

St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Newsletter No. 19 29th January 2016



Dear Parents, Guardians and Parishioners

REMINDER – MONDAY FEB 1st is PROJECT DAY!

Governor Elections

Thank you for taking part in our Governor Elections. We will be counting the votes, completing various checks, discussing with the candidates and then informing you of the outcome next week. Thank you for contributing to this process; we were very pleased that we had three candidates to vote for and that so many people voted!

Inter House Cross Country

We couldn't have asked for a muddier day for our cross country race. Although the rain set in whilst setting out the course, it was actually relatively dry weather during the races. Importantly the children had another superb opportunity to race and represent their house. The event, whilst muddy, proved to be excellent and enabled all children to have a wonderful time together. Please see our school website for highlights of the action!

Parent Consultations

We will be holding parent consultations on March 1st and 3rd. Due to the half term break, we will be sending letters out about this very soon to ensure parents have an opportunity to book their session with the class teacher.

Special Visitors!

You will be aware that we are exploring the theme of service this term. The upper juniors have also recently explored the subject of leadership and currently Year 5 are exploring Farming. To develop this further we have had an very productive Questions and Answer Session last Friday with Tim Farron MP and Arthur Capstick MBE. Both visitors provided our children with a superb opportunity to discuss these issues and many more. A special thank you to them both for taking time to spend time with our children.

Political Awareness and Democracy

We will be building on this next week as the Houses of Parliament Outreach team will be joining us next week in school. They will be holding sessions with Year 5 and 6 on debating and voting. We will also be taking some members of our School Council to the Netherwood Hotel next week. This will be another opportunity to join other school councils (school leadership teams) as part of the South Lakes Pupil Parliament. Next week we will be debating the issue of what makes Britain great! Importantly we will look at our traditions, diversity, cultures, buildings, foods, sports and many other issues.

Values

We are beginning a big consultation about what our school values should be. As part of this we will be asking the children, community and parents to contribute to the discussion. Soon we will be sending out a voting slip to ask everyone what five values we should have in everything we do. Please do help us by contributing to the voting and discussions.

Reading in Reception, Year 1 and 2

It has been wonderful to see our Reception children reading with their parents and sharing books together. Various children have been sent to me to celebrate the amount of reading they are doing. I have been privileged to have children from Year 1 and 2 coming to me with their Bronze, Silver and Gold reading certificates. Thank you for taking time to read with your children at night. The investment is really valuable and it is wonderful to see children from Reception upwards learning and getting excited about the reading ability as getting more confident as they read in school and at home. There is so much evidence of the impact of reading to our children as well as with our children which both develops the language skills and the imagination!

Lost Property

We have suddenly been left with lots of lost property in school, including full lunch boxes! Please check the cupboard in the reception area if you think your child has lost anything recently.

We are currently searching for some black football boots with white stripes in size 5 which were kept in a black Umbro bag which went missing last Monday after football club. It is possible that they have been swept up with the bags of another child by mistake, so we would be grateful if you could check that they haven't arrived home with your child. It is very important that if found they are returned to school before the end of the school day on Friday. We are also searching for a black thermal underlayer which one of our year 4 children left behind after running club on Tuesday.

As you can see some of the missing items will be costly for parents to replace if not found, so please make sure that everything your child brings into school, including items needed for afterschool activities, is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Staff Car Park and Disabled Parking

Whilst we appreciate that parking remains difficult around the school, please remember that the car park is for staff only. If you notice the gates are open, this is usually for a particular reason and doesn't mean that there are any spare spaces! Please also remember that parking on the hatchings by the gates hinders access for not only our staff, but also emergency vehicles if the need were to arise.

We have also noted that some parents have begun to bring their cars into the disabled parking place by reception. This is space should only be used by those who have a blue disabled badge or those who have contacted the school to explain the reason the space is needed. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

Future Dates:

Thursday 28th Jan – Inter School KS2 swimming gala – Sedbergh Prep

Monday 1st Feb - Project Day

Tuesday 2nd Feb - Houses of Parliament outreach visit (Year 5/6)

Wednesday 3rd Feb – County Cross Country

Tuesday 9th Feb – Y2 Airport Visit

Wednesday Feb 10th – Inter School – Hockey

Wednesday 10th Feb – Reception Visit – Judges Lodgings

Family Talk Time:

Word of the Week

sitzmark



a sunken area in the snow marking a backward fall of a skier.

Whether you are in nursery or Year 6, why not chat about this fun word? I would be even more impressed if you could squeeze it into your conversations and writing in school.