please speak to the class teacher during drop off or pick up. Alternatively please telephone or email the school office. Thank you.

PARKING

May we remind all parents/carers that drive their children to school to park courteously. Please do not park in the disabled parking space, park on double yellow lines, block other drivers in the car park or park across our neighbours driveways. Thank you.

STOP PRESS ECO WEEK – 24TH TO 26TH APRIL

We are so excited to be holding our first Eco Week on our return from the Easter holidays. Here is some important information to help you and your children prepare for Eco Week during the Easter holidays.

Competition - We are having a competition to see who can build the most useful item made from recycled materials. e.g. a bird box, a bee house, a bug hotel, a shopping bag. Please bring your completed items into school on **Wednesday 24th April**. All items will be displayed in the school.

Can you have a school dinner instead of a packed lunch? – If your child has a packed lunch can you try our **Litterless Challenge?** e.g. use a reusable drinks bottle, reusable containers, no disposable items such as cling film, tin foil etc.

Can you walk to school or park and stride? To help reduce your carbon footprint instead of jumping in the car to come to school, why not enjoy the spring weather and walk. If you live too far away why not park a bit further away from school and walk the rest of the way!

Recycling – Over the Easter break ask your friends & family for old pens, toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads and rinsed toothpaste tubes. Please ask your child to bring them into school for recycling. Each class will weigh the items collected on Friday 26th April. The class that whose collection weighs the most will earn extra 'Golden Time'!

Don't forget - You can still bring in plastic bottle lids any size or colour for our plastic waste art project, please wash these before bringing into school. Any lids not used will be recycled at Lush.

ECO WEEK - ONE MILE WALK

Due to events taking place during Eco Week the times that the children will be taking part in a one mile walk around the village have changed to the following:

Year 2 – Wednesday 24th April – 9.30am

Year 1 – Thursday 25th April – 9.30am

Foundation Stage – Friday 26th April – 9.30am

To enable this to take place we require parent helpers to help escort the children. If you are able to help and have a valid DBS obtained via the school or if you are registered with the Update Service, please could you contact the school office or speak to your child's class teacher.

If you have already volunteered and are now unable to help due to the time changes please could you contact the school office. Thank you.

MRS PATEL

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Patel for coming into school and sharing her knowledge of Hinduism with the Year 1 children. It was interesting to learn that there are so many Gods worshipped in the Hindu faith. The children enjoyed the story of Rama and Sita and that this story is remembered every year by Hindu's with the festival of Diwali.

"I liked the colourful Gods." – Rees

"There are so many different types of Gods for different things." – Eleanor

"The statues of Gods were really good." – Lida

"I liked the animal Gods." - Aayla

**STAR AWARDS**

The following children were presented with Star Awards at today's Celebration Assembly.

Butterfly – Daniel Clucas-Richards, Dominic Reed, Genevieve Matthews and Isabella Walsh.

Rabbit – Alice Hambly, Bethan Roberts, Emilee Heap and Lincoln Nuccoll.

Deer – Aayla Harlow, Casey Mann, Freddy Downer and Niamh Goslin.

Badger – Angel Foster, Chloe Vidal, Luke Fulford, Ross Buckley and Sophia Richardson.

Fox – Abbeigh Drake, Ethan Nuccoll, and Maddison Aubrey.

Hedgehog – Abigail Williams, Albert Prior, Daniel Kennedy and Harry Burnard.

**TENNIS**

Mortimer Tennis Club is holding a Quorn Family Tennis cup competition on 7th April. The entry will be free and they would like to get as many families involved as possible. Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

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.



FS FAMILY LEARNING – PIRATES

Last Tuesday the Foundation Stage parents/carers had a tricky task to complete. They had to assess whether their children passed all of their pirate quests sufficiently to become an honorary pirate. Pirate Penny was supervising and offering encouragement while the children 'climbed the rigging' and completed an obstacle course, including 'walking the plank'. The children also had to throw 'cannon balls' of various sizes at a target, read a 'message in a bottle' and prove that their letter formation was good enough to pass the final quest. Well done Foundation Stage you were great pirates and Pirate Penny and Pirate Pete were proud of you all for trying so hard!

"I enjoyed trying to balance on the plank – it was so tricky."
– Jenson

"I liked climbing the rigging because mummy couldn't." – Charlotte

"I didn't find climbing the rigging scary." - Isla

"I liked the green screen best and having a go with my friends." – Tayla

"The green screen is so much fun as you get to perform and act it out; my visitors loved it!" - Jonathan



YR 1 FAMILY LEARNING – A CREATURE OF THE SKY

On Wednesday 20th March the Year 1 parents were invited to 'A Creature of the Sky' family learning outcome event. The children shared the clay dragons that they had designed and made. They also showed their parents/carers all of the project work and the amazing stories they had written based on 'George and the Egg'. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event.

"I loved going to Deer class to have a look at their work." - Peggy

"I liked having my mum in class." - Sam

"I felt excited that I could show my mum my work." - Edward

"My favourite part was showing my parents my clay dragon."
Isla



YR2 FAMILY LEARNING – THE UNSINKABLE

At the end of their recent project, the Year 2 children created a Living Museum all about the Titanic. The visitors experienced a range of activities like creating artwork using oil pastels and role-play of the 'class system'. The children loved sharing their character descriptions and stories of passengers that were aboard the Titanic and their newspaper articles too. There was also a fantastic display of impressive Titanic models. Well done Year 2!

"I liked showing my mummy my writing all about the Titanic." - Harry

"My mum's favourite bit was reading my work in my project book." – Belle

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.