



St Mary's CE Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: FRIDAY 6th October 2023, WEEK 5

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Willow Wood

I am delighted to share the recent development to Willow Wood; we are now winter ready with a newly installed marquee. The wind that whips across Orleans Park field can be chilling so this protects the children somewhat and additional sides can be added in wet weather if we wish.

Last week Orleans Primary began their Willow Wood experience, the first of a block of 6 sessions for their Year 1 children. It is wonderful to be able to utilise this space for as many children as possible whilst also raising much needed revenue for our school.



Vision Day - Friday 13th October

As part of our annual Vision Day we are asking for your help; attached to this newsletter is an individual pledge sheet for you to fill in with your child. A pledge is a promise to do something for others or our world. In making a pledge your child will display "True love in Action". Please talk to your child about what they might like to do and then send your pledge back in to school on Monday 16th October. Last year many families also made pledges with activities ranging from litter picking in the local area or trying to reduce the use of single use plastics, helping others out in our community or raising money for charity.

We would love to hear about any pledges that are fulfilled across the year, via email to school; you can send family pledges in on Monday too.

During our Vision Day we are going to learn a new song together which we will record for you all as a fundraiser for our chosen charity "Connect Planet Foundation". More to follow on this next week.

Black History Month

On Tuesday 10th October the children across the school will take part in the national Great Big Live Assembly. This is an event celebrating Black History Month and in particular focusing on black women, with the theme 'Celebrate Our Sisters'. This will be a great opportunity for our children to join others across the nation and to add to their understanding of black history. As you know at St Mary's we weave black history into our curriculum throughout the year not just in October, but we are using the focus this month to launch new resource areas in our libraries after a fantastic donation of books by one of our families. We thank them for their generosity and know our children will be keen to read the variety of new books by black authors or featuring black characters and culture.

World Mental Health Day

Next Wednesday 11th October is World Mental Health Day. As a school, we would like to mark the event BUT we don't want year 5 to miss out as they are in Hooke Court. So instead, we will be planning our day on Friday 13th October:

The children are invited to wear a splash of yellow as a nod to Young Minds #helloyellow. If they do so we would love you to support the charity "Young Minds" with a small donation - see the link below:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/>

Healthy Snacks

Thank you to parents who noted our request for much healthier snacks in last week's newsletter. I have had a number of emails from parents thanking me for the reminder as their children were refusing fruit because others were coming in with crisps and chocolate.

Weekly attendance: w/c 2nd October 2023

Well done to Years 2 & 4 for reaching 'The Golden Goal' - for the highest attendance and to Reception & Year 5 for the least lates this week!

Year group	Lates	Attendance
Reception	1	97.17%
Year 1	20	96.04%
Year 2	2	99.75%
Year 3	2	98.36%
Year 4	2	99.75%
Year 5	1	98.15%
Year 6	3	94.22%
Whole School	31	97.65%

Car Parking on the junior site

Please note that cars are not permitted to drive on to the site at all. We have received a complaint from Orleans School that their car park is filled each morning and afternoon by St Mary's parents at a time when their students use the vehicle gate to enter and leave. Our Caretakers will be at the gate at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you for helping us to keep a good relationship with our neighbouring school.

OTHER NEWS

FoSM News

Quiz & Curry night information

- Secure your table from 8pm on TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER
- What you need to do:
 - - Recruit a team of 8 people - a great opportunity to mix with other parents
 - - Choose ONE person from your team to email with full name, phone number, names of other team members, and your child's class

to Danhargreaves1@gmail.com from 8pm on the 10th October.

- This is a very popular event so to make sure it is as fair as possible to get tickets only emails with the correct information received from 8pm on the 10th October will be accepted - first come first served. Any requests after all tables are sold will be put on a wait list
- - IF you are successful you will be informed within 48 hours and asked to pay immediately by bank transfer and confirm your team members, their curry options (including any dietary requirements) and team name
- - Money needs to be received by 8pm on the 17th October to secure your table
- - If you want to take part by don't have a table, email Danhargreaves1@gmail.com and we will endeavour to match you up to create a team
- - NB: Refund - unfortunately we can't issue any refunds. If you get a table and can't attend for any reason you can try to sell on your tickets
- Quiz and Curry Night Details:
- - Friday 17th November on the Middle Site
- - Teams of 8 people
- - Tickets £20 per person to include a delicious curry (vegetarian or meat option)
- - Food will be served from 7pm until 8.15pm
- - Mr Cadman is our wonderful host and Quiz Master
- - There will be a bar selling wine, beer and snacks
- - Raffle on the night with some excellent prizes, get you tickets on the night with all proceeds going to FoSM
- - Just confirmed – the official after party is at the Cabbage Patch! The Patch is kindly staying open late for some late-night revelling!

- Parents (and friends) of ALL YEAR groups are welcome to attend and we'd love to have as many year groups as possible represented, including our new parents across the school. All money raised from the evening will go to FoSM and all the wonderful, important things that we help fund.
- Please join us for a fun evening

Quiz and Curry night team.

FINALLY

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the amazing school teachers, who, no matter what, travel into school to teach us and create our wonderful school community. Every lunchtime, I am thankful for the friendly and kind dinner staff who provide us with dinners full of care and love. Thank you for the awesome school trips and residential that our school gives us. Please help us always go down the right path and that we have peace in our hearts. I hope that the next day will be filled with learning and laughter and that we will strive in all we do. Tomorrow I hope that the sun will shine down on the roses and that the rain will water the trees. Amen. Rosie A (6N)

Yours sincerely



Angela Abrahams
Headteacher

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