



### Dear Parents and Carers

#### Key Stage 2 SATs

Year 6 completed their KS2 SATS this week. Children were happy, calm and collected throughout their tests; they are a credit to the school. Well done! They can now look forward to a fun-filled term 6 and to practising for the end of year play. Year 6 have their leavers Mass at Douai Abbey on 11 June. If any Yr6 parent would like to attend, then you are more than welcome to join us -Mass starts at 10.30am, followed by a picnic. Children will travel by private car with staff.

#### Traditional Year 6 Takeover Day –Friday 24 May

Year 6 have the opportunity to apply for jobs in the school and assume important roles for the morning of 24 May.

#### KS1 SATs

Year 2 happily completed their test booklets this week. They were not told that it was SATs, instead that it was special booklets; children enjoyed doing their special work. Well done!

#### May Procession -Monday 20 May at 1.15pm

This year we are having a May Procession to St Mary's Church, in honour of Our Lady during the month of May. Traditionally children carry a flower and place at the altar. If you are able, please would you send your child in with a flower or two-they can be a wild flower, blossom or other flower. You are very welcome to join us in church.

#### Caritas Portsmouth-Dragon's Den Project

Ten residents from Stirlings Residential Home in Wantage are due to visit our school for the first time during the afternoon of 23 May. The House Captains and School Councillors will arrange for musicians to play, provide activities, serve the residents tea and cake.

#### Arts Week – 3 June-7 June

Immediately after half term, we are having a whole school Arts Week and the Science Dome on 4 June. Bassistry music will be visiting on Monday 3 June. Throughout the week children will be producing art work around the theme of Spirals. On Friday 7 June from 2.30-3.30pm, children's work will be displayed in an Art Gallery in the hall which you are invited to view before and after you collect your child.

There is a **Yr 5 Mini-Vinnie Retreat Day** at Cold Ash Centre, Thatcham, on Wednesday 5 June; children will meet with St Edmund's Mini-Vinnies. Further details to be sent home next week.

#### Inhalers

During a recent check on inhalers in school it became apparent that several children, who suffer with asthma, do not appear to have inhalers in school or have out of date ones. May I remind you that it is your responsibility to ensure that your child has a working, in date inhaler, and spacer if required, in school at all times. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of our inhaler use form which I should be grateful if you could complete and return, even if you think you have already done so, to the school office. Thank you.

#### School Payments

Please can I ask parents to be prompt with payments due to school. We currently have quite a few large outstanding amounts. The easiest way to make payments is online via [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://www.eduspot.co.uk). A copy of the user guide for parents is attached. If you are having problems logging on please contact Debbie who will look into it for you. If you prefer not to pay online payment can be made direct to the school office, in clearly marked envelopes, by cash or cheque payable to Oxfordshire County Council. Thank you.

Kind regards  
Mrs Ellery



## Gooseberry Parent 'Message' of the week

Online gaming can be sociable and fun. Discuss and agree some rules about gaming with your child. This should include the types of game that you approve, the people they may play with and the time limits for playing. It's much easier to agree in advance than to try to restrain bad habits later! Discuss how it is important to protect personal information when gaming. Work together to create a safe gamer tag and image. Encourage your child not to over share and ask them to consult you before playing any new game or connecting with any new player.

Check online reviews. These can help you choose appropriate games and to be aware of any particular risks connected with them. Check and secure the privacy settings and Friends Lists on your child's devices. Check again from time to time. Remind them to play fairly and not to download free 'cheats'. This may be illegal and can download viruses. Remind them you are always available to help if they are worried about anything online. Help them report any inappropriate contact or conversations.

**Key Message: Be part of your child's gaming, in the same way you would watch them play football.**

Want to know more? Visit us at [www.gooseberryplanet.com](http://www.gooseberryplanet.com)

### Upcoming events:

- Mon 20 May - May Procession to St Mary's Church, 1.15pm. All welcome.
- Tues 21 May - KS2 Quadkids Athletics – postponed, now Weds 5 June
- Weds 22 May - Last Multi Sports Session
- Fri 24 May - Year 6 Takeover morning.  
End of Term 5, school closes at 3.15pm
- Mon 27 May – Fri 31May - School holidays**
- Mon 3 Jun - Term 6 begins  
Arts Week begins with whole school Bassistry Arts sessions
- Tues 4 Jun - Science Dome visit – whole school
- Weds 5 Jun - Yr 5 Mini-Vinnies Retreat  
Quadkids Athletics for Year 3, 4 5 & 6 children  
Summer Sports Club begins
- Thurs 6 Jun - Art Gallery viewing for parents, 2.30-3.30pm  
Year 5 & 6 Cricket Tournament at Challow Cricket club  
No cycling proficiency

Information regarding all school events for Terms 5 & 6 has been sent home in the Parent in Partnership Calendar. Please speak to Debbie if you require a further copy. The information is also available on the school website, [www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk).