

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**The Mortimer Federation of St. John's and St. Mary's Schools**

# 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.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October** - Harvest Celebrations  
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Mortimer St. Mary's Pupil Photos  
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Bag2School Collection  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** – PTFA Zoom Meeting  
**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October** - Half Term  
**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November** – Mortimer St. John's Pupil Photos  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November** – Nasal Flu Immunisations  
**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Lunch  
**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - End of Term Mortimer St. Mary's 1:30pm, Mortimer St. John's 2pm  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021**- Back to School

## CAR PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please can we kindly ask our parents not to park on the zig-zag lines outside the school on drop off and pick up. It affects the visibility outside the school and may cause an unnecessary accident.

## WATER BOTTLES

Please can we kindly remind that all pupils need to bring in a water bottle each day. We have noticed a few children with juice in their bottles can we just remind everyone that the bottles are for plain water and can be refilled as needed during the day.

## FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Here is the online link for parents and carers to give consent for your children to have the immunisation on 18<sup>th</sup> November.  
<https://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>  
and insert your schools (**Mortimer St Mary's C.E. Junior School**) unique code: **BK109977** by 18<sup>th</sup> November to ensure your child gets the vaccination.

## FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

The West Berkshire Council Code of Conduct in relation to Fixed Penalty Fines (FPFs) legislation states that the Headteacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Where an FPF is issued, payment will be £60 if paid within 21 days. If not paid within 21 days, the Penalty is automatically increased to £120 if paid within 28 days. If payment is not made within 28 days, the Council will proceed with formal legal action which may result in a fine of up to £1,000 and a criminal record.

The full Code of Conduct is available to view on the Council's website at [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk).



## SHARE YOUR LIGHT AWARDS

The following children have been awarded a Share Your Light Award by their class teacher

**Butterfly** – Maddison Jones and Seb Nutchey  
Bella Green and Mark Rojas Vinskyte

**Rabbit** – Dylan Fernando and Millie Pocock  
Dylan Mehmi and Mia Hallahan

**Deer Class** – Lylah Chapman and Marnie Shepperson  
Rosie Rhymes and Zac Jones

**Badger Class** – Brooke Oakley-Shaw and Ophelia Rakowska  
Charlie Greenwood and Ted Baker

**Fox Class** – Nicole-Rose Nichols and Summer Harris  
Emilee Heap and Mabel Quarterman

**Hedgehog Class** – Millie Rogers and William Brown  
Alex Hassey and Isla Webb

**Jupiter** – Aayla Harlow and Chloe Vidal  
Alisha Patel and Ross Buckley

**Saturn** – Emily Davidson and Albie Priestman  
Tulisa North and Edward Roberts

**Mercury** – Abbeigh Drake and Owen Medhurst  
Amelie Clemison and Hugo Rolton

**Venus** – Abigail Roberts and Riley Cox  
Ben Courtnadge and Oscar Greenwood

**Mars** – Ruby Fitch and Lorraine Quarterman  
Danica Bracey and Edward MacKenzie

**Neptune** – Hattie Jenkins-Hall and Austen Furness  
Jacob Ball and Sophie Kempson

**Gemini** – Aaron Hicks and Caylon Cooke  
Isabel Vine and Lillian Pickering

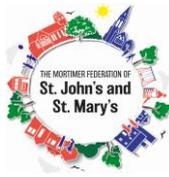
**Orion** – Gray Fowlds and Jason Nichols  
Poppy O'Sullivan and Annabelle Lambert



## BAG2SCHOOL

Bag2School raises money for Mortimer St. John's, Mortimer St. Mary's and The Willink schools through the collection of unwanted clothing and textiles. The next roadside collection will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October, with a further collection at the school on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October (please drop bags at by the double gates at Mortimer St John's and at the courtyard gates at Mortimer St. Mary's by 8.45am).

Items that can be placed in the bag are: Clothing, paired shoes (tied together), handbags, hats, bags, scarves, ties, jewellery, lingerie, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen, curtains, towels, bedding (not duvets). Please do not put school uniforms or corporate clothing in the bag, or anything soiled, ripped or wet.



#### **UNIFORM – MORTIMER ST MARY'S**

We would like to remind you of our uniform expectations: -

Grey trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt  
Blue and white checked summer dress with white socks  
Navy polo shirt  
Plain navy sweatshirt or cardigan

White, navy or grey socks; navy or grey tights  
Black low heeled shoes (plain black or navy low heeled ankle boots are permitted during the autumn/winter).  
Fleeces can be purchased to be worn outside only.

**Please ensure uniform, coats, PE kits, reading folders, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly named.**

**PE Kit** – School or plain navy t-shirt and shorts with plimsolls or trainers. A dark tracksuit can be worn for the autumn and winter terms or during periods of unseasonably cold weather. These are to be worn outside only. Navy shorts are still required in the winter for use in the hall.

In the interest of hygiene and safety, long hair should be tied back at all times. The wearing of jewellery, except watches and plain small stud earrings is not permitted. Watches and earrings must be removed for PE and games. Children must remove their own earrings or the earrings will be covered with **micropore tape**, which **parents need to provide**, for the duration of the lesson.

Sweatshirts, polo shirts, fleeces, cardigans, book bags, PE shorts, PE Bags and sunhats, with the school logo, can be purchased from <https://www.michaelhope.co.uk/>. A selection of good condition second hand uniform is also available at school, for further information please contact the school office. Headbands or hair clips should be plain and in school colours. Children should remove nail varnish and tattoos for school.

#### **UNIFORM – MORTIMER ST JOHN'S**

We would like to remind you of our uniform expectations: -

Grey trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt  
Red and white checked summer dress with white socks  
Red polo shirt  
Red sweatshirt or cardigan

Grey socks, red tights or grey tights  
Black low heeled shoes (plain black or navy blue ankle boots are permitted during the autumn/winter).  
Fleeces can be purchased to be worn outside only.

**Please ensure uniform, coats, PE kits, reading folders, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly named.**

**PE Kit** – Red shorts and a white t-shirt with plimsolls or trainers. A grey tracksuit can be worn for the autumn term or during periods of unseasonably cold weather. These are to be worn outside only. Red shorts are required in the winter for use in the hall.

In the interest of hygiene and safety, long hair should be tied back at all times. The wearing of jewellery, except watches and plain small stud earrings is not permitted. Watches and earrings must be removed for PE and Games. Children must remove their own earrings or the earrings will be covered with **micropore tape**, which **parents need to provide**, for the duration of the lesson.

Sweatshirts, polo shirts, fleeces, cardigans, book bags, PE shorts, PE Bags and sunhats, with the school logo, can be purchased from [www.mandsyourschooluniform.com](http://www.mandsyourschooluniform.com). A selection of good condition second hand uniform is also available at school, for further information please contact the school office. Headbands or hair clips should be plain and in school colours. Children should remove nail varnish and tattoos for school.

#### **ECO COUNCILLORS**

Children from Year 3 up to Year 6 were invited to complete an application form if they wanted to become an Eco Councillor. There were some incredibly amazing application forms which showcased how passionate our pupils are about all things ECO! Miss Sims was blown away by the things children were doing in the local community with their families to make our environment a much better place to live in.

After reading through so many high quality application forms we are delighted to advise that the following children have been selected to be our Eco Councillors for this half of the year:

Year 3: **Emily Davidson and Joseph Randall**

Year 4: **Evie Grover and Clara Moran**

Year 5: **Annabel Baker-Gabb and Izzy Lambourne**

Year 6: **Caylon Cooke and Jack Hambly**

The first ECO Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 7th October with Miss Sims.



#### **JOSE FERRER GUITARS FOR SALE**

Mortimer St. Mary's have a selection of half size Jose Ferrer Classical Guitars, with a foot stand, for sale at a cost of £20 each. Please note that the guitars are in used condition. If you would like to purchase or require further information, please contact Mortimer St. Mary's School Office. Thank you.

#### **WARM CLOTHING**

Please can we remind you to send your children with additional clothes to keep warm this term, we are ensuring the schools are being regularly ventilated, so the temperature in the classrooms maybe lower. This will mean having extra layers available and a coat. Also possibly a track suit for PE. Please ensure that all your child's belongings are labelled.

#### **COVID QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS**

Attached is a quick guide for parents to help know what action is needed



#### LEARNING GEMS – MORTIMER ST JOHN'S

This week we have been focusing on the  
**Emerald Power - Learning Gem.**

When we are learning we are '**Having a Go**':

- we will learn from our mistakes
- ask questions
- have a "can do" attitude
- take a risk and challenge ourselves

#### WINNING WISDOM WAYS – MORTIMER ST MARY'S

This week we have been focusing on the  
**Delving Dolphin - Winning Wisdom Way:**

Knowledge Harvest – We will '**Share**' by:

- Using prior knowledge
- Sharing what we know
- Asking questions

#### CALLEVA WALK YEAR 4

Year 4 had a great walk to Silchester on Monday 5th October to explore the Roman ruins of Calleva. They walked the full perimeter of the wall and found out what the ruins would have looked like during the Roman period. They also found out about the archaeological digs that have taken place in recent years to discover more about this historical site. "It was great to see something in real life that is from so far back in history" - Abi Williams. "The wall had broken down but you can still imagine what it would have been like" - Albert Prior. Thank you very much to parents/guardians for your support with this trip and ensuring that the children all came dressed and prepared for the muddier conditions.

#### PTFA

The first meeting of the new Mortimer Schools Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) will be on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 8pm. The meeting will be held via Zoom (joining details will be sent closer to the time).

All parents, carers and staff are very welcome to attend. Our aim is to raise funds for the benefit of the children at the Mortimer Schools, improving equipment, facilities and resources. It is also a way to bring the school staff, parents, carers and the wider community together socially in support of the schools.

Any contribution you can make is appreciated whether it is coming to a meeting or supporting an event (attending a meeting does not commit you to anything). Coming to meeting and sharing your ideas is massively valued.

This is our first meeting as a new 'joint' PTFA. Therefore, we will be electing a new committee (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) and agreeing our new Constitution. If you would like more information about what is involved with these roles ahead of the meeting, please contact the school office.

#### BERKSHIRE MAESTROS

Please find attached the flyer for Berkshire Maestros Music lessons during the holiday.

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES

Please find attached The Federation of Mortimer St John's and St Mary's.

#### ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Please see attached the latest Online Safety Newsletter containing good practise ideas for keeping your children safe whilst they are online

#### SIMS PARENT APP LITE

We are currently using a system called Sims Parent App Lite which helps schools comply with the new General Data Protection Regulation requirements. The app is a simple, convenient and accessible solution for parents to electronically view and request changes to the data held on their children and themselves.

Invitations for registering with the Parent Lite App system will be sent to all parents/carers, in the next few days, that we hold an email address for and that have not previously registered on the system. If you have not received an email from [noreply@SIMS.co.uk](mailto:noreply@SIMS.co.uk) by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October, please contact the school office. Please spare a few minutes to register and download the app from the Playstore/Appstore. Once logged on to the app please check the information that we hold on file for your child. Once checked please either click on "confirm", if no changes are required, or submit any updates as necessary. Once any changes have been actioned by the school you will be notified by email. Parent Lite will ensure that your data is kept secure and up to date and complies with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

A useful guide which can assist you with the registration process can be found here <http://simspublications.com/355799/>. If you do not have access to a smartphone or tablet, please contact the school office.

**All parents that have previously registered should continue to use the system to ensure your child's record is kept up to date.**

Paper copies of information held will no longer be sent home, however, for those parents who do not have access to an email address a paper copy can be provided. PLEASE NOTE if you need to make any changes to other contacts details registered for your child/ren, e.g. other family members or neighbours, please contact the school office as these cannot be accessed via the app. Thank you.